

January 2015



(315) 332-7294

### Kathy Guenther

President

Kathy Hart 1st Vice President

Caroline Nevil
2nd Vice President

Anne Morgan Immediate Past President

Bill Buchko Legislative Committee Chair

Beth Thomas Legislative Committee

Vice Chair

Chuck Rothfuss Appointed Representative

Jeanne Durfee Appointed Representative

Sharon A. Sweeney Executive Director

> Sarah Sarkar Administrative Assistant

### General Membership Meeting

Thursday January 29, 2015

Geneva Country Club Geneva, NY

5:30 Registration/Conversation 5:45 Joint Board of Directors/Legislative Committee Meeting 6:45 Dinner 7:30 Program

### "WHAT WORKS"

in

Gananda: a shared Project Lead the Way (PLTW) program with Palmyra-Macedon

Geneva: PAWS, a parent involvement program in one elementary school

Victor: LifePrep@Naz - a collaborative effort with the Victor CSD, Nazareth

College, and the ARC of Monroe

Each presentation will provide a brief overview of the program with time for Q & A.

Our format and purpose - to provide just enough information to tempt possible replication or adaptation for those who think it may work in their district or to create interest in learning more about it.

Contact will then be possible for those who may want that additional detail.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well, we have made it through the first half of the school year. The days go by quickly. Winter sports, mid-terms, drama club productions, and anxious seniors seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. I hope all is well in your districts health-wise. The flu has made its way around the state and we can only hope that this, too, will pass. We, at Four County, have been rounding out the program calendar for the rest of the school year. Also, reminder to new board members the mandatory

Financial Training Workshop is on Saturday, February 7th. NYSSBA Capital Conference will be held on March 15 and 16. The conference is free—the only cost is your hotel room and meals, but you have a chance to speak with your representatives in Albany. (Four County will make the appointments.)

I hope to see you at an upcoming membership meeting. We are still planning our March program and an update will be coming soon.

Kathy



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SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE

### MANDATORY FISCAL TRAINING WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 7, 2015 7:45 am-3:45 pm Wayne Finger Lakes BOCES Newark, NY

\$95.00 members \$135.00 non-members (\$25 veteran members who would like a refresher)

It is still possible to register. Newly elected members are required to complete this during the first year after election.

Veteran members are welcome to attend as a refresher.

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## The Commissioner's Roundtable A Report by Russell Harris & Joe McNamara

Russ Harris (Newark) and Joe McNamara (Seneca Falls) attended the December 19, 2014 Commissioner's Round-Table in Albany as representatives of Area 2. Participants were briefed by NYSSBA regarding the topics of Serving English Language Learners and the Smart School Bond Act, before the scheduled discussion with Commissioner King. As a result of the discussion about ELL students, Joe and Russ encourage Four County members to use the Special Report on Serving ELL students printed in the December 15, 2014 issue of On Board, as a reference in moving forward under the new regulations. Issues discussed regarding the Smart School Bond Act were divided into two categories - What We Know and What We Don't Know.

What We Know:

- There must be a District Created Investment Plan
- It will be reviewed by SUNY Chancellor, Director of Budget and SED Commissioner
- Rules for the plan will be written by a committee representative of the stakeholders

### What We Don't Know:

- Investment Plan Guidelines and Deadlines
- Allowable Expenses
- Specific Items
- State Procurement
- Categorical Limitations
- District Reporting Requirements
- Flow of funds
- Will there be an opportunity to comment on the spending rules
- How will districts fund the professional development
- How will the districts fund ongoing replacement costs and support fees

(These last three bullets are not the role of SED)

**Russ** and **Joe** would like to thank NYSSBA for hosting the Commissioner's Round-table. We would like to thank Commissioner King for holding these periodic meetings with Board of Education members. The information gained is helpful as we all work to better educate our students.

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# Joint Board of Directors' & Legislative Committee Meeting

Thursday January 29, 2015 5:45 pm Prior to the General Membership meeting

Geneva Country Club 4147 West Lake Road Geneva, NY

Agenda includes: Planning for 2015, Approval and Adoption of the 2014-2015 Advocacy papers, and Consideration of budget and dues parameters for 2015-2016.

MAKE SURE YOUR BOARD IS REPRESENTED

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR 2014-2015

FCSBA General Membership—Jan. 29, Mar. 3

FCSBA Board of Directors—Jan. 29 (with Legislative Committee), Mar. 3

Legislative Committee—Jan. 29 (with Board of Directors), Feb. 28 (plus the Saturday Position Paper workshops)

FCSBA Annual Meeting—May 18

### **Other Upcoming Events:**

NSBA National Advocacy Institute (NAI)—Feb. 1-3

Negotiators' Breakfast—February 6

Mandatory Fiscal Training—February 7

Prospective New Board Seminar—April 11

NYSCOSS Winter Conference—March 8-10

NYSSBA Capital Conference—March 15-16

NSBA Nashville—March 21-23

NYSAWA Spring Meeting—March 26