

# COUNCILGRAM

## “Facts Are Stubborn Things”

### *Facts Compel Action on School Finance Reform, Exam Controversy*

Representing British soldiers in trials following the Boston Massacre, John Adams observed, “Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.” Two controversies in education policy dominated the news in late June—a debacle over Regents exams and a final decision in the Campaign for Fiscal Equity school finance lawsuit. In both cases, simple, straightforward facts showed a need for action. Both controversies could have sweeping consequences for education policy in New York State.



#### **Campaign for Fiscal Equity v. State of New York**

The state’s highest court — the Court of Appeals — issued a final ruling in the Campaign for Fiscal Equity lawsuit. In a 4 to 1 decision (with one judge abstaining and one seat vacant), the Court concluded that New York City school-children are being denied the state constitution’s promise of a sound basic education due to flaws in the state’s system of funding education.

The Court of Appeals rejected the notion that an 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade level of education would suffice, as a mid-level court had ruled one year ago. Arguably, such a minimal standard would have rendered the constitution’s promise meaningless for any contemporary purpose. Instead, the Court of Appeals ruled that a “meaningful high school education” is required — to prepare

students to compete for jobs that would enable them to support themselves and to exercise the responsibilities of citizenship. CFE argues that this definition now represents the highest standard in the nation.

One factual statement from the decision sums up the Court’s conclusions on the fundamental unfairness of the state’s education finance structure: “New York City schools have the *most student need* in the state and the *highest local costs* yet receive some of the *lowest per-student funding* and have some of the *worst results* [emphasis in original].”

CFE had requested that the courts order an overhaul of education funding for the whole state but the Court of Appeals declined, concluding, “Here the case presented to us, and consequently the remedy, is limited to the adequacy of education financing for the New York City public schools...” It ordered the state to ascertain the cost of providing a sound basic education in New York City and to enact appropriate reforms to assure that every New York City school have the resources needed to provide the opportunity for a sound basic education. It gave the parties until July 30, 2004 to complete these assignments.

The Court of Appeals is the final authority in interpreting the state constitution — there are no appeals left. What happens now?

Simply stated, the Court’s decision must be implemented. The Governor and Legislature were given until July 30, 2004



**OVER 100 YEARS OF  
EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

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**JULY, 2003  
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# State News

## NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

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to enact remedies — 13 months or 400 days. The trial court judge, Leland DeGrasse, who granted CFE a sweeping first-level victory, will now be charged with monitoring whether the state's response measures up to the Court of Appeals' commands.

One specific task required by the decision is for the state to ascertain the cost of delivering a sound basic education in New York City. It will provide a concrete benchmark for appraising the overall adequacy of education spending in New York City. Anticipating the decision, an attempt to establish that cost for every district had already been launched by CFE and the State School Boards Association. Their effort does not have official sanction from the state and its outcome may be unlikely to ever be accepted as the final word. Nonetheless, the project now takes on greater significance; it will provide one standard for evaluating both the process and results of the state's official effort.

One threshold issue is whether statewide reform is required. Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver has argued that whole state reform is unnecessary, while Assembly Education Committee Chair Steven Sanders was quoted in the *Buffalo News* asserting, "This is not just a New York City issue." NYSCOSS has argued for a statewide approach — first, because New York City comprises so large a part of the state's education system that any attempted solution would inevitably have implications for other districts; and, more importantly, schoolchildren in other communities are confronted with similar inequities.

How will the remedy be implemented and funded? Some school district leaders in other corners of the state have expressed concern that it will lead to a diversion of education aid to New York City. However, both CFE and state leaders have disavowed any intention of pursuing a "Robin Hood" reallocation strategy.

More broadly, the decision can be seen as giving education the first claim on any available state budget dollar, especially once the economy rebounds. It gives education the "club of the court:" if the ruling is not implemented, courts will step in and demand that it be done. This makes the decision a threat to other segments of the budget — taxes, health care, and public employee compensation, for example. A desire to minimize the cost impact of the remedy could be behind some attempts to limit its application to New York City alone.

