



The Assembly State of New York



Proclamation

Honoring the
Four County School Boards Association
on the Occasion of its 50th Anniversary

Whereas, we take great pride in recognizing and commending organizations that have demonstrated unwavering dedication to education, collaboration and advocacy for the benefit of students, schools and communities, and for the past 50 years, the Four County School Boards Association has served as an invaluable resource for school boards across Seneca, Yates, Ontario and Wayne counties, providing advocacy, training and opportunities for collaboration to strengthen public education and support school governance; and

Whereas, in the fall of 1974, a group of dedicated school board members from the Wayne-Finger Lakes region came together with a shared vision to create a regional organization that would support and empower local school boards; and

Whereas, this vision became a reality on June 19, 1975, when representatives from 11 school districts formally convened for the association's first organizational meeting, with 21 of the 27 eligible districts joining as charter members, establishing the Four County School Boards Association as a leading advocate for education in the region; and

Whereas, since its founding, the association has played a pivotal role in shaping education policy through legislative advocacy, professional development and strategic partnerships with Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES, the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) and the National School Boards Association; and

Whereas, the association has led significant initiatives, including the formation of key committees in 1976, the introduction of seminars for prospective school board members in 1977 and the publication of its first legislative position paper in 1978, advocating for fair state aid, local control over union membership and relief from unfunded mandates; and

Whereas, for five decades, the Four County School Boards Association has remained steadfast in its mission to support school boards, expand student opportunities and promote policies that strengthen public education across the 27 school districts it represents; and

Whereas, the association continues to evolve to meet the needs of its members, offering annual legislative position papers, training programs for new and prospective board members and coordinating advocacy efforts that have had a lasting impact on education policy in New York State; and

Whereas, the Four County School Boards Association's influence extends far beyond its membership, shaping policies and educational practices that have enriched the lives of countless students across the Finger Lakes region; and

Whereas, this milestone anniversary is a testament to the dedication and vision of past and present members who have worked tirelessly to ensure that every child in the Four County region has access to a high-quality education and that school boards receive the resources and support necessary to fulfill their vital roles; now, therefore, be it

Proclaimed, that we, Senator Tom O'Mara, Senator Pam Helming, Assemblyman Jeff Callahan, Assemblyman Phil Pumesano, Assemblyman Brian Manktelow and Assemblywoman Andrea Bailey, along with the citizens of Seneca, Yates, Ontario and Wayne counties, extend our deepest gratitude and sincere congratulations to the

Four County School Boards Association
for its five decades of tireless advocacy and commitment to our area schools.



Dated: May 15, 2025
In Witness Whereof, We Have Hereunto
Set Our Hands and Signatures

Thomas F. O'Mara
New York Senate
58th Senate District

Pamela A. Helming
New York State Senate
54th Senate District

Jeff Callahan
New York State Assembly
131st Assembly District

Phil Pumesano
New York State Assembly
132nd Assembly District

Brian Manktelow
New York State Assembly
130th Assembly District

Andrea Bailey
New York State Assembly
133rd Assembly District