

COUNCILGRAM

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

Deal Ends Budget Gridlock

Criteria Unclear for 100 Million Education Dollars

After seven months of stalemate, the Legislature and Governor finally reached an agreement to supplement their baseline budget from early August. The broad parameters include the creation of new casinos, the installation of gambling devices at race tracks, and the state participation in Powerball. This new revenue stream, combined with funds released by modifying the state's method of financing school construction projects and the adoption of various other fiscal maneuvers, has generated an additional \$500 million for spending.



Most of this spending, it appears, will be driven through the secretive member-item spending process. Both houses allotted themselves \$100 million for "not-for-profits" and gave the Governor \$100 million for "economic development" but didn't specify which agencies, or what criteria would be used to allocate the funds. The remaining \$200 million will be spent in education. Half would be directed to restore cuts to Teacher Centers, Teacher Support Aid, Mentor Teacher Programs, Bilingual Aid, and Small Cities Aid, while the remainder (\$100 million) will be disbursed apparently by individual legislators as discretionary grants. However, only \$50 million in grants is appropriated for the current fiscal year and the grants would include both school districts, libraries, and other educational not-for-profit agencies. As with the other discretionary

funds, it remains unclear what, if any, criteria will be used for the distribution of this substantial sum of new money.

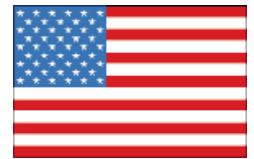
What remained unaddressed were unreimbursed costs for spending on disabled children (Excess Cost aid) and shared services (BOCES aid) and expected increases in numerous programs that support the Big 5 schools. Given the structure of the restorations the Legislature did make, many speculate the Legislature avoided reopening the shares issue and instead sought to cover their political bases and personally award funds in their districts. As a result, until the distribution of these funds becomes clear, school districts across the state continue to have the significant revenue gaps created by the baseline budget, requiring drastic actions like the expenditure of fund balances and cuts to programs and services. For example, the Buffalo City schools are poised to layoff nearly 500 teaching staff.

Any thoughts that the inequities created by this year's budget might be rectified in the next fiscal year seem to be fading quickly. A recent report from the Rockefeller Institute of Government indicated state revenues received between July and September dropped 9.5% with the potential for more decreases in future months. With the financial impacts of the tragic events of September 11th still being assessed, the Governor has warned state revenues could fall short by up to \$3 billion this

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**OVER 100 YEARS OF
EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP**



**NOVEMBER, 2001
VOLUME IV; ISSUE 3**

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NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

7 ELK STREET, THIRD FLOOR
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207
518/449-1063
FAX 518/426-2229
WWW.NYSCOSS.ORG

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year. Although election years typically lead to timelier budgets, the fundamental wrangling between the Executive and Legislature over constitutional control of the budget process and the lack of sufficient resources to underwrite the Legislature's spending priorities

which together led to this year's most protracted of struggles remain unresolved. Perhaps anticipating another long battle, the Executive is rumored to be releasing his Executive Budget proposal in mid-December as was done several years ago.

8th Grade Assessment

Results Continue to Raise Concerns

The State Education Department recently released the 2001 test results from the elementary and middle school ELA and mathematics assessments. While schools appear to have consolidated earlier gains at the 4th grade level, already lackluster results on the 8th grade tests remained flat or in some instances declined. As a result, more scrutiny has been placed on identifying possible causes for these disappointing results.

Some 44.9%, or fewer than half of 8th grade students met the standards by scoring at level 3 or 4 on the ELA 8 exam—a result essentially unchanged from 2000. Math 8 results declined from 40.3% of stu-

dents last year to just 39.4%.

While Commissioner Mills believes these results may be attributable to a disparity between the level of attention placed on the 8th grade assessments relative to the 4th grade tests, many observers believe a lack of alignment between the curriculum and the assessments, the profusion of testing at the middle school level, and the distractions of non-academic curricular mandates are far more likely culprits.

The Commissioner is planning a series of regional symposiums to bring members of the education community together to devise ways to improve student performance.

