

N-SSBA

Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association

SERVICE, SUPPORT & ADVOCACY

Newsline March 2023 edition

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N-SSBA's Annual Joint Conference With NYS Comptroller DiNapoli

On 1/26/2023, NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli was the featured speaker at the Annual Joint Conference hosted by N-SSBA along with the Nassau and Suffolk County Superintendents' Associations. There were over 180 registrants from over 50 different districts in attendance which consisted of School Board members, Superintendents, and other School District Administrators. Mr. DiNapoli's remarks focused on the state of economy in New York as well as priorities of the school district audits he has been conducting. Mr. DiNapoli also discussed his strategies for managing New York State's pension fund. We want to thank our sponsors for the evening, our Gold Level sponsor BBS Architects, and our Bronze Level sponsors; Bond, Schoeneck & King, NYSIR, and Syntax. We were extremely grateful to have this event back in-person and our survey results showed a high level of satisfaction with the event. We thank all of you who attended.

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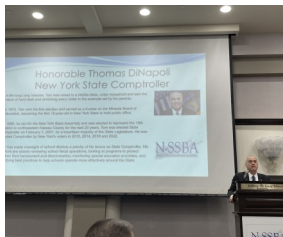
NYSSBA's Summer Leadership in Education Event

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.

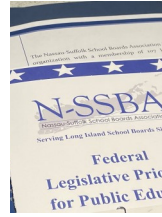
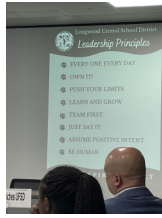
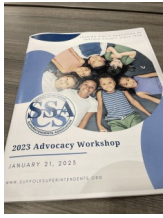
There will be valuable workshops and panel discussions for new and veteran school board members.

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.

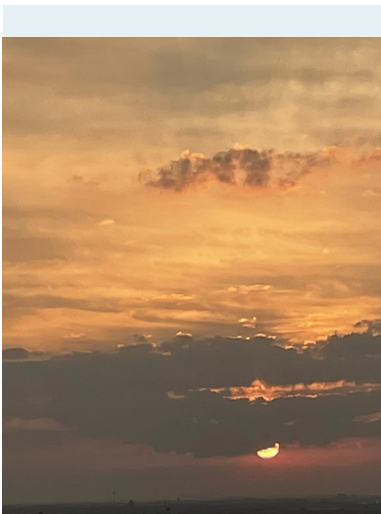
Registration begins **4/10/23**.
Check www.nyssba.org for more information



2023 Advocacy Season Has Been A Busy One!



“Every Student, Every Way, Every Day” Kevin McGowan – 2023 NYSCOSS & AASA Superintendent of the Year



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:

[New Hyde Park Garden City Park](#)

[Hampton Bays](#)

[South Huntington 1](#)

[South Huntington 2](#)

[Plainview Old-Bethpage](#)

[BOCES CTE](#)

[Malverne](#)

[Riverhead](#)

[Franklin Square 1](#)

[Franklin Square 2](#)



N-SSBA Members Attend NSBA's National Advocacy Institute

Several members from Long Island attended the annual National Advocacy Institute hosted by NSBA in Washington, D.C. Nearly 500 participants from across the United States gathered to hear about the federal issues impacting public education. The Long Island team also met with Congressmen Garbarino, LaLota, and D'Esposito and discussed N-SSBA's federal priorities along with the priorities for NSBA and NYSSBA. The return of visits with your congressional representatives on Capitol Hill was a welcomed return to this annual event.



Presents

A N-SSBA Member District Only Event

“A Conversation With the Commissioner”

Join Us As We Welcome NYSED Commissioner Dr. Betty Rosa

Date: Monday, April 24, 2023
Time: 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Price: \$100 (includes dinner)
Location: Heritage Club at Bethpage State Park

Come learn and discuss the initiatives and priorities that the State Education Department is putting forward and discuss important topics impacting our public education system such as full funding of the Foundation Aid formula and what will be next, the Blue Ribbon Commission for graduation standards, and school accountability measures.



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 |
| NYSCOSS | 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 |
| RTTT | 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 |

Budget Season Timeline

March 28-April 1 – Districts must publish the first of four legal notices preceding the date of the election

April 17 – School board candidate nominating petitions and voter submitted petitions for propositions other than those required to be included in the notice of the annual meeting are due in the office of the district clerk by 5:00pm.

April 18 – Districts other than small cities must determine the names of all candidates duly nominated and the propositions and referenda to be vote on the ballot.

April 21 – Districts other than small cities must distribute military ballots

April 24 – Districts must transmit “property tax report card” to SED no later than this date

April 26 – School board candidate nominating petitions due in small city school districts in the office of the district clerk by 5:00pm

April 25-May 2 - Districts must complete budget 7 days before the public hearing

May 1 – Small cities must determine the names of all candidates duly nominated and the propositions and referenda to be voted on.

May 2 – Last possible day for voter registration by school district board of registration in small city schools

May 2-May 9 – Board must hold public hearing on the budget

May 2-May 16– Copies of the budget must be available to residents upon request

May 2-May 11 – Last possible day for voter registration by school districts boards of registration in non-small city schools

May 10 – Deadline for mailing “budget notice”

May 16 – Annual budget vote and School Board Election

June 20 – Uniform Budget Re-Vote date

Source: NYSSBA website

A Message From Our President Michael Kelly

It is hard to believe that it is March already and that districts are preparing next year's budgets. While we are grateful that the Governor fulfilled her promise and fully funded Foundation Aid, it does show how much districts were shortchanged over the past decade. It also raises the question of what could have been done had districts been receiving the full Foundation Aid over the past decade and the potential impact it may have had on the tax levy.

