



2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT



*MCSBA begins its
Golden Anniversary:*

50 years

*of Continuously Striving for
Excellence for the Children
in our Public Schools*



2018-2019 Steering Committee Members: Back row: Jon Ottney (Pen, Information Exchange Co-Chair), John Abbott (B2, MCSBA Treasurer), Dennis Laba (B2, Legislative Co-Chair), Nancy Pickering (Hil), Michael Suffoletto (Web, MCSBA President), John Piper (Pen, MCSBA Past President). Front row: Amy Thomas (Pitt), Carmen Gumina (Web, Superintendent), Catherine Dean (Pen, COAC Co-Chair), Joyce Kostyk (Fpt, Legislative Co-Chair), Irene Narotsky (Pitt, Labor Relations Co-Chair), Tammy Gurowski (Web, Information Exchange Co-Chair), Kim McCluski (Pitt, COAC Co-Chair). Not Pictured: Kathy Dillion (CC, B2, MCSBA Vice President), Lori Orologio (CC, Superintendent), Gary Bracken (Spe, Labor Relations Co-Chair).

MONROE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

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www.mcsba.org

2018-2019 OFFICERS

Mike Suffoletto, President
Kathy Dillon, Vice-President
John Abbott, Treasurer
John Piper, Past President

STAFF

Sherry Johnson, Executive Director
Beckie Schultz, Program Director
Mary Talbot, Office Manager

From Our Executive Director



Dear Members,

As we close another MCSBA year, I want to begin by thanking all of you for the work that you do on behalf of the children in your community and across our state. Whether you are able to attend and participate at our events, or not, we know that you are working to make sure that the quality of education in our area is not diminished and that every child has the opportunity to pursue the kinds of choices that provides for a successful future.

MCSBA is committed to relevant program offerings to the entire membership for our meetings and trainings. We are looking to develop professional development opportunities later in the afternoon to provide more timing options and we continue to video meetings for membership use.

Our Mentoring Committee held a Board President/Superintendent symposium this past year that was well received and they have another that had to be cancelled due to the weather, but is ready to be presented later this summer. This committee has been instrumental in making some positive changes to our Prospective Candidate seminar and our Governance training.

The Affiliate Network has had several successful events. They continue to grow their membership of retired board members and superintendents who wish to stay connected to the issues of public education and each other.

This summer, we will be putting a dues committee together to look at our current dues structure and make recommendations for any changes to it. Now that Victor is a member of our association, based on our current Constitution and By-laws, we are at full membership. This is a great time to look toward the future for how the association might be supported.

This year I focused all of my columns on engaged leadership. I can't stress enough the importance of the role that each and every one of you has in keeping your district focused on its vision and mission. "Leadership starts at the top" is not just a saying. We now know that effective strategic alignment from the Board of Education with the Superintendent down into every classroom is just as important as a high quality teacher. Please let us know how we can continue to support you in this most noble endeavor.

It is a privilege to work for you, each and every day.



Sherry

2018-2019 Highlights at MCSBA

Advocating, Educating, Representing

Funding for Public Education – Remains Association Goal #1

The November elections brought much change to the legislative landscape. The NYS Assembly majority leader was elected to a U.S. Congressional seat and a democratic majority was elected in both the NYS Senate and Assembly, dramatically altering Upstate NY's influence in the state. Transitions in legislative staffs, offices and committee assignments were ongoing until late January and resulted in the cancellation of the Association's trip to Albany in December.

The MCSBA Legislative Breakfast in February provided members a much needed opportunity to begin building relationships with new Assemblywoman Jamie Romeo and Assemblywoman Marjorie Byrnes' staff. Members addressed a number of proposals in the Governor's budget that disadvantaged our local districts, such as plans to make aid to schools more equitable by altering foundation aid formulas, combining and capping expense based aids and requiring building by building school budget reporting. Members consistently reiterated their need for additional foundation aid and a return to more local control of their districts.

In March, members traveled to Albany and spoke with SED officials about the need to decouple APPR from teacher evaluations. ESSA implementation costs, especially building by building reporting formats, were discussed. Members voiced concerns to legislators and the Governor's staff that a permanent tax levy cap, would leave school districts in an unsustainable position long term, especially if an economic downturn like the one that the Governor anticipates mid-year occurs. Supermajority requirements and rebate penalties all but assure districts can not raise additional revenue from their communities to fill budget shortfalls resulting from current state aid allocations and escalating costs resulting from mandates, health care, safety, and other increases that exceed the 2% cap.