Results of SED AIS Study

Survey Finds Implementation Difficulties

The State Education Department recently released the results of a survey of 600 randomly selected principals regarding the implementation of academic intervention services

(AIS) for students not meeting the state's learning standards. The survey had a 60% response rate.

Of the total enrollment in the schools the respondents repre-

Continued on page 15

Mid-Winter Conference Speakers Slated

Exciting Lineup to Focus on Leadership, Tolerance, Core Values



Peter Yarrow

Peter Yarrow, of Peter, Paul and Mary, encourages teachers, parents, youth and youth workers to collaborate in support of strategies which teach the value of respect and help build caring and responsible communities. Peter's words and songs continue to inspire new audiences to commit their time and talent toward the creation of a more just and more compassionate society. He will open the conference on Sunday, January 13 at 5:00 p.m.



Thomas J. Sergiovanni

Dr. Thomas J. Sergiovanni teaches in the school leadership program and five-year teacher education program at Trinity University. He is senior fellow at the Center for Educational Leadership and founding director of the Trinity Principals' Center. He is the author of many articles and books on leadership. He will speak about "Principles of Leadership in an Age of Standards" on Monday, January 14 at 9:00 a.m.



Steven Sanders

Assemblyman Steven Sanders, now in his 13th term, represents the east side of Manhattan. Mr. Sanders is a lifelong resident of New York City and graduated from City College in 1973 with a degree in government.

Assemblyman Sanders was named chairman of the Committee on Education in January 1995 by Sheldon Silver. He will offer a presentation on Tuesday, January 15 at 9:00 a.m.



Richard P. Mills

Richard P. Mills was appointed as President of the University of the State of New York and Commissioner of Education in August 1995. As Commissioner, he serves as chief executive officer of the Board of Regents, which encompasses every education endeavor in the State, including public and non-public elementary, middle and secondary education. He will present in a town hall format on Monday, January 14 at 3:00 p.m.



Robert L. King

Robert L. King was appointed Chancellor of the State University of New York in 1999 by the University's Board of Trustees. Since then, he has been working diligently to implement the Board's major policy initiatives in order to move SUNY into the front ranks of American higher education. Chancellor King will offer comments on Tuesday, January 15 at 10:45 a.m.

Mid-Winter Conference

Schedule

Mid-Winter Conference 2002

Sunday, January 13

12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Conference Registration

1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

House of Delegates Meeting

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Visit Exhibits

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

General Session

Speaker: Peter Yarrow

6:30 p.m.

Diamond Sponsor Hosted Reception

Monday, January 14

7:30 a.m.

NYSCOSS Committee Meetings

7:30 a.m.

New Superintendents' Cracker Barrel

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

General Session

Speaker: Dr. Thomas J. Sergiovanni

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions

10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Visit Exhibits/coffee break

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Lunch

1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Visit Exhibits/Prize drawings

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

General Session

Speaker: Dr. Richard Mills

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Placement Consultants

4:30 p.m.

NYSCOSS Committee Meetings

6:00 p.m.

All Conference Reception

Tuesday, January 15

7:30 a.m.

NYSAWA Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

General Session

Speaker: Assemblyman Steven Sanders

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

General Session

Speaker: Robert L. King, Chancellor of SUNY

12:00 p.m.

Closing Luncheon

Creating Safe Learning Spaces

**A ONE-DAY SCHOOL FACILITIES CONFERENCE FOR
SUPERINTENDENTS, PRINCIPALS, BUSINESS OFFICIALS,
AND ASSISTANTS**



April 11, 2002

Holiday Inn Turf

Wolf Road, Albany

9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Following Through on Projects

- Reporting Requirements •
- (Re-)Financing Options / Impact of New Aid Formulas •

Creating Safe School Environments

- School Security •
- Fingerprinting/SAVE •
- Fostering a Safe School Climate •



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Superintendents' Academy *Eighteen Earn Academy Certificates*

NYSCOSS is pleased to recognize the following individuals who have successfully completed all four sessions of the Superintendents' Academy. These graduates will be recognized at the Awards Luncheon on January 14, during the Mid-Winter Conference.

