

# News & Notes

VOL. XLVIII No. 5 • MAY 2019

twitter @saanys

Find us on Facebook

School Administrators Association of New York State

**SAANYS**

New York State

www.saanys.org

## Annual Award Winners Issue

### Dolgeville Principal Selected as NYS High School Principal of the Year and NASSP NYS Principal of the Year



Timothy Jenny, principal at James A. Green High School in the Dolgeville Central School District, has been selected as the 2019 New York State High School Principal of the Year by SAANYS. This award is given annually to a member of SAANYS to recognize outstanding principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession. Jenny will also represent New York as the NASSP NYS Principal of the Year as sponsored by SAANYS' national affiliate, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

A dedicated leader in the district, Jenny is known as a principal who truly cares about all students. He notes, "As a principal, I am always looking for ways to let students and staff know that we genuinely care about them, that we

continued on page 7

### Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES Educator Honored as Leader in Digital Education



Dr. Gregory Brown, regional coordinator of social studies and blended learning at Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES has been selected as the recipient of the SAANYS 2019 Leader in Digital Education Award. This award recognizes a SAANYS member who has demonstrated exceptional, creative leadership in harnessing the potential of technology to further teaching and student

achievement. The candidate will have demonstrated excellent organizational and communication skills in supporting and promoting such innovative digital practices for his/her learning community.

continued on page 7



### Principal Pipelines Benefit Students, Reduce Principal Turnover

Districts can improve schools – including boosting student achievement in reading and math – by better preparing, selecting, evaluating, and supporting principals, according to a new RAND Corporation report.

The study examined how six large urban school districts implemented a concept called "principal pipelines," a strategic approach to the hiring, preparation, evaluation, and support of school leaders, and how it improved an array of outcomes. The Wallace Foundation funded the \$85 million, six-year initiative.

"Our study provides compelling evidence that when districts set clear leadership expectations and used those standards to hire, develop, and support strong leaders, then principals, schools, and students benefited," said Susan Gates, lead researcher on the report, *Principal Pipelines: A Feasible, Affordable, and Effective Way to Improve Schools*. "The positive effects were remarkably widespread across grade levels and across districts."

Learn more at: <https://bit.ly/2Z0kPPM>

### 48 Districts Receive Federal Grants to Support Homeless Students

The State Education Department (NYSED) has awarded more than \$5 million in grants authorized by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act, a component of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). NYSED awarded grants to 48 districts across the state to promote school success for students in temporary housing with 12 of those districts to also receive an additional grant with an emphasis on trauma sensitivity.

Each winning applica-

continued on page 8

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**

**EDUCATE for EQUITY**

SAANYS ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
SAGAMORE RESORT | LAKE GEORGE | OCT 20-21, 2019

READ MORE ABOUT OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS ON PAGE 8

DR. SHARROKY HOLLIE  
ON CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS IN OUR SCHOOLS

**SAANYS 2019 SUMMER SYMPOSIUMS**

*Putting Students FIRST*

8:30 am – 3:30 pm  
\$125/day per person | lunch included

**JULY 23, 24, 25 ALBANY**  
SAANYS in conjunction with Capital Region BOCES  
Capital Region BOCES  
900 Watervliet Shaker Road, Albany

**AUGUST 6, 7, 8 SYRACUSE**  
SAANYS in conjunction with OCM BOCES  
OCM BOCES  
110 Elwood Davis Road, Liverpool

- BEYOND THE ABC'S OF TRAUMA
- EDUCATIONAL EQUITY THROUGH CULTURAL PROFICIENCY

SAANYS Magellan FOUNDATION CTLE PROVIDER

**SAANYS 2019 SUMMER SYMPOSIUM**

*Embracing REAL-WORLD INNOVATION IN OUR SCHOOLS*

**MONROE 2-ORLEANS BOCES**  
3599 Big Ridge, Spencerport, NY  
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM  
\$125/day, per person | lunch included