In April the approved state budget included a permanent tax levy cap with no flexibilities. School districts, however, were successful in resisting changes to expense based aids. A much needed increase in the BOCES superintendent salary cap was finally authorized after years of advocacy. The ability to set up a TRS reserve was granted but Foundation Aid calculations still remains an issue.

In spring meetings members followed up with local legislators and continued to stress the need for flexibilities in the permanent tax levy cap formula. Members worked together to define and support all advocacy efforts at a high level again this year.

The Communication Outreach Advisory Committee met to develop talking points on a variety of issues affecting school districts.

The COAC Committee, in support of MCSBA member boards, completed talking points on the Every Student Success ACT (ESSA) in November, School Safety and Security in December, Emotional Well Being of Students in January, and the Impact of Shortages in the Teaching Profession in March.

Right: Members of the 2018- 2019 COAC: Sherry Johnson (MCSBA Executive Director), Kim McCluski (Pitt, Co-Chair), Kathy Dillon (CC, B2, Vice President MCSBA), Loretta Orologio (CC, Superintendent), Catherine Dean (Pen, Co-Chair), Michael Suffoletto (Web, MCSBA President). Not Pictured: Jo Anne Antonacci (B2, Superintendent), Sue Casey (Web), John Piper (Pen, MCSBA Past President) John Abbott (B2, MCSBA Treasurer), Mark Kokanovich (Bri), and Beckie Schultz (Program Director, MCSBA).



2018-2019 Community Connections

MCSBA collaborates with a number of groups to promote public education. MCSBA's "Best for Less" publication was included in a report required by NYS on efficiencies and shared services filed by the **Monroe County Executive** in 2018.

ACT for Education was awarded the prestigious W.B. Potter Founder's Award in April from Causewave for its remarkable collaboration with 22 local school districts, superintendents, businesses, media outlets, students, government leaders and non-profits to deliver positive messaging about local school districts and encourage community support and engagement in public education.

The committee continued to work with Causewave Community Partners, expanding their **Partners Program** launched in late 2018 to increase the variety of ways sponsors can choose to support public schools. Partnerships with community organizations and schools during both "Celebrate Public Schools Week" and "Small Business Week" earned significant media attention and provided students with enriching activities.

A Community Together for Education



Above: Jo Anne Antonacci and Dan White accept the award on behalf of Act for Education.



The **Monroe County Education Coalition** (MCEC) includes representatives from PTA, school boards, superintendents, teacher unions, administrators, and school business officials. MCSBA provides and maintains a MCEC website at www.mcsba.org.

MCEC members identified items for joint advocacy in 2018-2019, preparing two bulletins entitled, "The Teaching Profession- At a Critical Crossroads" and "Implications of a Permanent Tax Levy Cap on Public Education", to help educate their constituent members on these important issues.

Members included: Lori Orologio (CC Superintendent, Monroe County Council of School Superintendents, President), John Piper (MCSBA Past President), Michael Suffoletto (MCSBA President), Gene

Mancuso (HFL Superintendent, Monroe County Council of School Superintendents, Past President), Bruce Capron (Monroe County Chapter, Association of School Business Officials), Jori Cincotta (Genesee Valley PTA), Scott Steinberg (WI Teacher's Association, President and Monroe County Federation of Teachers, President), Carrie Andrews (NYSUT), Judy Wegman (Monroe County Federation of Teachers), Dr. W. Bruce Gorman (School Administrators Association of NYS), Sherry Johnson (MCSBA Executive Director), Donald Starver (Director of Communications RCSD), Beckie Schultz (MCSBA Program Director).



MCEC members work to identify advocacy priorities.

2018-2019 Representing

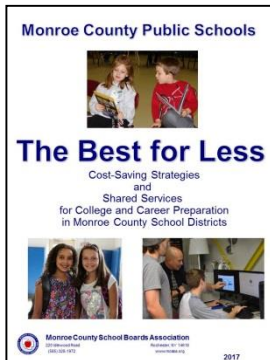
By Getting our Messages Out

The **MCSBA website** provides easy access to information and programming offered by the Association for member districts and the general public.

Each Friday, MCSBA emails an electronic news clips on educational issues to members and others interested in staying abreast of current educational topics.