Joseph P. Beck	Stamford
Benjamin C. Berliner,	South Kortright
Martin Bregg.....	Colton-Pierrpont
John M. Burkhart	Andes
Geniene Guglielmo	Highland Falls-Fort Montgomery
Kathleen Koehnren.....	Fishers Island
Peter N. Livshin	Milford
Thomas E. Marzeski	Cherry Valley-Springfield
Joan P. Mazulewicz.....	LaFargeville
Howard D. Mettleman	Oriskany
Dominic Mucci	Springs
Arthur Nugent	Valley
Ronald O. Ross	Mount Vernon
Steven D. Schoonmaker	Greenwood
Edmund Shultis	Schenevus
Howard S. Smith.....	East Aurora
Alan M. Tessier	Brasher Falls
Alan Van Cott	Islip

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If your name does not appear on this list and you have completed all four sessions of the Academy, please call Lorraine at NYSCOSS.

What's New on the NYSCOSS Website?

- u **New Budget Information**
- u **Mid-Winter Conference Registration Information**
- u **Gramlinks-Links to news articles**
- u **Links to Corporate Sponsor Web sites**

Make us your start-up page:
www.nyscoss.org

Post-Graduate Academy Offered

The Superintendents' Academy offers the Post-Graduate Academy II on Friday, November 30 and Friday, December 7.

The program, developed for superintendents and assistant superintendents who have completed the Superintendents' Academy certificate program, provides the opportunity for individual reflection and collegial interaction. Participants who complete at least two post-graduate programs will be eligible to receive a professional development certificate at the upcoming Mid-Winter Conference, January 13-15, 2001.

Programs are offered twice a year at locations throughout the state. Please look for information about the next Post Graduate Academy which will take place in mid-2002.

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Superintendencies

ANDOVER CSD Robert D. Olczak Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming BOCES 1825 Windfall Road Olean, NY 14760-9299	\$85,000-\$90,000 Enr: 415 Reply by: 11/28/01	NISKAYUNA CSD Barbara Nagler Capital Region BOCES 1031 Watervliet-Shaker Road Albany, NY 12205-2106	\$135,000 Enr: 4,178 Reply by: 12/31/01
BINGHAMTON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT Vincent Coppola Western Educational Services Council 222 Baldy Hall Buffalo, NY 14260	\$Competitive Enr: 6,500 Reply by: ASAP	ROCKLAND BOCES Vincent Beni Focus Consulting Associates P.O. Box 516 Carmel, NY 10512	SN/A Enr: N/A Reply by: 12/1/01
CANISTEO CSD R.L. Bouchard Steuben-Allegany BOCES 6985 Technology Way, PO Box 586 Hornell, NY 14843-0586	\$90,000-\$110,000 Enr: 945 Reply by: 12/21/01	SALMON RIVER CSD David DeSantis, District Supt. Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES P.O. Box 28 Malone, NY 12953	\$95,000-\$110,000 Enr: 1,551 Reply by: 12/28/01
ELMIRA HEIGHTS CSD Robert J. Reidy, Jr. SCT BOCES 459 Philo Road Elmira, NY 14903-1093	\$92,000-\$97,000 Enr: 1,300 Reply by: 12/21/01	SOUTH COUNTRY CSD South Country Search c/o SCOPE 100 Lawrence Ave. Smithtown, NY 11787	\$Competitive Enr: 4,600 Reply by: 11/30/01
ELMSFORD UFSD Vincent Beni Focus Consulting Associates P.O. Box 516 Carmel, NY 10512	up to \$165,000 Enr: N/A Reply by: 12/21/01	SOUTH SENECA CSD Timothy O'Neill Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES 555 Warren Road Ithaca, NY 14850	\$90,000-\$95,000 Enr: 1,050 Reply by: 12/1/01
HORSEHEADS CSD Richard Castallo Castallo & Silky P.O. Box 100 Syracuse, NY 13215	\$115,000-\$130,000 Enr: 4,500 Reply by: 11/30/01	SOUTHERN WESTCHESTER BOCES Bill LeDoux LeDoux Associates 26 Elm Street Tillson, NY 12486	\$128,625 cap Enr: 71,127 Reply by: 12/10/01
HUDSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT Ann P. Myers c/o Office of the District Superintendent 10 Empire State Boulevard Castleton, NY 12033	\$100,000-\$120,000 Enr: 2,380 Reply by: 3/1/02	TULLY CSD Lee G. Peters, District Supt. Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES P.O. Box 4754 Syracuse, NY 13221	\$105,000-\$115,000 Enr: 1,281 Reply by: ASAP
LA FAYETTE CSD Richard Castallo Castallo & Silky P.O. Box 100 Syracuse, NY 13215	\$100,000-\$120,000 Enr: 1,134 Reply by: ASAP	UNION-ENDICOTT CSD William Silky/Suzanne Gilmour Castallo & Silky P.O. Box 100 Syracuse, NY 13215	\$120,000-\$130,000 Enr: 4,700 Reply by: 12/3/01
LINDENHURST UFSD H.A.S. Consulting P.O. Box 38 Merrick, NY 11566	\$Competitive Enr: 7,640 Reply by: 12/21/01	WESTHILL CSD William Silky/Larry Pedersen Castallo & Silky P.O. Box 100 Syracuse, NY 13215	\$128,000-\$148,000 Enr: 2,100 Reply by: 1/14/02
MARGARETVILLE CSD Alan D. Pole, Interim District Supt. Otsego-N. Catskill BOCES Frank W. Cyr Center Stamford, NY 12167	\$85,000-\$95,000 Enr: 530 Reply by: 11/30/01	WHITNEY POINT CSD Vincent Coppola Western Educational Services Council 222 Baldy Hall Buffalo, NY 14260	\$120,000-\$130,000 Enr: 2,100 Reply by: 1/11/02

