

FROM YOUR AREA DIRECTOR



Hello to all the 4CSBA members, it is about that time again, activities in your schools are picking up, teachers are preparing their classrooms and students are stopping by or getting in the final couple of days doing their favorite summer activity. All that said, where did the summertime go? I must admit the temperatures in many locations were not as warm as we might be accustomed to and the amount of rain we had this summer did not always cooperate with our plans. I can't believe this summer is over and the 2009-2010 school year will soon be in full swing. I hope for most of you the weather cooperated with your outdoor plans. How ever you spent your summer, I hope you all had a chance for a little R & R to renew and refresh yourselves. I saw several of you from Area 2 and 4CSBA at the New Board Member training workshops in Buffalo the weekend of July 17 and 18. It was a nice size group allowing for some very good discussion. As we start the new school year the legislature will be back soon and the "Tax Cap" discussion still looms heavy on our minds, Mayoral control (slightly modified) was again granted to Mayor Bloomberg in NYC and there is some talk about shortfalls in revenue coming from the Governor. We all know that it could lead to discussions of the dreaded mid-year cuts. That being said there may be times when NYSSBA asks you to reach out to your local elected officials to reinforce various points in support of your district's and the children's education. I hope to see many of you at the FCSBA meeting on September 15, and/or at the NYSSBA convention in NYC; both only a few weeks away.

Tom

Area 2 Director
NYSSBA, Vice President

FOUR COUNTY SELECTS LEADERSHIP FOR 2009-2010

During the Annual Business Meeting that was held on May 21, 2009 at the Belhurst Castle in Geneva, the membership elected officers for 2009-2010. Serving her first year as **President** is **Joyce Lyke**, President of the Wayne Central BOE. Joining her are **First Vice President Nancy Scher**, a member of the Penn Yan and Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES Boards and **Second Vice President, Anne Morgan** who serves as President of the Romulus BOE and a member of the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES Board. Among her first official duties, President Lyke has appointed members to chair the Association's Standing Committees. Tapped to Chair the Legislative Committee is **Mike Ellis**, Vice-President of the Bloomfield BOE. Assisting him in the Vice Chair role will be **Bill Gowan** of the Marcus Whitman Board. Providing leadership for the Program Planning Committee are Dundee Board member **Jim Koehler** as Chair and Canandaigua Board Vice President **Donna Cotter** as Vice Chair. Rounding out the leadership group are Past President **Jeanne Durfee**, Wayne-Finger lakes BOCES Vice President, and Clyde-Savannah Board member **Kathy Malone**, past Program Planning Committee Chair, who will serve as an at-large presidential appointee. Together they serve as the Associations' Steering Committee, whose duties include assisting the Executive Director with planning and preparation for the Board of Directors, assisting with financial oversight, and evaluating the Executive Director.

NEWS

NYSSBA

NEW BOARD MEMBER ACADEMY
A weekend of professional development for new board members!
September 11-12, 2009
The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center
Albany, New York

**33rd Annual Education Law Conference
NYSSBA and The Study Council of Syracuse**
September 17, 2009
Syracuse, New York

Annual Convention and Business Meeting
October 15-18, 2009
The Sheraton Hotel and Towers
New York, New York



FCSBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Tuesday, September 15, 2009
5:45 p.m.

(prior to the General Membership Meeting at the Club 86)
Join us to plan and organize for 2009-2010!



DATES TO REMEMBER **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**STRUCTURING THE TENURE CULTURE IN YOUR DISTRICT
FOR QUALITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**
October 8, 2009
The Club 86
Jointly sponsored by The Four County SBA & the Educational
Leadership Institute, SUNY Oswego School of Education

NEW BOARD ORIENTATION PART 2
Monday, October 29, 2009

FISCAL OVERSIGHT TRAINING
Saturday, April 24, 2009
Wayne Finger Lakes BOCES Regional Support Center, Newark, NY
(Cost - \$95.00 members, \$135.00 - non-members)
Mandated 6 hours of training provided by
Four County School Boards Association
(includes a three-ring binder of resources and reference material)

WATCH FOR DETAILS **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



The last year ushered in a time of uncertainty, fiscal challenge and *great opportunity*. As chair of the Legislative Committee I hope to press ahead with advocacy to enhance our voice and to effect change in Albany. For too long we have felt sometimes heard, but without the reform that would enable us to enhance the goals of our districts (to educate our students at the highest level).