The decision has already set off some interesting maneuvering. A *New York Post* column generated by the state Business Council identified health care union leader Dennis Rivera as the prime obstacle to implementing the decision because of his influence in protecting Medicaid from state budget cuts. Trying to avert further state tax increases, the Business Council points to "the state's out of control spending on Medicaid" as an alternative source for the dollars needed to fund the CFE remedy.

Other responses are apt to include attempts to dilute the impact of the decision by redefining miscellaneous expenditures as "education" spending that help satisfy the requirements of the

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decision. Health care advocates witnessed such exploits when the state first received a windfall from the national tobacco settlement. Environmentalists similarly saw the impact of state bond acts watered down by proposals to fund routine maintenance projects, including some whose relevance to conservation were hard to fathom.

There will also be attempts to require New York City itself to shoulder most of the remedy. The state struck out arguing that City mismanagement and under-funding was to blame if some children were being denied a sound basic education. All three levels of courts concluded that the City is an agent of the state and the state is ultimately responsible for the failures of its agents. Still, the Court of Appeals did acknowledge that governance reforms could comprise part of the state's remedy but probably not all, observing, "We do not think such measures will obviate the need for changes to the funding system, but they may affect the scope of such changes."

With all of this, the most immediate question is what should happen next? Should a blue ribbon panel be appointed? Should a special session of the Legislature be convened? Or will the issue be addressed through the regular state budget process? Relying on routine processes seems suspect — they produced the circumstances that led to the lawsuit and its conclusion.

We cannot know what resolution the state will reach a year from now. The decision further clouds an already unsettled climate. But ultimately it is a positive outcome for education. What were the alternatives? The state's highest court might have concluded that an 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade education is good enough, that adequate resources aren't really required to assure a sound basic education, that only an average amount of help is required for children with above average needs, or that the state has no responsibility if a community denies its children what the constitution promises.

### Commissioner Gives Math A Regents Exam an "F"

The CFE case took approximately 10 years to resolve. Commissioner Mills acted to remedy problems with the Regents Math A exam just one week after it was given. But the controversy gave focus to long simmering doubts about the state's drive to implement new graduation requirements and fresh ammunition to critics of those efforts.

The controversy erupted a day after the test was given when school officials began reporting unexpectedly low passing rates. Later, the State Education Department reported that only 37 percent of takers passed the test according to preliminary estimates, down from 61 percent in June 2002. This "stubborn fact" was substantiated by specific criticisms of the test itself — important topics such as trigonometry and systems of equations were not tested at all, other topics were overemphasized, questions were characterized as wordy and convoluted, and SED itself quickly acknowledged that one question had two correct answers.

Ultimately, Commissioner Mills said, "This exam doesn't seem fair. I think we made some mistakes with this exam and it is up to us to identify and correct them." He gave districts the option to use a local course grade for juniors and seniors to satisfy math graduation requirements. Also, he announced that an independent panel would be appointed to review the exam and recommend adjustments to scores for freshmen and sophomores.

Council leaders had been in daily contact with key players in the Department and the Board of Regents. The Commissioner's press release announcing his action acknowledged NYSCOSS Executive Director Tom Rogers first among a group of education leaders whose perspectives he was grateful to have received. Still, though NYSCOSS members could draw satisfaction from its role in helping students who would have been hurt by the exam, a disturbing question remained: How did it happen—how could something so consequential be so flawed? The controversy did not die.

More than a week after the Commissioner's decision, newspapers were still running articles on the controversy. A fresh spurt appeared when it was revealed that the Commissioner had sought to reconfigure oversight of the Department's testing bureau, removing it from the domain of Assistant Commissioner Roseanne DeFabio. Dr. DeFabio promptly took early retirement. Nor was the Math A exam the only test targeted for criticism. Chemistry, Math B and Physics were also cited as flawed.

The uproar over Math A spared the Education Department from a repeat of last year's furor over Physics. But that test appeared to be as flawed as Math A and criticisms of it echoed those made by the Council over the past year. Further tumult can be anticipated, since the flawed June 2002 test will

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# State News

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serve as the anchor for two more administrations of the exam.

