

N-SSBA

Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association

SERVICE, SUPPORT & ADVOCACY

Newsline June 2023 edition

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N-SSBA's 63rd Annual Business Meeting and School Board Service Awards Dinner

On May 30, 2023, over 170 people attended the 63rd Annual Business Meeting and School Board Service Awards Dinner. Those who attended helped recognize 25 of their fellow board members and the COO from Western Suffolk BOCES for their dedication and commitment to public education on Long Island. The keynote speaker was Ms. Michele S. Jones, a retired Command Sergeant Major from the U.S. Army who is the first woman to achieve that rank. She discussed leadership through adversity and also explained her leadership and life philosophy that she has termed "The Bones Theory". In addition, the membership elected its officers for the next two years. They are Susan Lipman-President, Lawrence Greenstein-Nassau VP, Matthew Claren-Suffolk VP, and Charmise Desiré-Secretary/Treasurer. They also voted on the following to serve on the Executive Committee; Nicholas Ciappetta, Esq. (South Huntington), Steve Gellar (Little Flower), Kelli Anne Jennings (Patchogue-Medford), Michael Jaime (Elmont), Stuart Kaplan (Oceanside), Michael Pappas (Levittown), Kenneth Urban (Copiague), Maria Venuto (Glen Cove). Congratulations to all the officers and new executive committee members. Dr. Frank Chiachiere (Valley Stream 13) and Helen Hoffman (Franklin Square) received N-SSBA's Distinguished Service Awards for 2023, our Association's highest honor.

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NYSSBA's Summer Leadership in Education Event

The New York State School Boards Association is once again holding this important event starting Friday 7/28/23 and finishing on Saturday 7/29/23.

There will be valuable workshops and panel discussions for new and veteran school board members.

It will be held at the Desmond Hotel in Albany and **N-SSBA** will be hosting a **hospitality suite** on the **evening of 7/27/23** so you can meet your fellow board members from Long Island.

Check www.nyssba.org for more information



A Message from President-Elect Susan Lipman

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for your support in electing me President of N-SSBA. I follow a long line of exceptional leaders and am honored to serve all of you.



A little bit about me, prior to moving to West Islip and starting my family, I taught for 3 years in parochial schools in Queens and hold NYS N-6 permanent teaching certification. Like many, I became active in PTA which led me to run for the West Islip Board of Education serving from 1994-2006. In 2005, I was elected to the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Board where I continue my school board service. I am also a past President of NYS PTA (2008-2010) and currently the Suffolk Region PTA parliamentarian. All my volunteer activities have been about advocating for the best opportunities for children and youth and supporting the needs of our school districts in order to provide those.

As a team, N-SSBA's advocacy efforts will be laser focused on foundation aid formula reform, Healthy School Meals for all NY Students, tax cap reforms, and mandate relief. I am excited about the collaborative efforts of the Executive Committee of N-SSBA with our Executive Director, Robert Vecchio and Administrative Director, Lorraine Mentz to address these and all our Legislative Priorities.

Going forward N-SSBA will continue to offer **training events** to help you remain current on issues, strengthen leadership, and gain broad perspectives through networking. Please watch for email notifications and continue to attend our events in the upcoming year. We also want to remind you about N-SSBA's radio show "**Spotlight on Long Island Schools**". This is an excellent opportunity for you to promote the great things happening in their districts.

Until we are together again, and as we continue our service through the summer, please take time with family and friends to relax and revitalize as we prepare to take on whatever challenges await us and create even more exciting opportunities for our students.

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." – President John Quincy Adams



Have Your School and Students On The Radio!

"Spotlight on Long Island Schools" on LI News Radio highlights Long Island school districts, specific schools, students, and teachers, promoting school pride moments, communicating school messages and curriculum, while providing thought-provoking interviews and discussions with school officials and educational leaders in the communities we serve.

This is a service that N-SSBA is offering its member districts as a way to give your students and staff a truly unique experience by giving your district the ability to positively promote something either unique or special that you do in your district that you want your community and communities outside of your area to know about. After the show airs your district receives a copy of the show so you can promote in your electronic newsletters or other electronic media outlets.