**TUESDAY, JULY 30**  
TRANSFORMING LEARNING AND TEACHING WITH MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 31**  
FROM "YES, BUT..." TO "WHAT IF?"  
DEVELOPING A CLIMATE FOR CREATIVITY

SAANYS in conjunction with Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES  
Your Educational Partner of Choice

SAANYS Magellan FOUNDATION CTLE PROVIDER BOCES2





Executive Viewpoint

Kevin S. Casey, Executive Director

The Reason for Awards

After a well-deserved spring break, many SAANYS members will participate in both state and regional awards programs that acknowledge professional colleagues who have demonstrated professional excellence. I think it is entirely appropriate that we do this, and I congratulate each and every award winner.

Some people dismiss professional award ceremonies as a self-congratulatory exercise, the real purpose of which is to help promote the relevance of the granting entity more so than the profession at large or the individual award winners.

I know that is a cynical view, but it is one which has been presented to me in the past.

Every year when I attend award ceremonies it becomes easier to reject the notion that award ceremonies are self-serving. To the contrary, they serve the profession by acknowledging people who are selected by their peers as the best among them. It is a statement by those who know best - professional colleagues who do substantially the same work in similar environments. It is a statement of priorities; a statement of best practices; an acknowledgment of what works best uninfluenced

by either the crises of the moment or the new idea of the moment. Too often educational priorities are driven by pundits and politicians rather than educators, and I imagine the award winners of the former would be those who advanced the favored agenda, regardless of its impact.

Consider how the environment in which educators work has changed just in the recent past. Ten years ago how many knew what vaping was? Or what ACES meant? Who could have predicted the opt-out movement, APPR, ESSA, a Red Flag Bill, or the return of an immunization crisis? It would be easy to go on, but I am sure you get the point. The environment is in a constant state of flux sufficient to overwhelm many.

The SAANYS award winners are typically

those who are not overwhelmed. They are frequently focused and consistent, able to tune out the cacophony of one reform after another and concentrate on what will best serve children. They don't ignore reforms in some act of civil disobedience, but seem able to prioritize and manage them in a way that maximizes the likelihood of success. They also seem to recognize that different people have different needs, different strengths and weaknesses whether they be students or staff. Often they will prioritize climate and culture under the theory that student well-being precedes learning. This was recently pointed out in an article by Mark Cannizzaro, president of the New York City school administrators union, wherein he argues taking the long view in education requires acts of courage. We should never be more

interested in keeping our jobs than in doing our jobs. Our award winners are doing their jobs.

My favorite part of awards ceremonies is listening to the speeches of the award winners. Most winners are grateful, humble, and take time to acknowledge others who have helped them. They often talk of their priorities, which are invariably child focused. Listening to them always leaves me optimistic that our best are providing worthy examples for both students and staff alike. They become the bar for others to aspire to. I'm glad we acknowledge them mostly because they deserve it. ■

Assessment for Learning Approach

Sponsor Opinion Piece by Dr. Bruce H. Crowder, Senior Researcher, Educational Vistas, Inc.

In my thinking and writing I have spoken about an ELA performance arc that spans grade 3 through grade 11. There is a definite relationship between what happens in a NYS third-grade ELA assessment and an eleventh grade English Language Arts Regents Exam. In fact, I will go so far as to say that relationship may extend to both the Global History and U.S. History and Government Regents Exams. From grade

to grade students are working with documents and responding to claims requiring text-based evidence. It is about time that this examination design arc be made apparent to administrators and teachers at all levels and the public. The design is wise because it makes sense. These are all reading and writing exams with expectations aimed at deeper reading comprehension.

However, while the

assessments provide a similarity that needs to be acknowledged, it is equally important to make clear how SED released items of these assessments may be used to strengthen student reading and writing power. There is a grave problem when annual student assessment results are posted which only meet the assessment of learning criterion. A greater criterion is meet when the results are used as the basis for assessment for learning. Teachers in current grades tested and teachers in subsequent grades may all benefit when released assessment items are used with students for purposes of

discussion and understanding.