Long-standing critics of requiring prospective high school graduates to pass Regents exams in five subjects seized on the controversy to reinforce their call to give students and schools more options. Meanwhile, the *New York Times* editorialized in favor of high stakes testing, arguing that, "...periodic problems with tests are not a reason to scrap the whole testing initiative." Columns by researchers and education leaders appeared. The chairs of the Assembly and Senate Education Committees announced plans to conduct hearings on the exams and graduation requirements in late summer or early fall.

The consequences of the controversy could prove to be profound. In the near term, it is likely to color

the Regents deliberations over whether to extend the 55 passing score option, an issue scheduled to be resolved at the Board's November meeting. More broadly, it appears to have sparked a sprawling, statewide debate over the role of high stakes tests — a timely and potentially constructive development.

At least three major questions should be confronted: (1) are the current state standards appropriate; (2) are the assessments testing those standards well-enough and appropriately for all students; and (3) while the exams are being perfected, should a local diploma option remain? The Council will designate an *ad hoc* committee to address these questions and consider recommendations for changes to the state's assessment practices and requirements.

## Legislative Wrap-Up

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A fairly active and unique legislative session closed effectively on time in Albany on June 19-20. Following is a recap of bills of particular significance to Council members.

### DS Salary Cap

This bill would allow BOCES district superintendent salaries to increase up to 6% over the prior year's cap up to a maximum of 98% of the Commissioner's 2003-04 salary. The bill also contains provisions regarding BOCES district superintendents not being able to hold two contracts simultaneously with the same BOCES. Discussions between the Legislature and Governor's office continued on this issue even after the bill passed the Senate and Assembly. The Council believes these discussions will lead to a positive final resolution of this matter when the Legislature returns in the fall.

### Fingerprinting Delay

#### *S.5059 (Saland) Chapter 100 of the Laws of 2003:*

This bill extends until July 1, 2005 provisions relating to the conditional employment of prospective employees of school districts.

### NCLB

#### *S.5061 (Saland) Chapter 101 of the Laws of 2003:*

This bill makes conforming amendments to New York State law needed to implement provisions of the federal *No Child Left Behind Act*.

### Criminal Background Checks for Supplemental Service Providers *S.5546 (Saland):*

This bill would include supplemental educational service providers into New York's fingerprinting law for teachers. Passed both houses; not yet sent to the Governor.

### NYC Governance *S.5688 (Padavan):*

This bill would make further amendments to the NYC governance law enacted last year. It would: require every community school district to employ a superintendent of schools to be located in the District office; establish community district councils in each community school district; and, establish a citywide council of special education. Passed both houses and is expected to be signed into law.

### School Bus Attendants *S.5620 (LaValle):*

This bill would amend the law relative to the school bus attendant training and change the effective date of these provisions to January 1, 2004. Passed both houses; not yet sent to the Governor.

### School Bus Attendants II *S.5582 (Kuhl):*

This bill would provide school districts additional time (until December 31, 2003) to comply with new regulations relating to school bus attendants and monitors. Passed both houses; not yet sent to the Governor.

## Supreme Court Decides Affirmative Action Cases

### *Race and Ethnicity Can Be Used in Admissions Decisions*

The United States Supreme Court ruled that race and ethnicity can be used as a factor in admissions decisions at public higher education institutions. The rulings, from a majority of the Court, are the most significant affirmative action decisions in a generation. Both cases involve higher education admission practices but may have implications in lower education as well.

*Grutter v. University of Michigan* was brought by Barbara Grutter, a white female who was denied admission to the University of Michigan Law School. She sued, claiming that the school unlawfully discriminated against her through its affirmative action policy. This policy allowed race and ethnicity to be used as a “plus” factor in the admissions process. In its defense, the University of Michigan Law School posited that it appropriately took race into account in order to “achieve that diversity which has the potential to enrich everyone’s education and thus make a law school class stronger than the sum of its parts.” This goal, it asserted, was a compelling state interest that was directly furthered by its policies and practices.