To sign your district up for a show email Bob Vecchio at bvecchio@nssba.org.

Below are the links to the some recent shows that were recorded and aired:

[Valley Stream](#)

[Copiague show 1](#)

[Copiague show 2](#)

[William Floyd](#)

[Cold Spring Harbor](#)

[Carle Place](#)

[ES BOCES Sequoya HS](#)

[Herricks show 1](#)

[Herricks show 2](#)

[Franklin Square](#)

[Middle Country show 1](#)

[Middle Country show 2](#)

The 2023 N-SSBA School Board Award Recipients

School Board Service Award

Jason Borowski (Bayport-Blue Point)
Christopher Dorr (Riverhead)

Dedicated School Board Service Award (served at least 24 years)

Lucy Campasano (West Babylon)
Diana Caracciolo (Island Park)
Dr. Frank Chiachiere (Valley Stream 13)
Maureen Dolan (Sayville)
Ronald Ellerbe (Nassau BOCES & Freeport)
Linda Goldsmith (Eastern Suffolk BOCES)
Ilene Herz, Esq. (Western Suffolk BOCES)
William Hsiang (Eastern Suffolk BOCES)
Lisa Israel (Eastern Suffolk BOCES)
Fred Langstaff (Eastern Suffolk BOCES)
Susan Lipman (Eastern Suffolk BOCES)
Joseph LoSchiavo (Eastern Suffolk BOCES)
Anne Mackesey (Eastern Suffolk BOCES)
Robert "B.A." Schoen (Nassau BOCES)
Vincent Trocchia (West Hempstead)
John Wyche (Eastern Suffolk BOCES)

Outstanding School Board Service Award

Andrew A. Arcuri (Bay Shore)
Cynthia Ciferri (Brentwood)
Thomas Cooley (Sayville)
Tim Frazier (Springs)
Rose Gietschier (Roosevelt)

Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Frank Chiachiere (Valley Stream 13)
Helen Hoffman (Franklin Square)

Champion for Long Island Public Education

Michael Flynn (COO, Western Suffolk BOCES)

President's Award

Michael Kelly (Bethpage)

Educational Acronyms

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AED	Automated External Defibrillators
AIS	Academic Intervention Services
AP	Advanced Placement
APPR	Annual Professional Performance Review
AYP	Adequate Yearly Progress
BAN	Bond Anticipation Notes
BEDS	Basic Educational Data System
BIP	Behavioral Intervention Plan
CCLS	Common Core Learning Standards
CPSE	Committee on Preschool Education
CSE	Committee on Special Education
CSEA	Civil Service Employees Association
CTE	Career and Technical Education
ELA	English Language Arts
ELL	English Language Learner
E-RATE	E-Rate Universal Discount Program
ERS	Employees' Retirement System
ESEA	Elementary and Secondary Education Act
ESY	Extended School Year
FACS	Family and Consumer Sciences
FBA	Functional Behavioral Assessment
FERPA	Federal Educational Rights Privacy Act
FOIL	Freedom of Information Law
FY	Fiscal Year
GASB	Governmental Accounting Standards Board
GED	General Education Development
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IEP	Individualized Education Program
IHO	Impartial Hearing Officer
IST	Instructional Support Team
LEA	Local Educational Agency
LOTE	Language Other Than English
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment
NAEP	National Assessment of Educational Progress
NCLB	No Child Left Behind Act
NSF	National Science Foundation
NYS COSS	NYS Council of School Superintendents
NYSED	NYS Education Department
NYSSBA	NYS School Boards Association
NYSUT	New York State United Teachers
OCR	Office of Civil Rights
OGS	Office of General Services (NYS)
PCEN	Pupils with Compensatory Education Needs
PD	Professional Development
PreK	Prekindergarten
PSAT	Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test
PT	Physical Therapist
PTA	Parent Teacher Association
PTSA	Parent Teacher Student Association
RCT	Regents Competency Test
RFP	Request for Proposals
RIC	Regional Information Center
RMO	Records Management Officer
RTI	Response to Intervention
RITT	Race to the Top
SAT	Scholastic Aptitude Test
SAVE	Safe Schools Against Violence in Education
SBR	Scientific-based research
SED	State Education Department (NYS)
SLO	Student Learning Objective
ST-3	School District Annual Financial Report
STAC	System for Tracking & Accounting for Children
SUNY	State University of New York
SURR	Schools Under Registration Review
TAN	Tax Anticipation Note
TRS	Teachers' Retirement System
UPK	Universal Prekindergarten
USDOE	United States Department of Education
VESID	Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities
WAN	Wide Area Network
WEP	Work Experience Program