On April 27, 2009 a sub-committee of the Legislative Committee met to review the pressing issues for our districts. During this meeting we identified fourteen items that were felt to be issues in common for all of our districts. Further discussion highlighted three issues that were of higher priority. It was the consensus of those in attendance that we should tackle these three issues in pursuit of changes in Albany, change that may enhance the ability of our districts to provide the quality education that we strive for with fewer obstacles. I have hope that we have the will and the purpose to pursue our issues and the fortitude to forge ahead with a united front. Our voice should be heard and I look forward to taking our message to our communities and to our representatives in Albany. We can no longer sit back and wait to hear what mandates are coming, but rather need to be involved in the discussion about what relief is presented to the chambers in Albany. These efforts need your support – I encourage your involvement in our Legislative Committee, be it as a representative of your district or as an active partner with specific issues including letters or contact with our representatives and the Governor. Please note the dates below for the various meetings that we have scheduled.

Thank you in advance for your ongoing efforts.

Mike Ellis

FCSBA Legislative Committee Chair



Website Spotlight

www.liveunited.org/forecaster - an interactive site sponsored by the United Way that was created by the United Way and the American Human Development Project. It explores the impact of education on your community by State and then by individual County.

www.McGruff.org - a bullying prevention site of the National Crime Prevention Council that provides information for parents and activities for young children.

Welcome New Board Members & Superintendents!

Four County extends a warm welcome to our newest members. Elected or appointed to serve on their boards for the first time effective July 1, 2009 were:

- MaryJo Witz** (Bloomfield)
- Beth Thomas** (Canandaigua)
- Bill Patrowicz** (Canandaigua)
- Edward Carr** (Clyde-Savannah)
- Jared Webster** (Dundee)
- Patti Thomas** (Gananda)
- Eileen Halling** (Geneva)
- Sue Craugh** (Marcus Whitman)
- Steve Matteson** (Marion)
- William Kelly** (Naples)
- Gail Musnicki** (Naples)
- Rob Crowder** (Newark)
- Kelly Ferrente** (North Rose-Wolcott)
- James Multer, Jr.** (Penn Yan)
- Lone Terpolilli** (Penn Yan)
- Ryan Hallings** (Penn Yan)
- Robert McCann** (Romulus)
- Susan Backlund** (Romulus)
- Lisa Wahl** (Sodus)
- Patrick Bolger** (Victor)

Welcome back to **Diane Allen** (Manchester-Shortsville) who served that board in the past and was re-elected in May.

Welcome also to newly appointed superintendents/interim superintendents:

- Superintendent Kim Ward** – Naples
- Interim Superintendent Cathy Milliman** – Clyde-Savannah

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL
We look forward to seeing you at Association events throughout 2009-2010



AREA 2 PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS DISCUSSION PLANNED

NYSSBA Area 2 Director **Tom Nespeca** will host the annual Area 2 Discussion of Proposed Resolutions on Saturday, September 26, 2009. It will be jointly sponsored by the Four County, Genesee Valley, and Monroe County School Boards Associations and held in the Media Center of the Canandaigua Academy. Flyers with details will be sent to all Associations and their members. The discussion will be led by **Barbara Clark** the Area 2 representative to the NYSSBA Resolutions Committee.

All voting delegates/alternates are urged to attend.