The Court agreed. In doing so, the Court revisited affirmative action, an issue it had not taken up since deciding *University of California Davis v. Bakke* in 1978. In *Bakke*, a disjointed court (there was no majority opinion) ruled that affirmative action could be used in university admissions. But, the court struck down the quota system used by the UC

Davis medical school saying it was not narrowly tailored to the government interest at issue. In *Grutter* five of the justices agree that race may be used in admissions decisions and also held that the method used by the

University of Michigan Law School was acceptable. It thus found the means and the ends met the high level of scrutiny given to racial classifications.

The Court imposed limits on the use of race in a parallel case, *Gratz v. Bollinger*. There, the Court ruled that a point system employed by the University of Michigan’s undergraduate school went too far in using race as a factor in admissions decisions. The policy in *Gratz* was a specific point system that awarded up to 20 points to high school applicants from particular racial or ethnic classes. The Court found the point system did not provide a factual assessment of an individual’s qualities but rather just assigned specific points by virtue of a single characteristic. Just as it did in *Bakke*, the Court determined the policy was not narrow enough to meet its goal.

The two cases offer guidance and maybe some concern. Hailed as victories for affirmative action,

*Grutter* firmly establishes that student diversity is a compelling



state interest and one that universities may seek to further in their admissions policies. The Court further helps by drawing a new line after *Bakke* by establishing in *Gantz* that a point system, just like a quota, is not an acceptable means for considering race in admissions. Universities across the country will be using these cases to measure their own admission policies and methods for considering diversity. Some are likely to change as a result.

Implications at the K-12 level are less clear and likely to take more time to unfold. Initially, some have raised the possibility of using diversity as a way to justify certain race-conscious programs administered at the K-12 level. Others have said that charter and magnet schools may rely on the cases to alter their heretofore open admissions policies. As the cases are digested at both levels we will see each of these issues and others play out.



# Fall Conference

## ***Concurrent Sessions***

### **One to One Mobile Computing: Empowering Teachers and Students in the Classroom**

Diane Reed, Superintendent, Honeoye Falls-Lima CSD  
Scott Hughes, Strategic Initiatives, Apple Computer

### **Lead and Be Rich: How to Build, Protect and Enjoy Your Wealth**

Michael Frantzblau, President, National Educator Planning Services

### **Using EXCEL as a Data Analysis Tool**

Robert MacNaughton, Superintendent, Ramapo CSD

### **Crisis at Your Doorstep: A Framework to Address It**

Greg Geer, Superintendent, Byron-Bergen CSD

### **Building Success One Mind At A Time**

Robert Olczak, DS, Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES  
Gail Hirst, Director Instructional Support Services  
Barbara Vanwicklin, Proj. Director, Schools Attuned  
Anne Mitchell, National Schools Attuned Trainer  
Tim Cox, National Schools Attuned Trainer

### **Employment Practices, Liability, Trends & Exposures: How to Protect Yourself**

Gregg Johnson, Esq.  
Robert Bambino, Risk Management Director,  
New York Schools Insurance Reciprocal (NYSIR)

### **Facing History and Ourselves: Citizenship Education that Helps Students Find Meaning**

Martin Sleeper, Associate Director, Facing History and Ourselves  
Peter Nelson, NY Regional Office, Facing History and Ourselves

### **Education by Design: A Brain-Based Approach to Lesson Design & Classroom and School Culture**

Matthew Murray, Superintendent, Gilboa-Conesville CSD

### **Wealth Accumulation with NO REGRETS!: Balancing current lifestyle and future needs while controlling risk**

Nick Cava, Vice-President, Mutual, Inc.

### **Answering the Question, "Why Try?"**

Christian Moore, MSW, Why Try, Inc.

### **Professional Development: A Vehicle for Improvement**

Mark Capobianco, Superintendent, Vestal CSD

### **ELA and Math Assessment Reporting: Using Data to Drive Curriculum and AIS Decision Making**

Marcia Schwarz, Retired, Sullivan BOCES  
Ted Smith, Coordinator of Assessment Reporting for Lower Hudson RIC; Data Analyst, Questar III

### **International School to School Partnerships**

Joseph P. Carney, Office of Overseas Schools  
Harry Jaroslaw, Retired Superintendent, Mineola

### **Even Start and How it Supports NCLB**

Kathy Meckle, Sullivan BOCES  
Fred Bragan, Superintendent, Lyons CSD  
Ada Grabowski, Superintendent, Albion CSD  
Pat Campany, Director, Consortium for Children's Services, Onondaga County

### **Universal Acceleration and Detracking Through 10th Grade**

William H. Johnson, Superintendent, Rockville Centre

### **Building Community Connections: Effective Communication Strategies During School Construction**

Margaret Dames, Superintendent, Cornwell CSD  
Steve Spangler, Principal, JMOA Engineering, P.C.