Other NYS Administrative Positions (Contact District For Further Information)

- Career & Technology Center Principal:** St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES. Enr: N/A. By: 11/30/01. \$Competitive.
- Supervisor of Special Education:** Otsego-Northern Catskill BOCES. Enr: N/A. By: 12/31/01. \$60,000-\$70,000.
- Assistant Principal-High School:** Corning-Painted Post City School District. Enr: N/A. By: 12/14/01. \$\$60,000-\$70,000.
- Assistant Principal-Middle School:** Corning-Painted Post City School District. Enr: N/A. By: 12/14/01. \$\$60,000-\$70,000.
- Supervisor of Special Education:** Corning-Painted Post City School District. Enr: N/A. By: 12/14/01. \$\$60,000-\$70,000.
- Professional Development Consultant:** Per Diem. NY/NJ Location. Contact: Julie Norflus-Good, (212) 652-0229.
- High School Principal:** Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk CSD. Enr: 2,300. By: 12/10/01. \$70,000-\$85,000.
- Assistant Professor:** SUNY Brockport Department of Educational Administration. Enr: N/A. By: ASAP. \$45,000-\$65,000.
- Assistant Superintendent for Administration:** Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES. Enr: 44,000. By: 1/1/02. \$90,000s.
- Director of Special/Alternative Education:** Ulster County BOCES. Enr: 300. By: 11/30/01. mid-\$80,000s.
- Deputy Superintendent:** Southern Westchester BOCES. Enr: N/A. By: ASAP. \$130,000-\$160,000.
- Principal:** Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior High School, Boorheesville CSD. Enr: N/A. By: ASAP. \$Competitive.
- Director of Admissions:** City University of New York. Enr: N/A. By: ASAP. \$75,000-\$100,000.
- Assistant Superintendent:** Windham-Ashland-Jewett CSD. Enr: N/A. By: 11/30/01. \$Competitive.
- Assistant Superintendent** for Finance & Support Services: Oneida City School District. Enr: N/A. By: 12/14/01. \$80,000-\$90,000.
- Business Administrator:** Delhi CSD. Enr: 1,152. By: ASAP. \$Competitive.
- High School Principal:** Locust Valley CSD. Enr: N/A. By: ASAP. \$112,876-\$137,730.
- Supervisor of Special Education** (2 Positions): Otsego-Northern Catskills BOCES. Enr: N/A. \$Based on experience.

