2010-2011 Steering Committee Members shown at the August 25 committee meeting:

(Standing): Jeff Crane (WI), David Dimbleby (Hil), Dick Rasmussen (HFL), Jeanine Cushman (Web), Aggie Seneway (Hil), Irene Narotsky (Pit), and Mark Kokanovich (Br);
(Seated): Mike Andriatch (Bro), Dr. Michelle Kavanaugh (HFL), John Abbott (B2, EI), and Kathy Dillon (CC).

MCSBA members on the NYS Assembly chamber balcony, March 2011.
MCSBA in 2010-2011

MCSBA has been involved in a number of initiatives this year to take messages about serious issues affecting public education to the wider community.

In March, MCSBA joined other members of the Monroe County Council of Governments (COG) in hosting a news conference to explain to the media how a property tax cap will harm local governments unless steps are taken to control the costs of state-mandated programs. MCSBA Past President Kathy Dillon and Webster Superintendent Adele Bovard have participated in COG meetings this school year.

An updated The Best for Less, which describes collaborative efforts among our districts to offer cost effective high-quality programs and services, was published.

MCSBA has prepared a Request for Information (RFI) to be distributed among electronic media professionals seeking their input on the best uses of electronic media for the Association.

MCSBA arranged fall and spring trips to Albany for our members to meet with state officials. We also held meetings in local offices with state and federal law makers and their staff members. Several MCSBA members traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with key staff members for federal representatives.

Much of MCSBA’s ability to serve its members is based on our three standing committees—Information Exchange, Labor Relations, and Legislative—that each year identify issues to be addressed.

MCSBA also partners with professional groups to present conferences on critical issues for districts, and works with other community groups to promote our positions with state and federal elected officials.

This spring, MCSBA members were polled to gain their insights into the programs and services offered by the Association that best meet their needs. The poll results will be used to help prioritize activities in the coming years.

The officers and staff are grateful for the involvement and support of MCSBA members.

News conference: Local governments need mandate relief

The Monroe County Council of Governments (COG) held a news conference on March 25 to highlight the problems with creating a property tax cap unaccompanied by real mandate relief for local governments. Speakers from COG member groups—villages, towns, public schools, and Monroe County—delineated how such a move would negatively affect their ability to provide services. Speaking for schools was MCSBA Executive Director Jody Siegle.
Maintaining community ties.

MCSBA collaborates with a number of groups to promote public education.

The primary collaboration is the Monroe County Education Coalition (MCEC) which includes the PTA, school boards, superintendents, teacher unions, administrators, and school business officials. MCSBA provides and maintains a MCEC website at www.mcsba.org/mcec.

Executive Director Jody Siegle serves on the Community Leadership Council of the Children’s Agenda and the Monroe Community College Department of Education’s advisory council. She is also a member of the Council of Local School Boards Association.

Assistant to the Executive Director Judy Wadsworth is a member of the board of directors for the Genesee Valley Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, coordinates an annual MCSBA conference for school district clerks, and serves on the Education and Outreach Committee of the Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning.

Both are members of the Genesee Valley Professional School Communicators and the NYS Association of Women Administrators.

Getting our messages out

www.mcsba.org

The MCSBA web site provides information for members and the community. Members and others use the site as a resource; many correspondents contact MCSBA with questions and concerns.

Reporting

Each Friday, MCSBA emails an electronic news update on education trends and issues to members and administrators.

News Scope, the MCSBA newsletter, covers MCSBA events and educational issues. Readers include state officials, member district staff, and the media.

MCSBA provides information to the media to help them explain issues to the wider community.

Expanded The Best for Less published

The 2011 edition of The Best for Less is accessible at www.mcsba.org. This update describes shared services and cost-savings strategies used by member districts to provide cost effective programs. Featured are instructional services for students in all grade levels and for teachers learning new skills, as well as collaborations that allow districts to operate as cost effective entities.

Facts & Figures

Each year, copies of the MCSBA Facts & Figures booklet are sold to realtors and relocation offices.

Other copies are given to MCSBA members, the media, elected officials and libraries. Sponsors cover the cost of this service.
Committee programs for members.

Information Exchange Committee provides learning opportunities.

Led by Co-Chairs Irene Narotsky (Pit) and Michael Zale (Spe) the 2010-11 Information Exchange Committee met to learn about:
• Selecting reform initiatives,
• Efficiencies to cope with cuts,
• Facilities rental policies,
• Effective student supports,
• Cloud computing, and
• Common Core standards.

Labor Relations Committee focuses on labor issues.

Led by Jeanine Cushman (Web) and Tom Gallagher (WC), the Labor Relations Committee shared negotiations updates at each meeting and discussed:
• Federal and state initiatives affecting labor relations,
• Effects of new federal insurance law on labor relations,
• Applying various types of negotiations,
• What we can do about the Taylor Law,
• How state and federal initiatives are limiting management,
• Report from Task Force on Principal and Teacher Evaluation.

At their first meeting each year, these committees identify topics to pursue at their remaining meetings.