### **Got Data? Five Proven Steps to Increased Student Performance**

Leslie Pulliam, President & Chief Academic Officer of The Pulliam Group

### **Safety & Risk Management: Current Issues**

John Griffin, Underwriting Manager,  
Utica National Insurance Group

### **Misunderstanding Motivation**

Teresa Thayer-Snyder, Superintendent, Brunswick

## Superintendent in Residence Named

### *J. Briggs McAndrews Joins Council Staff in August*

The Council is pleased to announce that Dr. J. Briggs McAndrews (formerly of Niskayuna), will be the latest addition to our staff — our Superintendent in Residence. The hiring process has been challenging, but fruitful. Challenging, because the pool of interested former superintendents was so strong that choosing among them was very difficult, but fruitful because in trying to separate the candidates by strengths, we honed our conception of the role and responsibilities of the position. The Council was assisted in this process by a committee of superintendents representing our professional development efforts, the district superintendents, and the Executive Committee.

Briggs has a tremendous amount of experience with our Superintendents Academy. He helped develop much of the case study curriculum and served as an instructor for the various frames. As we develop new curriculum for new/potential superintendents, and for urban/high-needs superintendents, Briggs' experience will be invaluable. Briggs is excited about the mission of involving more stakeholders in the Council's work and in soliciting new revenues and new partnerships to bring it about. His many years as a successful educational leader will make him an excellent resource to superintendents as well.

## Top Students Receive Honors

### *Lower Hudson Supts' Group Presents Awards*

A recognition program for top students was started thirty-eight years ago by Carroll Johnson who was then superintendent of White Plains. He initiated a dinner to recognize the academic achievements of top students in each of the region's high schools.

At this year's luncheon, 18 scholarships were awarded to students from Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland and Westchester Counties. Over \$50,000 was contributed by corporate sponsors under the leadership of J. Michael Orifici, Managing Partner, Capital Projects Consulting. The luncheon's Keynote Speaker, Dana Reeve, urged students to "live their dreams" and to remember that living a life with meaning means helping others.

The Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents announced its offers for 2003-04: President, Vincent T. Beni; Vice-President, John C. Pennoyer; Secretary, Marjorie E. Castro; Treasurer, Joseph Zambito and Executive Coordinator, Raymond J. Gerson.

## IN MEMORIUM

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Paul T. Besser, 67, of Baldwinsville passed away June 18, 2003. He was born in Buffalo and lived in Baldwinsville for the past 20 years. He retired in 1992 as Superintendent of the Central Square CSD and was currently teaching History at OCC. He also served as District Principal at Taconic Hills CSD from 1977-1982.

Mr. Besser received his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and his doctorate degree from SUNY Albany. He had his own radio show, was an avid baseball enthusiast, and owned and operated Besser's Whistlestop, a model train store in Baldwinsville.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Arleen A. Besser; daughter Rebecca L. Croucher; three sons, Mark of Fulton, Thomas of Buffalo and Kevin of United Arab Emirates; a sister, three grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

## Congratulations to 2002-03 Retirees

*Retired Life Members Will Be Honored at Annual Banquet*

**T**he NYSCOSS Annual Banquet will be held on Monday, September 22, 2003 at the historic Hall of Springs in Saratoga. 2002-2003 Retirees will be the event's honored guests.