For many districts, receiving such large sums of money presents unique budgeting issues. As board members, we have a fiduciary responsibility to work with our administrators to prepare a current budget that does not put the district at risk in the future. One of the challenges we face is to avoid the temptation of adding recurring expenses that will be difficult to sustain in future budgets. Working with your administrators, ask questions as to any perceived challenges in future budgets and what can be done in this year's budget cycle to help mitigate any future budget issues.

The past few months have been extremely busy here at the N-SSBA. We have just recently completed our extraordinarily successful four-part advocacy training series “Know Your Story, Tell Your Story, Sell Your Story.” This series can be accessed and viewed on our website.

In addition, this past January we hosted over 100 members in a joint conference with both the Nassau and Suffolk Superintendents' Associations with the NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli as our special guest speaker.



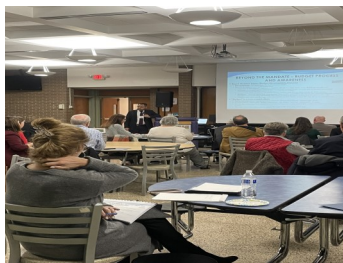
In continuing our outreach to members, we have arranged a not-to-be-missed dinner meeting, “A Conversation with the Commissioner,” with Dr. Betty A. Rosa, Commissioner of NYS Education Department. This dinner meeting, scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2023, is one of the few times the Commissioner has appeared on Long Island and is only open to member districts.

In addition, I invite you to join us at our Annual Business and Awards Dinner to be held on Tuesday, May 30, 2023. At this dinner we will be honoring some of our fellow school board members for the Distinguished Service Award, Outstanding School Board Service Award, Dedicated School Board Service Award, and the School Board Service Award.

If you wish to join us for these events, please contact your district clerk to arrange your registration. If your district clerk does not have the registration forms, please contact our office.

N-SSBA Advocacy Training Workshops “Know Your Story, Tell Your Story, Sell Your Story”

N-SSBA’s advocacy workshops series continued throughout the winter with Parts 2, 3, and 4. Part 2 was on Long Island’s Changing Demographics and its impact on school funding and operations. Part 3 was focused on financial literacy and a deeper dive into the budget process and the board’s roles and responsibilities as fiduciaries of the district. Part 4 was titled “Marketing Matters” and focused on how best to “tell and sell” your school district’s story. The survey feedback from the events were overwhelmingly positive with participants wanting more workshops in the future. To suggest a workshop topic email us at info@nssba.org with your idea for a future training event. Special thanks to our sponsors for these events. We thank all of you who attended our events. To those who responded to our surveys, your feedback is invaluable as it helps us plan future events.



N-SSBA Executive Committee Members Attend LIA Regional Breakfast



N-SSBA in the News

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

[Newsday-Governor's budget](#)

[Newsday-Foundation Aid](#)

[Newsday-Tax Levy Report](#)

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- 4/24/2023** "A Conversation with the Commissioner"
6:30pm @ The Heritage Club at Bethpage
- 5/30/2023** N-SSBA Annual Business & School Board Member Recognition Awards
6:30pm @ Fox Hollow, Woodbury
- 6/15/2023** Annual New School Board Member Dinner
6:30pm @ The Heritage Club at Bethpage
- 9/27/2023** N-SSBA's Annual Resolution Dinner
6:30pm @ Fox Hollow, Woodbury

From the N-SSBA Archives N-SSBA's Legislative Priorities from 1981!

This Is Your Action Program For The Year. We Urge Your Active Support.

FINANCING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

An operating formula for financing education should incorporate the concepts that,

- The State's share of the cost of education should be a minimum of 50%.
- Regional cost differences should be recognized.

School districts' fiscal burdens keep escalating intolerably, therefore.

SUPPORT

- Freezing district pension contributions at the present level, with staff paying any increase required.
- Increasing the carry-over of budget surpluses to foster better fiscal management.
- Providing adequate funding for education of handicapped children through an "excess cost" formula.

OPPOSE

- § Earmarking specific State revenues for public education.
- § Arbitrary limitations (CAPS) on the increase allowed to school districts under the State aid formula.
- § Limits on local district expenditures.

TAYLOR LAW

Past and new attempts by the negotiating unions to make this law ineffective will continue, therefore,

SUPPORT

- Restricting negotiations to mandatory items such as salary, hours, fringe benefits, and other conditions that are not in conflict with board or administrative prerogatives.
- Restoring one year probationary period for employees who strike.

OPPOSE

- § Elimination of strike penalties.
- § Imposition of binding arbitration, including "best final offer," to settle negotiations.
- § Attempts to continue current contracts after expiration or during impasse.
- § Attempts to share strike penalty with any other municipality.
- § Attempts to make everything arbitrable even if not included in contracts.
- § The agency shop.

MANDATES

The legislature continues to impose mandated costs, without additional aid, thereby forcing the dilution of funds for education, therefore,

OPPOSE

- § Mandates unless completely funded by the State.

BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY

Serious erosion of authority has resulted from laws passed because of lobbying pressure from negotiating unions, therefore,

SUPPORT

- The return, to school boards, of final authority for determining results of hearings (Education Law-3020a) for employees with tenure.
- A change in procedures for handling teacher disciplinary hearings under 3020a to provide a more reasonable time frame in which decisions can be rendered.

OPPOSE

- § Any reductions in the three year time limit to bring charges for incompetence or misconduct.
- § Interest arbitration - because it removes the board's decision making authority.
- § Regents Teaching as a Profession Project - because it is costly to implement and diminishes the authority of local school boards.

BEWARE - ALL THESE ITEMS (\$) COST MONEY!!