2010-2011 Conferences

Each year, MCSBA presents a number of conferences that attract school board members and administrators from inside and beyond Monroe County. This year, there were two school law conferences as well as a finance seminar and two clerk seminars.
Vital Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee prepares and promotes the Association’s legislative positions. This year, under the leadership of Mark Kokanovich (Bri) and MCSBA VP Aggie Seneway (Hil), the committee wrote positions on Regents and the SED, charter schools, and student health and fitness. MCSBA members use these positions to guide discussions with state and federal officials.

In December and March, MCSBA members attended meetings with NYS officials in Albany. In February, the Legislative Committee hosted its annual local breakfast meeting with NYS lawmakers to discuss the Governor’s budget proposal and other issues affecting schools. In addition, meetings were held with our state legislators in their local offices.

In February, several MCSBA members attended the National School Boards Association Federal Relations Network convention in Washington, D.C. to learn about federal education initiatives and to meet with lawmakers. Members also met with Congress members and their staff members in their local offices.

Meeting with Regents Cofield and Norwood

The MCSBA Regents Committee meets periodically with Dr. Milton Cofield and Wade Norwood of the Board of Regents to discuss issues of mutual concern.
### 2010-2011 MCSBA Standing Committee Members

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Ad Hoc Committees

Legislative Sub Committees
Margaret Burns (WI)
Joyce Kostyk (Fpt)
Maggie Markham (B1)
Maureen Nupp (Fpt)
Pam Reinhardt (RH)
Mike Seeley (WI)

Public Communications Advisory Committee
Mark Ball (B2)
Barbara Cutrona (Hil)
Kathy Dillon (CC)
Steve Zilora (Pen)

Membership Survey Committee
Kathy Dillon (CC)
Sherry Johnson (CC)
Kim McCluski (Pit)
Irene Narotsky (Pit)

Regents Committee
John Abbott (B2, EI)
Jeffrey Crane (WI)
Kathy Dillon (CC)
David Dimbleby (Hil)
Thomas Gallagher (WC)
Dr. Michelle Kavanaugh (HFL)
Dr. Pamela Kissel (CC)
Mark Kokanovich (Bri)
Kim McCluski (Pit)
Dick Rasmussen (HFL)
Aggie Seneway (Hil)
Lisa Smith (Web)

Nominating Committee
Kathy Dillon (CC), Chair
Chuck Allan (HFL)
Irene Narotsky (Pit)
Tom Nespeca (Web)

Budget Committee
Aggie Seneway (Hil), Chair
John Abbott (B2, EI), Treasurer
Jon Hunter (Fpt)
Mark Kokanovich (Bri)

2010-2011 Departures

Past MCSBA leaders leaving board service by the end of June 2009 are:

___________________________
___________________________

Tom Gallagher (WC) 2009-2010 Public Communications Advisory Committee Co-Chair;
2010-2011 Labor Relations Committee Co-Chair;

Terri Pries (Fpt) 2003-2004 Labor Relations Committee Co-Chair;

Also leaving are the following:

Robert Beckwith (Fairport)
Jean-Claude Brizard (Rochester)
Amanda Insalaco (West Irondequoit)
Shawn Krest (Honeoye Falls-Lima)
Linda Morrison (Brighton)
Kevin Naughton (Churchville-Chili)
John O’Rourke (Churchville-Chili)
Bonnie Seaburn (Spencerport)
Tom Smithgall (Churchville-Chili)

New board members get up to speed.

Each year, MCSBA hosts a session for potential board candidates in April to help them prepare for campaigns and board service. In June MCSBA offers a training session for those who are elected that reviews school board functions as well as governance and management issues.

RIGHT: Those attending the 2010 session for new board members are STANDING- Peter Sullivan (Pit), Gary Lawniczek (CC), Ben Stalls (EI), Raymond Gabriel (Bro), and Brian O’Connor (Gre); and SEATED- Jody Allison (Hil), Nadine Hanlon (Ken), Andrea Costanza (Bri), Beth Race (Gre), and Jean Chaudari (RH).

BELOW: Candidate Seminar Presenters David Dimbleby, Hilton Superintendent; John Piper, Penfield Board of Education Member; and Joseph Shields, Esq., Ferrara, Fiorenza Partner.
5:15 pm  Registration and Networking

6:00 pm  Musical Interlude
**Honeoye Falls-Lima High School Jazz Ensemble**
led by Director Mark Borden

6:30 pm  Dinner & Keynote Address
**Bob Smith**
Producer and Host, 1370 Connection, WXXI

8:00 pm  **42nd Annual Meeting**
- Introductions and Recognitions  Richard Rasmussen
- Message from NYSSBA  Florence Johnson
- Year-End Report  Jody Siegle
- Election of 2010-2011 Officers  Kathy Dillon
- Remarks by President Elect  Kathy Dillon
- Presidential Award Presentation  Agnes Seneway
- Retiring President’s Remarks  Richard Rasmussen

9:00 pm  Adjournment

**Bob Smith** has been the host and producer of WXXI’s 1370 Connection since March 16, 1988. Besides representatives of MCSBA and our member districts, his guests have included notables such as Hillary Clinton, Rudolph Giuliani, Mario Cuomo, Philip Roth, and B.B. King.

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