News Scope, the MCSBA newsletter, covers MCSBA events and educational issues. Readers include federal, state, and county officials, college presidents, attorneys and the media in addition to Association members.

MCSBA also works with local media to help them understand and explain issues to the wider community. Various Association happenings are also regularly posted on Twitter.



Facts & Figures

Each year, copies of the **MCSBA Facts & Figures** booklet are given to MCSBA members, the media, elected officials and libraries. Sponsor ads cover the cost of this service. Other copies are sold to realtors and relocation offices.

Best for Less

This is a free publication, available in print and can be down loaded from the MCSBA website, which highlights the ways member districts utilize shared services and cost saving strategies to expand the quality and variety of services provided by the county's public schools. Collaborations between schools, colleges, businesses and other community organizations that promote college and career readiness for students of all ages are showcased.



2018-2019 Conferences

Each year, MCSBA presents a number of conferences that attract school board members, clerks, and administrators from within and beyond Monroe County. In 2018-2019, MCSBA held three district clerk seminars, two law conferences in collaboration with the MCSBA School Attorney's Committee, and two SED approved training seminars for new members on Finance and Governance. A seminar for prospective school board candidates was also held. A Board Presidents and Superintendent Leadership Symposium was initiated. Each is designed to inform and enhance professional development for our members.

Below are some of the presenters from our conferences this past year. We are always grateful to our presenters who dedicate their time and expertise to our members!



Committee Programs for members

The Information Exchange Committee was led by Co-Chairs **Tammy Gurowski (Web)** and **Jon Ottney (Pen)**. This year's seminars included a 3-part series on diversity:

- Developing a Systematic Structure for Cultural Responsiveness;
- Exploring Race as an ACE- How it Affects the Success of Your Students;
- Strengthening Relationships and Repairing Harm- Building Leadership Circles and Restorative Practices with Students;

As well as informative sessions on:

- An Update on ACT for Education;
- School Safety And Security;
- Defending Your District against Attacks on Social Media.



2018-2019 Educating

The Labor Relations Committee led by **Gary Bracken (Spe)** and **Irene Narotsky (Pitt)**, shared negotiations updates at each meeting and discussed:

- Never Settle for Second Best: Building a Teaching Staff that Makes You Want to Stand Up and Cheer;
- Minimum Wage Impact- Update and Bus Driver Shortages: Causes and Advocacy Opportunities;
- Minimum Wage Impact-Update and Bus Driver Shortages: Causes and Advocacy Opportunities;
- Field Trips 101-Staying Inside the Law When Outside the Classroom;
- Sexual Harassment: Policy Changes with the New Regulations -What Do Your Practices Look Like Now?;
- Annual RASHP Up-Date;
- Pathways to Teaching- Exploring a Teaching Career with Culturally Relevant Practices and Critical Issues Related to Educational Justice.



Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee prepares and promotes the Association's legislative positions. This year, under the leadership of **Dennis Laba (B2)** and **Joyce Kostyk (Fpt)** the committee finalized position papers on "*Keeping Our Schools Safe and Secure*" and "*Supporting the Emotional Well Being of Students*" as well as up-dating the paper "*Public Education-The Federal Role: Support, Not Governance*".

They also arranged and promoted meetings with NYS officials locally in the spring, and hosted a Legislative Breakfast in February. The Committee sponsored a two-day advocacy trip to Albany in March.



Right Legislative Sub-committee members work to up-date the position paper on the Federal role in public education.



Clock wise from the top: Members meet newly elected Assemblywoman Jamie Romeo in Albany; U.S. Congressman Joseph Morelle visits constituents at the Legislative Breakfast; State Assemblyman Mark Johns discusses funding issues with constituents at the MCSBA Legislative Breakfast; State Assemblyman Harry Bronson meets with constituents in Albany; members meet newly appointed Education Chair Assemblyman Michael Benedetto in Albany; members meet with SED Education Specialist Alex Triklinos in Albany to discuss ESSA implementation.

2018-2019 Affiliate Network

Former MCSBA members and leaders gathered in January for an event at the Memorial Art Gallery sponsored by the MCSBA Affiliate Network. Executive Director Sherry Johnson provided an up-date on MCSBA and current legislative issues and gallery staff briefly spoke about programs that support MCSBA constituent schools. Members were then treated to a MAG Detour (an educational themed mini-tour and scavenger hunt).