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

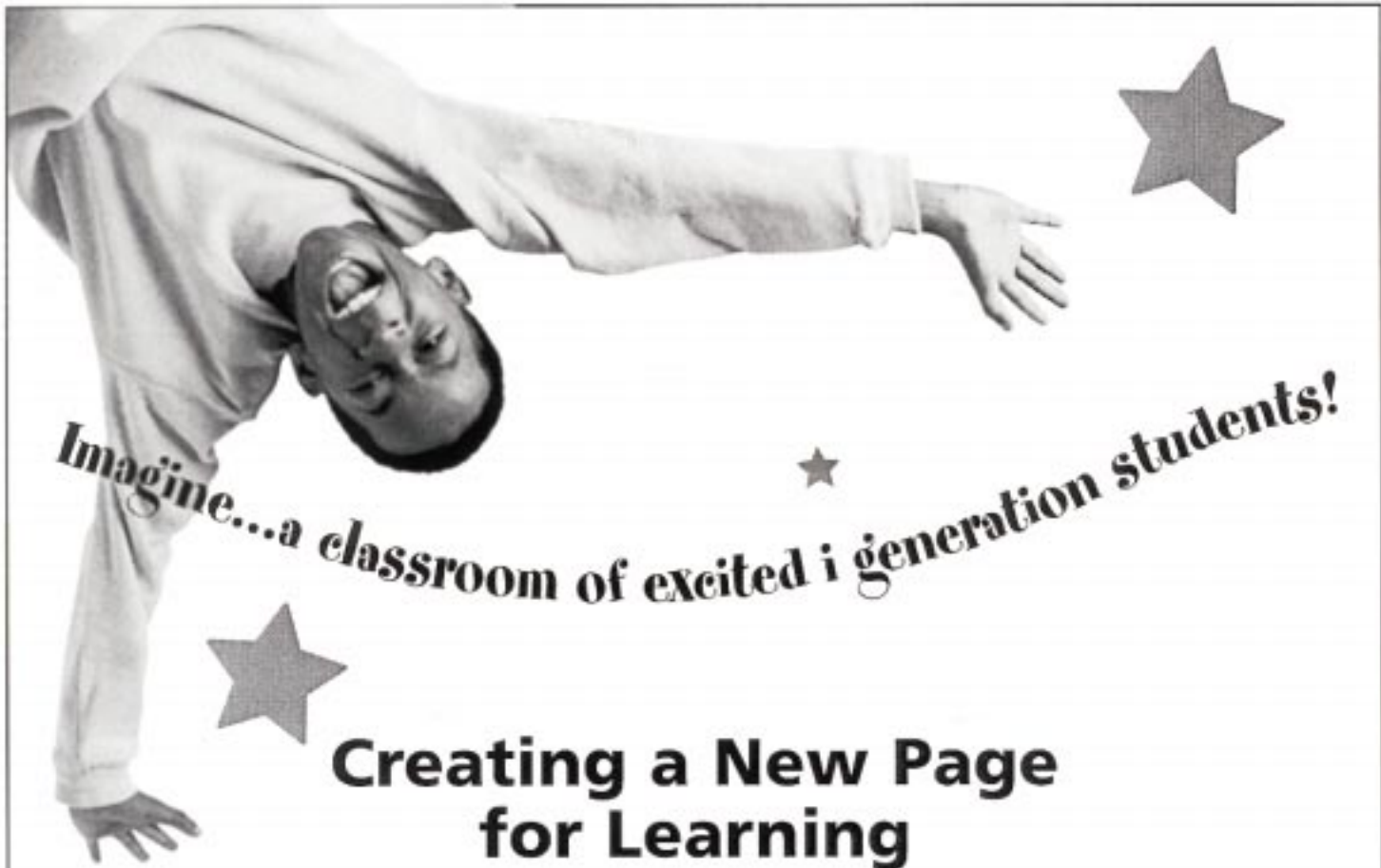
- Superintendent:** and K-8 building principal. Lavallette Borough SD, Lavallette, NJ. Enr: 245. By: ASAP. \$Competitive.
- Superintendent:** Little Egg Harbor Township SD, Ocean County, NJ. Enr: 1,700. By: 2/1/02. \$Competitive.
- Superintendent:** Ridgewood SD, Bergen County, IL. Enr: 5,200. By: 7/1/02. \$Highly competitive.
- Superintendent:** School Administrative Unit #10, Derry, NH. Enr: 4,689. By: 12/12/01. \$90,000-\$105,000.
- Superintendent:** Tenaflly Public School District, Teneffly, NJ. Enr: 2900. By: 1/18/02. \$Competitive.
- Superintendent:** School Administrative Unit #6, Claremont, Cornish and Unity, NH. Enr: 2000. By: ASAP. \$90,000's BOE.
- Superintendent:** Fraser Public School District, Fraser, MI. Enr: 4610. By: 12/20/01. Not less than \$110,000.
- Superintendent:** Somers School District, Somers, CT. Enr: 1600. By: 11/26/01. \$95,000-\$110,000.