**N-SSBA's 2023-2024
Executive Committee Members**

Officers

*Susan Lipman
President (ES BOCES)*

*Lawrence Greenstein
Nassau VP (Nassau BOCES)*

*Matthew Clareen
Suffolk VP (Islip)*

*Charmise Desiré
Secretary/Treasurer (Uniondale)*

Nassau County Members

*Karen Brohm
West Hempstead*

*Jeanne D'Esposito
Malverne*

*Michael Jaime
Elmont*

*Stuart Kaplan
Oceanside*

*Michael Pappas
Levittown*

*Patricia Rudd
New Hyde Park Garden City Park*

*Maria Venuto
Glen Cove*

Suffolk County Members

*Nicholas Ciappetta, Esq.
South Huntington*

*Steven Gellar
Little Flower*

*Kelli Anne Jennings
Patchogue-Medford*

*Michele Kustera
Huntington*

*Chris Picini
South Country*

*Kenneth Urban
Copiague*

*Dawn Sharrock
Middle Country*

Immediate Past President

*Michael Kelly
Bethpage*

A Message From Our President Michael Kelly

As we approach the end of another school year, I would like to take this opportunity to look back at some of the accomplishments of the Association the past two years.

When we transitioned into the 2021–2022 school year, we were still in the midst of the COVID pandemic. Despite starting the year with virtual meetings, we as an Association had three primary goals to accomplish during the year.

Our first goal, after a year and a half of virtual meetings, was to begin in-person meetings. Thankfully, the mask mandate was soon lifted and we were able to resume our live meetings.

One of our other goals was to continue our mission of advocacy. Advocacy is an on-going process that entails working with our partners in federal, state, and local organizations to ensure that opportunities for public education for all children are maintained at a high level. One of our greatest advocacy successes was the two-year commitment by the State to fully fund foundation aid.

Our final goal was to begin the succession of our long-time Executive Director Lorraine Deller, who had announced her pending retirement. The succession process of our new Executive Director has been a resounding success.

With the appointment of Bob Vecchio as our new Deputy Executive Director in September 2021, he had the opportunity to work alongside Lorraine Deller getting a sense of who we are and what the future may hold. Bob formally took over as our Executive Director in July 2022.

Bob and our new Administrative Director Lorraine Mentz hit the ground running, solidifying our ongoing relationships with various legislators and local organizations. Bob and Lorraine also put together several seminars for our members, including a very successful meeting with the NYS

Commissioner of Education, Dr. Betty A. Rosa.

Looking ahead, our primary focus will be the future of the foundation aid formula. Now that the State has fully funded foundation aid including past due amounts, it is imperative that we devote our efforts in getting the State to make meaningful and equi-



table adjustments, and most important for Long Island, recognizing regional cost differences to the foundation aid formula which has not been changed in nearly twenty years.

In addition, as an Association we must advocate as a region. Moving forward, we will continue working in concert with the Long Island Educational Coalition (LIEC), which N-SSBA co-chairs, and all the educational partners within that coalition to make sure we are advocating as one island and one voice.

As I prepare to leave as your Association president, I believe that our Association remains the nucleus that brings us all together. As an organization, we can support the work of our individual districts and provide one another with information and friendship.

Finally, I want to thank you all for everything you do for public education and for allowing me the privilege of serving as your President these past two years. I also want to wish Susan Lipman our incoming President and all the new incoming officers the best of luck.

