

NEWS NOTES

(315) 332-7294

Web Site: www.4csba.org Email: 4countysba@edutech.org

**October
2013**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings! It's October already! I hope everyone's September began successfully, and you are all well into full swing for the 2013-14 school year. October is a month full of activities - homecomings, fall sports, open houses, and when we get closer to the end of October, the NYSSBA 94th Conference right here in our backyard in Rochester. It should be a great conference, and if you were not able to attend our dinner meeting in September, you can catch our guest speakers, David Hamilton and Jeff Trout, at the conference on Friday morning during their session. There will be no dinner meeting in October but be sure to write in your calendar for November 19th our dinner meeting with our Guest Speaker, Dr. Marla Iverson. Her topic is "Catching Up on Race To The Top: The Sequel". This promises to be a very informative talk. The Steering Committee has been working on programs for the remainder of the school year. We will keep you posted as we get commitments. We are also planning either a breakfast or dinner with our representatives. Stay tuned!

We have a number of coming events, Legislative Position Paper Workshops and Convention activities – check it out and mark your calendars. You will get notices with details about these events.

Have a great October!

Kathy



FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

My morning routine in the office is to read and respond to email messages that have arrived since the end of the previous day. Long about mid- morning the NYSSBA e-clips arrive and I scan for articles of interest to Four County. Engaged in that pursuit on Wednesday morning October 2, I came upon the following: "Poll Finds School Chiefs Lukewarm on School Boards". Needless to say it piqued my curiosity and so I followed the link. It led to an Education Week article reporting on the findings of a survey undertaken jointly by Gallup and Education Week last June/July (1,169 respondents). This is apparently the second in a series polling school district superintendents to gain their thinking on major issues facing K-12 education. (In case you did not also follow the link it is here below along with the link to the survey findings.)

Key statements: "Most of the nation's superintendents do not issue strong approval ratings when it comes to judging the ability of school boards to govern districts.....more likely to express confidence in their own school boards' success at governing, only a small sliver – just 2 percent – said they strongly agree that districts across the nation are effectively governed at the board level." And "School boards are reviewing superintendents, everyone is reviewing teachers, but no one is really reviewing boards, or having conversations about the need to have really competent governing boards."

Perhaps worthy of a conversation with your board and a discussion at a future Four County meeting!

Article Link: http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2013/10/02/06superintendents_ep.h33.html?tkn=VTMF74hyJcQzLdOfJSym2vIPEZag9kSfNJAT&cmp=clp-edweek

Report Link: <http://www.gallup.com/strategicconsulting/162926/gallup-superintendents-panel-inaugural-report.aspx>

Sharon

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1st Vice President

Greg Walsh
2nd Vice President

Anne Morgan
*Immediate
Past President*

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*Legislative
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LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE PLANS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Four County Legislative Committee Representatives and Alternates met on September 17 prior to the General Membership Meeting at the Club 86 in Geneva. Facilitated by Committee Chair **Caroline Nevil** (Bloomfield), the group established their calendar of activities for 2013-2014. In addition to considering advocacy activities they set several dates for the annual position paper writing process. They once again approved participation in the Area 2 and Upstate/Downstate Discussions of the resolutions that will be considered at the NYSSBA Business Meeting in Rochester on October 25. The Position Paper Workshops are scheduled for October 19, and November 9 and 23. (See notice) The group is also committed to sponsoring an legislative event for the general membership – timing and format yet to be determined. **Make sure your board is represented in the Position Paper process – it is an important activity and opportunity to become knowledgeable about the legislative and regulatory issues that impact public education.**



LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE POSITION PAPER WORKSHOPS

Saturday, October 19
Saturday, November 9
Saturday, November 23
Saturday, December 7

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Vocational & Continuing Education Conference Room
Eisenhower Building
Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES
Regional Support Center
Newark, NY

(Enter the building through the archway to the north – watch for signs)

Make sure your board is represented!

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FOUR COUNTY PLANS CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Four County members are once again jointly hosting the **Upstate/Downstate Resolutions Discussion Breakfast** and **Hospitality Suite** during NYSSBA's 94th Annual Convention. Partnering hosts include members from:

Erie County ASB
Genesee Valley SBA
Monroe County SBA
Nassau-Suffolk SBA
Niagara-Orleans SBA
Rockland County SBA
Westchester-Putnam SBA



UPSTATE/DOWNSTATE RESOLUTIONS DISCUSSION BREAKFAST

Friday, October 25, 2013
7:30 – 8:30 a.m.
Hyatt Regency Grand Ballroom A



UPSTATE/DOWNSTATE HOSPITALITY SUITE Room # 2109 (we think)

Thursday 7:45 p.m. – Midnight Friday 5:30 p.m. – Midnight
Please stop in to relax and chat with colleagues from across the state



Thanks to

**C & S Companies and Hunt Engineers, Architects
& Surveyors**

for their generous sponsorship of the Suite

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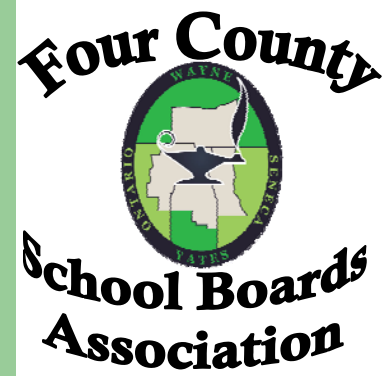
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COMING ATTRACTIONS

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SAVE THE DATE

October

4

Four County Negotiator's Breakfast

Newark

14

Columbus Day Holiday closed

19

Four County Legislative Position Paper Workshop

Newark

24-26

NYSSBA Annual Convention and Expo

Rochester

25

Upstate/Downstate Resolutions Discussion Breakfast

Rochester

24-25

Upstate/Downstate Hospitality Suite

Rochester

30

Four County Presidents'/Vice Presidents

Newark

November

5

Election Day

7

NYSSBA Policy Workshop

Rochester

9

Four County Legislative Position Paper Workshop

Newark

11

Veteran's Day Holiday – office closed

14

Statewide Finance Consortium Workshop

Newark

19

Four County General Membership Meeting

Dr. Iverson - "Catching Up with Race to the Top: The Sequel"

Geneva

19

Four County Board of Directors' Meeting

Geneva

23

Four County Position Paper Workshop

Newark

28-29

Thanksgiving Holiday – office closed

December

7

Four County Position Paper Workshop (if needed)

Newark

12

NYSSBA Winter Law Conference

Rochester

24-25

Christmas Holiday – office closed

January

1

New Year's Day – holiday office closed

15

Four County General Membership Meeting –

Dr. Rick Timbs "State Aid & New York Public School Districts – Analysis of Data"

Geneva

15

Four County Joint Board of Directors/Legislative Committee Meeting

Geneva