Chief School Officer Appointments

Douglas C. Burton Fort Plain CSD, 11/26/01
High School Principal, Mohawk CSD

Lynn Lyndes Bradford CSD, 4/1/02
Director of Informational Services, Elementary Principal

A. = Acting I. = Interim



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Study Finds Slight Drop in School Crime

Students Feel Safer, Experiencing Less Fear of Being Hurt

Students are feeling safer at school, but still feel threatened by weapons, a new government report says.

The annual Indicators of School Crime and Safety, released October 31st, showed that most types of school crime dropped slightly between 1995 and 1999, the Associated Press reported on November 1, 2001.

But the report, issued by the Education and Justice departments, showed that the percentage of students who say they were threatened with a weapon at school stayed about the same.

The report said the percentage of students 12 and older who said they were victims of thefts, assaults or threats at school dropped from 10 percent in 1995 to 8 percent in 1999. The largest drop came for students in seventh, eighth and ninth grades. Figures for 11th-graders were unchanged at 7 percent.

The percentage of students who reported street gangs in their school fell by nearly half. Also, fewer students said they feared being attacked or hurt at school and fewer said they avoided places on campus because they considered them unsafe.

But the percentage of high school students who said they'd been threatened or injured with a weapon was the same. The percentage of high school students who said they'd carried a weapon at school in the past 30 days dropped from 10 percent to 7 percent.

Attorney General John Ashcroft was encouraged by the figures but said more needs to be done. "Our schools should be a haven for our young people where they can learn without fear of violence."

National Education Association President Bob Chase called the figures "great news for students, parents and the school staff who have been working diligently to maintain our schools as sanctuaries from societal violence."

Experts Advise: Kids Need More Sleep

The National Institute of Health is undertaking a publicity campaign to persuade children to get more sleep, beginning with elementary schools in Duluth, Minnesota, *The Dallas Morning News* reported on November 4, 2001. For years, the institute has targeted specific groups with the message that they need solid sleep to be healthy and perform well. Now the message is being brought to children ages 7 to 11.

"Whatever children do, they will do it better if they are well-rested," said Carl Hunt, director of the institute's National Center on Sleep Disorders Research.

Mr. Hunt said research shows that children who regularly get nine hours of sleep perform better in school, experience better moods, suffer fewer accidents and are less likely to become obese.

Also, sleep-deprived children often act hyperactive, leading to misdiagnosis of attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder.

Mr. Hunt said most children get between seven and eight hours of sleep. The institute hopes to improve their sleep habits before they become teenagers, he said.

Board to Regain Use of Schools Near Ground Zero

Public School/Intermediate School 89, closed since Sept. 11, were returned to the control of the Board of Education on November 5, 2001.

The schools, about three blocks from the ruins of the World Trade Center, were used after the terrorist attack as an administrative base for emergency operations. Students from P.S. 89 and I.S. 89, housed in the same high-rise building, were relocated to other schools.

The board needs time to clean up the building and will then consult with parents and teachers about whether they want classes to move back into the building.