Have a wonderful summer.

An Evening With NYSED Commissioner Dr. Betty A. Rosa

On April 24, N-SSBA welcomed Dr. Betty A. Rosa to an event at the Heritage Club in Farmingdale. Over 170 people from over 50 different districts across Long Island came to hear Dr. Rosa. The event started with an amazing performance by Central Islip's Ralph G. Reed Middle School Choir, who performed the National Anthem and 3 other acapella pieces. Dr. Rosa along with staff from SED engaged in a panel discussion led by N-SSBA Executive Director, Robert Vecchio. The topics covered were: the recent mascot regulation, the Blue Ribbon Commission on graduation standards, student discipline, charter schools, and the future of the foundation aid formula. Dr. Rosa and her team were very appreciative with the opportunity to address the public school governance teams on Long Island.



N-SSBA Led The Effort To Advocate For The Healthy School Meals For All New York State Students

N-SSBA partnered with the Health and Welfare Council of Long Island (HWCLI) to advocate free school meals for all New York State students. The demographics on Long Island have changed dramatically over the years and the issues surrounding food insecurities are impacting every school community. In the final approved budget, an allocation of approximately \$135 million was dedicated towards this effort. The amount to fully fund this initiative was nearly \$280 million, so while not fully funded, this is viewed as a positive first step. Our advocacy work will continue on this for the next budget, but we are grateful for all the efforts that were put forward to get this item in the budget this year, and acknowledgement by the Governor that something more had to be done. Thanks to all of those who advocated for this initiative.



N-SSBA in the News

Click on the links below to see recent news articles that N-SSBA was referenced

[Newsday May 17, 2023, post-election](#)

[Newsday May 15, 2023, school spending](#)

[Newsday May 12, 2023, pre-election campaign atmosphere](#)

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- September 27, 2023** Annual Resolutions Dinner
6pm Fox Hollow, Woodbury
- November 1, 2023** Financial Governance Workshop-Nassau
6pm Westbury Manor, Westbury
- November 29, 2023** Financial Governance Workshop-Suffolk
6pm Villa Lombardi's, Holbrook
- January 25, 2024** Annual Joint Conference with the Nassau & Suffolk Superintendents' Assoc.
6pm Hilton Long Island, Huntington

From the N-SSBA Archives

N-SSBA's Annual Business Meeting: June 1974

Annual Dinner Meeting June 6, 1974

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3. Finance Committee

A copy of the Finance Committee Report is attached to the minutes of this meeting

4. Resolutions

The Great Neck resolution decrying crime and violence on television was moved by Mr. Edward Haynes, seconded by Mr. Demos and carried by a vote of 20-13.

The South Huntington resolution concerning State funding of education was moved by Mr. Genrich, seconded by Mrs. Dorothy Crane and defeated by a vote of 25-10.

5. Budget

A motion was made by Mr. Scarino, seconded by Mrs. Crane and carried to approve the 1974-75 Budget as submitted.

6. Nominating

Mr. Alvin Delman, Chairman, presented the following nominees to serve on the Executive Committee:

Officers elected for one year:

President	Mrs. Eleanor Smith, Elwood
Nassau Vice-President	Mr. Richard Ormauer, Merrick & Nassau BOCES
Suffolk Vice-President	Mr. Carl Auerbach, Cold Spring Harbor
Treasurer	Mr. Simson Wittenberg, Nassau BOCES

Nassau County Executive Committee:

3-year term	Mrs. Rita Driscoll	Carla Place
	Mrs. Alice Willett	Syosset
	Mrs. Gina Dissoway	Port Washington

1-year term to fill unexpired term of Dorothy Crane

Dr. Arnold Lurie	Baldwin
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Suffolk County Executive Committee

3-year term	Mrs. Eleonore Roll	Northport
	Mr. John Pedisich	Sachem
	Mr. Jack Jonke	Middle Country

1-year term to fill unexpired term of Anita Messinger

Mr. Joseph Fisher	Lindenhurst
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