



# Four County School Boards Association

## OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES POLICY

In our efforts to accomplish our mission and goals the Association provides the following programs and services for its members:

- Numerous **opportunities to “network”** with other board members – (Always ranked as important benefit of membership)
- **Speakers** on topics of current interest – drawing on local, state and national experts, usually for just the cost of dinner
- Skill building workshops
- Annual State and Federal **Legislative Position Papers** – highlights issues of concern to area BOE’s
- Annual **Regulatory Position Paper** – for use with the Board of Regents and State Education Department
- Publication of annual **Facts & Figures Booklet** – data and description of member districts
- Publication of **Membership Directory** – to facilitate connections between members
- Organize and host regular **meetings for district negotiators** (key staff) and workshops for **Board Clerks & Internal Claims Auditors**
- Annual **Seminar for Prospective School Board Members** – open to all area residents at no cost for attendance
- Approved provider for **Mandated New School Board Member Orientation & Fiscal Training**
- **Coordination** and support (including financial) for participation in **Federal Advocacy efforts**
- **Coordination and support** of participation in NYSSBA **Capital Conference (Legislative Issues & Lobby Day)**
- Coordination of **other legislative activity** as appropriate including meetings with legislators, flow of information, calls to action and **alerts, and preparation of additional positions not included in Position Papers**
- Participation in Federal Advocacy events/meetings
- **Four County Legislative Trek** to Albany when necessary – coordinated and supported financially
- Opportunities for districts to **share successful programs** and showcase student groups, etc.
- Collection and storage of **information on education and related topics** – books, pamphlets, newspapers, articles, materials from workshops (sample documents available to be consulted or borrowed for boards/superintendents, etc.)
- Board **Presidents’/Vice Presidents’** Dinners and Round-Table discussions
- Programs on the topics of **Labor Relations and Negotiations**
- Regular meetings with area representatives to the New York State **Board of Regents**
- Representation in **regional efforts** – e.g. Finger Lakes School-to-Career Consortium Steering Committee
- Assistance with preparation for NYSSBA Annual Business Meeting through sponsorship of Area 2 Proposed **Resolutions Discussion** and Upstate/Downstate Resolutions Discussion

- Opportunities to network with board members from across Area 2 and the State through sponsorship of Upstate/Downstate Hospitality Suite (NYSSBA Convention)
- Regular contact with **State Education Department Staff** through President and Executive Director
- Participation in **Council of Local School Boards Association** (COLSBA) which provides opportunities to discuss common concerns and programming ideas and participate in training with staff and leadership from other local school boards associations
- **Collaboration** with other organizations to provide programs of interest – other local school boards associations and the New York State School Boards Association
- **Testimony** at public hearings representing the positions of member boards
- Representation to the **Statewide School Finance Consortium**
- Information about and referral to **other resources**
- Regular email messages with information about “hot” topics
- Listserv capability to facilitate **communication among members**
- A **Legislative Handbook** for Legislative Committee members to facilitate their grassroots lobbying efforts