Beyond the safety of the building, there is a question about whether parents would want their children to return. Some are eager to resume normal lives and reclaim the neighborhood, however others are worried about environmental hazards and the emotional impact of being so close to the disaster site, *The New York Times* reported on November 2, 2001.

Please continue to check in with your House and Senate members, asking them for updates on the progress of mandatory funding of IDEA in the H.R. 1 conference committee.

Education Appropriations Must Not Be Held Back

As the education funding bill (S. 1536) is about to clear the Senate (the House version passed October 11), some in Congress say the measure should be halted until the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (H.R. 1) has been signed into law. Consequently, pressure is being exerted by key members of Congress to slow down the funding bills and speed up H.R. 1.

Some argue this appropriations measure for Fiscal Year 2002 (school year 2002-2003) should be held back because some of the programs tagged for FY 2002 money won't be created until H.R. 1 is cleared for the President's desk.

The new H.R. 1 programs, sought by the President, include a reading initiative and provisions to boost teacher quality.

While progress is being made on H.R. 1, so much remains to be decided that the bill may not be completed until the end of November or later.

Both versions of the Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill would lift education spending by nearly \$4 billion or 17 percent. Special education is slated for an increase of approximately 20 percent in both bills.

Mandatory IDEA Funding On the Edge.

Efforts to encourage federal legislators to make IDEA funding mandatory have been increasingly successful.

The vote appears to be very close. House and Senate members need to continue hearing

from constituents, specifically for updates on the progress of mandatory IDEA in the H.R. 1 conference committee. The chair of the House Education and Workforce Committee, has stated that he will not allow mandatory IDEA to remain in H.R. 1. Every call to House and Senate members places more pressure on the H.R. 1 conferees. With enough pressure, the chair may be forced to reconsider his position.

ESEA Would Set National Teacher Standards

As currently written, H.R. 1 would mandate full subject certification for every teacher in all schools with student poverty populations of 50 percent or higher. Elementary teachers who teach a multi-subject curriculum would be required to take and pass a state-administered test.

Additionally, only those with a minimum of two years of college would be eligible for hire as paraprofessionals. We wonder what that would do to help the teacher and classroom aide shortage which already exists in some schools and school districts.

2002 AASA Candidates Announced

President-Elect--

Mary F. Barter

John R. Lawrence

Executive Committee--

Joan P. Kowal

Daniel R. Mastrobuono

Donald B. Trombley

More information about candidates and the election can be found at the AASA web site: <http://www.aasa.org>

Charles L. Stoddart Honored as 2002 New York State Superintendent of the Year

The Council is pleased to announce the selection of Charles L. Stoddart as the New York State Superintendent of the Year for 2002. Dr. Stoddart has brought to the Orchard Park Central School District a unique perspective of incredible depth. He entered the district as a kindergartner, graduated from it's high school, and went on to become teacher, principal and, for the past 20 years, superintendent. His long-standing commitment to his community, education and high expectations for all children has provided the district with stability and strong ethical leadership.



Communication is the key to Chuck's philosophy for building a successful community-school relationship. He has had a lifetime of personal involvement in a wide range of community activities, and this has given the people of his district the opportunity to know and trust him. The district is proud to be known for outstanding academic achievement and a strong commitment to athletics, service and the arts.

Dr. Stoddart has been instrumental in developing a technological infrastructure infused with trust, caring and involvement. One example of this is the Cybergrams project which brings together senior citizens, teachers and students in e-mail projects involving topics such as local history and science. Meticulous assessments have shown that

students in technology-enriched classrooms spent more time on task, had more interaction time with teachers and peers and higher overall achievement than students in traditional classrooms.

Dr. Stoddart has been an active member of NYSCOSS, chairing the Ethics Committee and serving as Adjunct Professor for the Superintendents' Development Program. He is admired and respected by members of his community and the many professional organizations on which he serves.

The NYSCOSS Distinguished Service Committee selected Chuck as the state's Superintendent of the Year. He is now a candidate for the 2002 AASA National Superintendent of the Year Award, to be given during the National Conference on Education in February.