Left: Attendees Mike Maiorino (Pen), Lisa Ireland (Bprt), Mark Kokanovich (Bri), Rome Celli (Bri), Sherry Johnson (MCSBA Executive Director), Chuck Perreaud (WI) and Barb Cutrona (Hil) gather for a photo with MAG Detour Director Jessica Gasbarre.

Above: Affiliate member Marg Burns introduces Executive Director Sherry Johnson to attendees.



2018-2019 Mentoring Opportunities

Each year minor changes are made to the two annual training seminars to better serve our members and emphasize best practices for Board of Education members. A veteran Board of Education member was added to the Prospective Candidates Seminar in addition to a Board of Education member typically in their first term. Exposure to members with different lengths of service was well received by the candidates and will remain in place going forward. Similarly a panel of Board Presidents presented instead of a single veteran board member at the New Governance Seminar. The panel created a more interactive format for new members and really gave them a broader perspective of board service and mutual support across districts.

After a year of planning, the first Board Presidents/Superintendent Symposium series began in August. The aim of the series is to strengthen Board President/Superintendent leadership relationships. The first seminar focused on the keys to building effective partnerships and managing conflict with the leadership team.



Above: M. Suffoletto (Web) introduces the Board Presidents panel at New Governance, M. Kokanovich (Bri), K. Dillon (B2, CC), K. McCluski, (Pitt), J. Piper (Pen).



Left: S. Johnson welcomes members to the Inaugural Board President/Superintendent Symposium on Leadership at its Best.

2018-2019 MCSBA Standing Committee Members

District	Steering Committee	Executive Committee	Legislative Committee	Labor Relations	Information Exchange
BOCES #1		Dan White Robert Dickson	Tom Nespeca Maureen Nupp Fred Shippey	Bryan Buttram	Robert Dickson Sora Sachs Nancy Semal
BOCES #2	John Abbott Dennis Laba	JoAnne Antonacci Dennis Laba John Abbott	Dennis Laba * John Abbott John Heise	Dennis Laba Kathy Dillon John Abbott	Chuck Phillips John Heise JoAnne Antonacci
Brighton		Dr. Kevin McGowan Mark Kokanovich	Mark Kokanovich Karen Hatch	Dr. Marvin Sachs Karen Hatch	Julene Gilbert Christina Lee
Brockport		Dr. Lesli Myers Terry Ann Carbone	Terry Ann Carbone Jeff Harradine	Robert Lewis Jeff Harradine Jerilee DiLalla	Kathy Robertson Daniel Legault
Churchville-Chili	Kathy Dillon Lori Orologio	Lori Orologio Cheryl Repass Kathy Dillon	Kathy Dillon		
East Irondequoit		Susan Allen Kim Lasher	Patricia Storm	Rich Oxley Phil Oberst	Ron Cooper Jeff Petrie Sue Allen
East Rochester		Dr. Mark Linton Jennifer Majewski Lesinski	Vincent Antonicelli	Patrick Flanagan Mark Linton	Jennifer Majewski Lesinski
Fairport	Joyce Kostyk	Brett Provenzano Peter Forsgren	Joyce Kostyk * Maureen Nupp	Peter Forsgren Maureen Nupp Damon Buffum Kate Hill	Kevin Glover Marty Cardona Judy O'Leary-Sargeant Kate Hill
Gates Chili		Kimberle Ward Jeffrey Pettenski	Michael Bailey	Kelly Glover Brenda James	Kerri Keyes Marvin Stepherson
Greece		Kathy Graupman Sean McCabe	Mary Caitlin Wight	Bill Maloney	Frank Oberg
Hilton	Nancy Pickering	Casey Kosiorek Nancy Pickering	Brian O'Connor	Tom Abbott	Nancy Pickering
Holley		Brian Bartalo Brenda Swanger	John Heise Brenda Swanger	Melissa Ierlan	John Heise Robin Silvis
Honeoye Falls-Lima		Gene Mancuso Amy West	Joe Alati Caralyn Ross Gene Mancuso	Gary Stottler Stephanie Templeton Bruce Capron	Amy West Carol Bellavia Gene Mancuso +
Kendall		Julie Christensen Nadine Hanlon	Nadine Hanlon Jason ReQua Julie Christensen	Charles Patt Jason ReQua Julie Christensen	Chaley Swift Lisa Levett
Penfield	John Piper Jon Ottney Catherine Dean	Dr. Thomas Putnam Catherine Dean John Piper	Catherine Dean Mark Elledge John Piper	Lisa Benati-Chidsey Barbara Babiarz Tom Putnam John Piper	Jon Ottney* Tom Putnam John Piper
Pittsford	Kim McCluski Amy Jo Thomas Irene Narotsky	Mike Pero Amy Jo Thomas	Valerie Baum Pete Sullivan	Irene Narotsky * Ted Aroesty	Pete Sullivan Amy Thomas
Rochester		Barbara Deane-Williams Van White	Barbara Deane-Williams	Cynthia Elliott	
Rush-Henrietta		Bo Wright Robert Cook	Bob Cook	James O'Brien Andy Whitmore Patrick McCue	Annmarie Strzyzynski Nichole LaPlaca Nerlande Anselme
Spencerport	Gary Bracken	Daniel Milgate Gary Bracken	Gary Bracken Jody Gillette	Gary Bracken * Kevin Hutton	Gary Bracken Greg Kincaid
Victor		Dawn Santiago-Marullo Debbie Palumbo-Sanders	Tim DeLucia Mike Vistocco	Debbie Palumbo-Sanders Tim DeLucia	Tim DeLucia Debbie Palumbo-Sanders
Webster	Mike Suffoletto Tammy Gurowski Carmen Gumina	Carmen Gumina Tammy Gurowski Mike Suffoletto	Jan Strege Mike Suffoletto	Linda Dioguardi Mike Suffoletto Dave Swinson	Tammy Gurowski* Mike Suffoletto
West Irondequoit		Jeff Crane John Vay	Ann Cunningham	Brian Charles John Vay	David Long Matthew Metras
Wheatland-Chili		Dr. Deborah Leh James Musshafen	Shanna Fraser	Beth Nolan	Michelle Rocha Courtney Panek