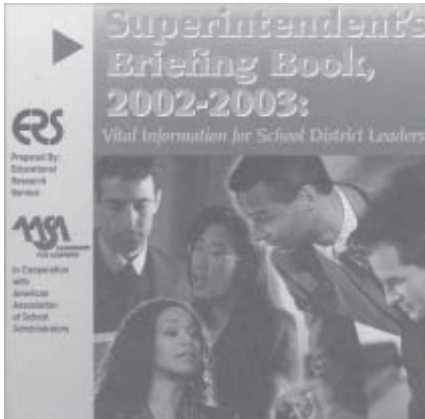
If you have retired in the past school year and your name does not appear on the list below, please contact Lorraine Gitchel at Council offices.



**Dwayne R. Adsitt** ..... Mattituck-Cutchogue UFSD  
**Anthony Barretta** ..... Holland Patent CSD  
**Oliver N. Blaise Jr.** ..... Windsor CSD  
**Charles H. Bohlen Jr., DS** ..... Jeff.- Lewis BOCES  
**Mary P. Bonen** ..... Minisink Valley CSD  
**Donald R. Bright** ..... Deer Park UFSD  
**John M. Burkhardt** ..... Andes CSD  
**Joseph A. Caligiuri** ..... Hopevale UFSD  
**Gerald J. Carozza, DS** ..... WSWHE BOCES  
**John J. Cataldo** ..... Liverpool CSD  
**Vernice N. Church** ..... PAfton CSD  
**William J. Dadey** ..... Gates Chili CSD  
**Margaret Daugherty** ..... Valley Stream UFSD #13  
**Christopher B. deGrandpre'** ..... Northeastern Clinton  
**Robert E. Drake** ..... Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk CSD  
**Nicholas Fazio** ..... Richfield Springs CSD  
**Harold E. Ferguson** ..... Homer CSD  
**James J. Giordano** ..... Hammondsport CSD  
**Joseph L. Girardi** ..... Lancaster CSD  
**Harold F. Hall** ..... Addison CSD  
**Vernon D. Hobbs** ..... Holley CSD  
**Gary M. Holbert** ..... Fallsburg CSD  
**Evalyn W. Jerkins** ..... Pawling CSD  
**Richard R. Kahn** ..... Harrisville CSD  
**Leslie B. Lewis** ..... Cheektowaga CSD  
**Robert G. Kennedy** ..... Mechanicville City  
**Connie C. Lorthridge** ..... Middle Country CSD  
**Marilyn H. Lubell** ..... Worcester CSD  
**Richard V. Mabbett** ..... Weedsport CSD

**Eileen McAvoy** ..... Perry CSD  
**Andrew Manca** ..... Spackenkill UFSD  
**Candace D. Mazur** ..... Eldred CSD  
**James A. McCormick** ..... Prattsburgh CSD  
**J. Bruce McKenna** ..... Hampton Bays UFSD  
**Roger G. McQuain** ..... Warrensburg CSD  
**Charles Molloy** ..... Frankfort-Schuyler CSD  
**Robert M. Mountain** ..... Bolivar-Richburg CSD  
**John C. Murphy** ..... Sayville UFSD  
**Louis R. Pettinelli, Deputy Supt.** ..... Oswego BOCES  
**Walter S. Polka** ..... Lewiston-Porter CSD  
**J. Richard Rodriguez** ..... Falconer CSD  
**Robert Root** ..... North Shore CSD  
**Mark Rosenbaum** ..... Lawrence UFSD  
**Margaret Sauer** ..... Westfield CSD  
**Joseph P. Sabatella** ..... Mahopac CSD  
**Edward Shafer, DS** ..... Madison-Oneida BOCES  
**William A. Shine** ..... Great Neck UFSD  
**Ronald Smith** ..... Merrick UFSD  
**Stanley Toll** ..... Ardsley UFSD  
**Donald B. Trombley** ..... Corning City  
**Pamela H. Whittet, Assistant Supt.** .....  
 St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES

## Superintendent's Briefing Book Available *Resource Guide Offers Valuable "Nuts and Bolts" Information*



**E**ducational Research Service (ERS) in cooperation with AASA, has compiled a reference book containing valuable research and information on topics that deal with challenges and issues that are crucial to the success of public schools.

The book offers a variety of topics including: school boards, effective teaching, high stakes testing, budget and finance issues,

closing the achievement gap, communicating effectively and using assessment data to improve instruction.