"If you want to succeed you should strike out on new paths rather than travel the worn paths of accepted success." John D. Rockefeller



September	October	November
7 Holiday	2 Negotiators' Breakfast	3 FCSBA General Membership Meeting
8 School Opens	4-5 NYSCOSS Fall Conference (Rochester)	3 FCSBA Board of Directors' Meeting
11-12 NYSSBA New Board Orientation (Albany)	8 FCSBA/Oswego School of Education - Tenure Workshop (Geneva)	7 FCSBA Legislative Position Paper Workshop (tent.)
15 FCSBA General Membership	12 Holiday	11 Holiday
15 FCSBA Board of Directors' Meeting	15 NYSSBA Pre-convention Law Conference	21 FCSBA Legislative Position Paper Workshop (tent.)
16 FCSBA Steering Committee Meeting	15-18 NYSSBA Convention (NYC)	23 FCSBA Steering Committee
17 NYSSBA Law Conference (Syracuse)	16 Upstate/Downstate Resolutions Discussion (NYC)	26 Thanksgiving Holiday
22 Statewide Finance Consortium Meeting	15-17 Upstate/Downstate Hospitality Suite	
24 MCSBA Law Conference (Rochester)	19-23 School Board Recognition Week	
26 Area 2 Resolutions Discussion	24 FCSBA Legislative Position Paper Workshop (tent.)	
29 FCSBA Legislative Committee Planning Meeting	26 FCSBA New Board Orientation- Part 2	
	29 FCSBA Presidents'/Vice Presidents' Meeting	
	30 FCSBA Steering Committee Meeting	



Four County School Boards Association
131 Drumlin Court
Newark, NY 14513

September 2009

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Club 86, Avenue E, Geneva, NY

5:30 – Registration/Conversation 5:45 – Board of Directors' Meeting

6:30 – Dinner

7:30 – Program

Enhancing and Sustaining Safe and Supportive Learning Environments Where All Students Succeed

a.k.a.

A "Best Practices Approach" to Preventing Problems in Schools

Kim McLaughlin, Executive Director, New York State Student Support Services Center
Joan Vitkus, Director, Mid-West New York Student Support Services Center
Lynne Gochenhaur, Student Assistance Coordinator, Marcus Whitman Central School District
Susan Salvaggio, Superintendent, Sodus Central School District

Our presenters will provide a multi-pronged approach with a review of policies, practices, and research-based programs and strategies that truly work.

Joyce Lyke
President

Nancy Scher
1st Vice President

Anne Morgan
2nd Vice President

Jeanne Durfee
Past President

Mike Ellis
Legislative
Committee
Chair

Jim Koehler
Program Planning
Chair

Bill Gowan
Legislative
Committee
Vice Chair

Donna Cotter
Program Planning
Vice Chair

Kathy Malone
Steering
Committee
Member

Sharon A.
Sweeney
Executive Director

Mary Roth
Administrative
Assistant

President's Message



Are you ever amazed at the responsibility that you assumed by becoming a board member? We have multi-million dollar budgets to oversee and the future of thousands of children in our hands. Many of us are involved in major building projects or faced with the hiring of a new Superintendent. It is a daunting thought.

For these reasons alone we have an obligation to become the most educated board members possible. We are fortunate to have many vehicles to help us in this process. Some of us belong to the National School Boards Association, receiving their information and attending the national conference. We have NYSSBA with their "On Board" publication, E-Clips articles from around the state, excellent courses both in the area and on the web as just a few examples. Four-county School Boards Association enjoys a great partnership with NYSSBA. At Four County School Boards Association we are always attempting to meet your needs by providing programs that are relevant to our area. One of the greatest ways to educate ourselves is through networking with the other educators in our area, the state and nationally. (Maybe I should add internationally.)

I know you are all busy. Many of you have children still in school and a demanding job. I realize our school budgets are tight. That may be one of the best reasons to network with other districts, sharing problems and solutions. We all see the need to train and update our staff. Don't neglect your training as well. There is a great deal going on in our area as well as the state. If you haven't attended one of our seminars please give us a try. We are always open to suggestions for programs. We need your ideas as much as you need our information.

Joyce