KEY: * Standing Committee: chairpersons

+ Superintendent representatives from the Monroe County Council of Superintendents

2018-2019 Departures

We thank you for your dedication and service to our children, to your community and public education!



Christy Ann Lynch
East Irondequoit CSD
Board of Education Member



Maureen Nupp
Fairport CSD
Board of Education Member
Information Exchange Co-Chair
Labor Relations Committee Co-Chair



Kelly Glover
Gates Chili CSD
Board of Education Member



Sue Allen
East Irondequoit CSD
Superintendent



Frank Oberg
Greece CSD
Board of Education Member



Marvin Stepherson
Gates Chili CSD
Board of Education Member



Michelle Frechette Ames
Hilton CSD
Board of Education



Gary Lawniczak
Churchville-Chili CSD
Board of Education Member



Kim Ward
Gates Chili CSD
Superintendent



Brenda James
Gates Chili CSD
Board of Education Member



Brian Charles
West Irondequoit CSD
Board of Education Member



Brenda Swanger
Holley CSD
Board of Education



Jon Ottney
Penfield CSD
Board of Education Member
Information Exchange Co-Chair



John Piper
Penfield CSD
Board of Education Member
Legislative Co-Chair
MCSBA President



Carolyn Stahl
West Irondequoit CSD
Board of Education Member



Dawn Santiago-Marullo
Victor CSD
Superintendent



Michael Young
Victor CSD
Board of Education Member



Michelle Rocha
Wheatland –Chili CSD
Board of Education Member



Jeff Crane
West Irondequoit CSD
Superintendent



50th MCSBA Annual Meeting Agenda

5:30 pm **Social Time**

6:00 pm **Musical Performance:**
Schroeder High School
Jazz Band
Lead by Tony Britt



6:30 pm **Dinner**

7:30 pm **50th Annual Meeting and Keynote**

Welcome and Introductions

Message from NYSSBA

Keynote Address

Special Recognitions

Year-End Report

Report of the Nominating
Committee

Election of 2019-2020 Officers

Remarks by the President-Elect

Remarks by the President

Michael Suffoletto

Rodney George

Michael Suffoletto

Michael Suffoletto

Sherry Johnson

John Piper

Michael Suffoletto

Kathy Dillon

Michael Suffoletto

8:30 pm **Adjournment**

MCSBA thanks HUNT Engineers Architects Surveyors for
their sponsorship of this event.

HUNT E|A|S