Due to the volume of calls received, the Council has ordered more of these books. A limited number are now available for \$75 from the Council. Please contact Lorraine Gitchel at 518/449-1063 or [lorraine@nyscoss.org](mailto:lorraine@nyscoss.org).

## All Committee Members Please Note

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**W**e are in the process of compiling lists of all NYSCOSS committee members for the 03-04 year.

Please note that you must sign up for each committee EVERY year. Renewal does not take place automatically and prior participation will not be rolled over to the new year.

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please complete the form that you received in your membership renewal packet, or the form below, and fax to Lorraine Gitchel at 518/426-2229.

The following committees are open to all NYSCOSS Members:

AASA/Federal Relations  
Athletics  
Audit  
Compensatory Education  
Computer Technology  
Constitution and By-laws  
Curriculum and Instruction  
Member Services  
Membership  
Pathways to Leadership  
Professional Certification  
Professional Development  
Resolutions

Retirement  
Small Cities  
Small/Rural Districts  
Wellness

The Budget Committee is elected at the January House of Delegates meeting. The NYSCOSS President appoints members of the Ethics Committee. Legislative Committee members are elected/appointed by members of geographic regions. The Distinguished Service Committee is comprised of various NYSCOSS Officers.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School District \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Choice \_\_\_\_\_

## Superintendencies

### AVON CSD

Office of the District Supt. \$100,000-\$115,000  
 Attn: Ms. Diana Gurak Enr: 1,156  
 Genesee Valley BOCES Reply by:  
 80 Munsen Street 8/22/03  
 LeRoy, NY 14482

### GENESEE VALLEY CSD

Robert D. Olczak, District Supt. \$95,000-\$105,000 range  
 Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES Enr: 824 Pre-K-12  
 1825 Windfall Road Reply by:  
 Olean, NY 14760 8/8/03

### GREAT NECK UFSD (REOPENED)

Jessica Vega \$Competitive  
 P.O. Box 229374 Enr: 6,000  
 Great Neck, NY 11022 Reply by:  
 ASAP

### PERRY CSD (SEARCH EXTENDED)

Office of the District Supt. \$100,000-\$115,000  
 Attn: Ms. Diana Gurak Enr: 1,175  
 Genesee Valley BOCES Reply by:  
 80 Munsen Street 8/15/03  
 LeRoy, NY 14482

### SARANAC LAKE CSD

David J. DeSantis, District Supt. \$Competitive  
 Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES Enr: 1,750  
 P.O. Box 28 Reply by:  
 Malone, NY 12953 8/1/03

### SPRINGVILLE-GRIFFITH INSTITUTE CSD

Richard G. Timbs, District Supt. \$115,000-\$130,000  
 Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES Enr: 2,388  
 8685 Erie Road Reply by:  
 Angola, NY 14006 8/15/03

### Out-of-State Opportunities (Contact NYSCOSS For Further Information)

**Superintendent:** Murray County Schools, Chatsworth, GA. Enr: 7,525. By: 7/27/03. \$Competitive.

**Superintendent:** Pennsville Township Public School District, Salem County, NJ. Enr: 2,200. By: 8/1/03. \$Competitive.

**Superintendent:** Cheshire, CT. Enr: 5,000. By: 10/1/03. \$127,000-\$147,000.

## Retirements

**Mary Bonen** ..... Minisink Valley CSD, 7/1/03

**Harold Ferguson** ..... Homer CSD, 6/30/03

**Charles Fowler** ..... Hewlett-Woodmere CSD, 7/04

**Vernon Hobbs** ..... Holley CSD, 1/1/04

**Richard Kahn** ..... Harrisville CSD, 6/30/03

**Kathleen Koehnen** ..... Fisher's Island UFSD, 6/29/03

**Louis R. Pettinelli** ..... Deputy,  
 Oswego County BOCES, 1/1/04

**Edward Shafer** ..... Madison-Oneida BOCES, 7/7/03

### Other NYS Administrative Positions (Contact District For Further Information)

**High School Principal:** Dobbs Ferry UFSD. Enr: 349.  
 By: ASAP. \$Competitive.

**High School Principal:** Greenville CSD. Enr: 445.  
 By: 7/31/03. \$Competitive.

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## Chief School Officer Appointments