Ross J. Willink was recently honored by the Webster School District when the Middle School was dedicated to him. Ross was Superintendent of Webster from 1969 until his retirement in 1981. Prior to that, he was Superintendent of East Irondequoit School District from 1962-1969.

Stanley Toll, Superintendent of Ardsley Union Free School District, has been a member of NYSCOSS for 23 years. Apologies to Stanley for inadvertently omitting his name from the list of 20-year members in the October *Councilgram*.

Retirements

Robert G. Hudzinski Bradford 4/1/02

James E. Lee Binghamton 8/10/02

J. Briggs McAndrews Niskayuna 6/30/02

Robert A. Pauline Elmsford 8/31/02

Dale C. Schumacher Whitney Point 8/1/02

Dennis M. Sweeney Union Endicott 7/5/02

Robert F. Wood Canisteo 2/1/02

Moving Boxes Available

Daniel MacGregor, Superintendent of North Warren CSD, has recently moved his school and has leftover packing boxes he would like to give to another school. The boxes are bundled for easy transport.

Interested parties may contact Dan at (518) 494-3015, ext. 758.

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State News-SED AIS Study

Continued from page 2

sented, 42.7% of the students received AIS instructional services, support services or both during the 2000-01 school year. Also revealed by the study were the various assessments used by school districts in addition to state assessments to determine whether a student needs AIS. Such multiple measures are generally regarded as more appropriate instruments for

assessing student needs than single-event paper and pencil tests.

Scheduling students for AIS during the regular day school was identified as the primary obstacle in the implementation of AIS. The instructional requirements mandated by the state leave little time during the regular school day to provide AIS to students, particularly at

the middle school, requiring services to be provided outside of the regular day which, therefore, cannot be mandatory for students.

As over 71% of the respondents indicated a mid-level to high level of difficulty in the implementation of AIS, support for modifications to the state requirements continues to grow.

Troubles Continue in Roosevelt District

Preliminary Steps Taken Toward Dissolving District

Last week, the Board of Regents took preliminary steps that may lead to the dissolution of the Roosevelt Union Free School District. The Regents released a report which detailed the district's dire financial straits and decried the lack of an identifiable long-term solution to improve the academic program. Absent intervention to address these two concerns, the Regents will begin the process to dissolve the district and redraw the boundaries of the neighboring school districts.

Following the failure of two budget votes, the Roosevelt District is currently operating on a contingency budget. Absent drastic cuts in either program or staffing, the school district will face a \$6 million deficit at the

end of the 2001-02 school year.

While the junior-senior high school did achieve the minimum levels of performance set by the Commissioner, the

Currently, there is no agreed upon legislative solution to address both the financial and instructional issues confronting the Roosevelt District.

district did not meet any of the SURR performance targets. The proposed staff reductions to address the financial crisis of the district make these targets now appear unattainable.

As a result, the Regents have directed the District Review Panel to investigate whether the

school board has met the goals of the corrective action plan and complied with the district's five year financial stabilization plan. Should the panel find that the goals have not been met, it may recommend the board be removed. Upon such action, the Regents may remove the board and substitute the District Review Panel.

Currently, there is no agreed upon legislative solution to address both the financial and instructional issues confronting the Roosevelt District.

However, Assemblyman Sanders has indicated this issue may be taken up during the special session planned for mid-December. Absent such actions, the Regents appear prepared to move forward with the dissolution process.

CALENDAR

2001 - 2002

Superintendent's Post Graduate Academy
Dec. 7 Five Sites

Mid-Winter Conference
Jan. 13-15 Albany

Executive Committee Meeting
Jan. 31 Albany

Commissioner's Advisory Council
Feb. 1 Albany

AASA National Conference on Education
Feb. 15-17 San Diego, CA

Executive Committee Meeting
March 7 Albany

Commissioner's Advisory Council
March 8 Albany

Instructional Leadership
April 26 Seven Sites

Executive Committee Meeting
May 9 Albany

Commissioner's Advisory Council
May 10 Albany

New Superintendents' Leadership Program
May 31 Three Sites

Superintendents' Academy
June 7 Seven Sites

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