**Ted Adams** ..... Middle Country CSD, 7/1/03  
*Superintendent from Utah*

**Kenneth Aldrich** ..... Mattituck-Cutchogue, 7/1/03  
*Senior Business Official at South Hampton*

**Mark Brand** ..... Indian Lake CSD, 7/1/03  
*VOTEC School Principal*

**Lois Colletta** ..... Spackenkill CSD, 7/1/03

**Patrick DiCaprio** ..... I., Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk CSD, 7/1/03

**Nicholas Fazio** ..... I., Ilion CSD, 7/1/03

**John Fitzsimmons** ..... Lawrence UFSD, 7/1/03  
*Superintendent in New Jersey*

**Raymond Gualtieri** .... East Hampton UFSD, 7/1/03  
*Superintendent in New Jersey*

**Steven Hubbard** ..... Weedsport CSD, 7/1/03  
*Superintendent at Lynncourt UFSD*

**Rosemary F. Jones** ..... Sayville UFSD, 7/1/03  
*Assistant Superintendent for Instruction at Sayville*

**Douglas Larison** ..... Homer CSD, 7/1/03  
*Superintendent at Genesee Valley CSD*

**Timothy Lawson** ..... Warrensburg CSD, 7/1/03  
*Elementary Principal at Warrensburg*

**Elizabeth Lison** .... Valley Stream #13 UFSD, 7/1/03  
*Assistant Superintendent from Smithtown*

**Edward Malineck** ..... North Shore CSD, 7/1/03  
*Assistant Superintendent for Instruction at North Shore*

**Ranier Melucci** ..... Merrick UFSD, 7/1/03  
*Superintendent at Seaford UFSD*

**Thomas Markle** ..... Lancaster CSD, 7/1/03  
*Superintendent at Springville-Griffith CSD*

**Jerome Melvin** ..... I., Union Springs CSD, 7/1/03

**Richard Montgomery** ..... Windsor CSD, 7/1/03  
*Superintendent in Texas*

**Joseph Murphy** ..... North Warren CSD, 7/1/03

**Martha Murray** ..... Minisink Valley CSD, 7/1/03  
*Assistant Superintendent for Personnel at Minisink*

**Michael O'Brien** ..... I., Genesee Valley CSD, 7/1/03

**Richard Organisciak** ..... Deer Park UFSD, 7/1/03  
*Superintendent at NYC Alternative Schools & Programs*

**Robert J. Reidy, Jr.** ..... Mahopac CSD, 8/20/03  
*District Superintendent of Schuyler-Chemung-Tioga BOCES*

**Brenda Smith** ..... Mount Vernon City, 7/1/03  
*Assistant Superintendent and Interim at Mount Vernon*

**Gary Smith** ..... Groton CSD, 7/1/03  
*High School Principal at Mexico CSD*

**Joseph Sproule** ..... I., Addison CSD, 7/1/03

**Judith Staples** .... Corning-Painted Post City, 7/1/03  
*Superintendent at Medina CSD*

**John Stoothoff** ..... Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex BOCES, 7/1/03  
*District Superintendent at Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego*

**Rolf Waters** ..... Harrisville CSD, 7/1/03  
*K-12 Principal at Clifton-Fine CSD*

**Louis Wool** ..... Harrison CSD, 7/1/03  
*Acting Superintendent at Harrison*

**Lawrence Zacher** ..... I., Springville-Griffith, 7/1/03

I., Interim A., Acting Ass't, Assistant Superintendent

# CALENDAR

## 2003

### Harvard Institute

July 20-23 ..... Cambridge, MA

### New Superintendents' Conference

August 24-25 ..... Albany

### Fall Conference 2003

September 21-23 ..... Saratoga



### Mid-Winter Conference 2004

January 11-13 ..... Albany

### AASA National Conference

February 19-22 .... San Francisco

### Fall Conference 2004

September 19-21 ..... Saratoga

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