*A best classroom strategy is an engaging assessment.*

Analysis of annual NYS testing results is beneficial for teachers to home in on test items and learning standards to gauge the status of each student's performance. In addition, using SED released test items from the previous school year as a readiness assessment not for grading purposes, but rather for in-depth discussions with students once they have taken the assessment is incredibly valuable. Here is where students have an opportunity to become familiar with NYS scoring rubrics and how to annotate a response. Again, here is where teachers can listen to students as they tell why they responded to a test item as they did and why their response was correct or incorrect. Such a practice embeds compassion that students will acknowledge.

give them from what we learn.

**References**

Black, P., & William, D. (1998). *Assessment and classroom learning. Educational Assessment: Principles, Policy, and Practice*, 5(1), 7-74.

Stiggins, R. J., Arter, J. A., Chappuis, J., & Chappuis, S. (2004). *Classroom assessment FOR student learning: Doing it right—using it well*. Portland, OR: ETS Assessment Training Institute.

Dr. Bruce H. Crowder is a senior researcher for Educational Vistas, Inc. His work is primarily focused on creating pathways for deeper learning for all students through a dynamic curriculum replete with strategic performances. Dr. Crowder may be reached at bcrowder@edvistas.com. ■

*The statements and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily imply or reflect the opinion or philosophy of SAANYS.*

News & Notes

School Administrators Association of New York State

Vol. XLVIII No. 5

SAANYS News & Notes (USPS 025-346) is published monthly with the exception of June, July, and August, by the School Administrators Association of New York State, 8 Airport Park Blvd., Latham, NY 12110.

Phone: 518-782-0600  
Fax: 518-782-9552

SAANYS is chartered as a professional association by the New York State Education Department and is affiliated with NASSP and NAESP.

A copy of each issue of News & Notes shall be sent to each SAANYS member. \$7.15 of each member's annual dues shall be for a year's subscription to this publication.

Periodicals Postage Paid Latham, NY and additional post offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to News & Notes, SAANYS, 8 Airport Park Blvd., Latham, NY 12110

SAANYS Officers & Staff

President, Regina Huffman\*  
President-Elect, Stuart Pollak\*  
Past President, Joyce Carr\*  
Executive Director, Kevin Casey  
Deputy Executive Director, Don Nickson  
Director of Communications, Michelle Hebert  
Communications Coordinator, Annika Pfluger  
Director of Corporate Services/Advertising, Deborah Taylor

Board of Directors

Region 1	Bergre Escorbores Susan Bonner	Region 10	Tony Cardamone* Mary Volkomer
Region 2	Emily O'Brien Scott Cornis*	Region 11	Gary Manuse Joseph Pustulka
Region 4	Hilary Roberto Michael Plotkin	Region 12	Charles Smilnich Theron Mong
Region 5	Harry Leonardatos* Christine Art		Retiree Representative, Bruce Gorman
Region 6	Linda Klime Jennifer Drautz		Rochester City, Timothy Cliby Syracuse City, Arthur Grimes
Region 7	Kevin Hulbert		NASSP Coordinator, Paul Fanuele
Region 8	Kathleen Carney Brian Coleman		NAESP Representative, Thomas Payton
Region 9	Michelle Feyrerabend Robert Bailey		* denotes Executive Committee





# Summary of the April Meeting of the Board of Regents

The agenda for the April meeting of the Board of Regents was filled with items ranging from ESSA implementation to the new Perkins Act. Regardless of the topics discussed, the meeting proceeded under the black cloud of the recent ELA computer-based testing debacle. While the meeting at SED was proceeding, protesters were voicing opposition to the state testing on the steps of the Education Building, legislators were across the street attending to post budget legislation, and no one was discussing APPR. It was just another day in Albany. The following highlights the major items discussed and a brief narrative about the discussions around the table.

## Certification Revisions

**Certification Areas:** Early childhood education; childhood education; middle childhood education; adolescence education; teachers of students with disabilities, who are deaf or hard-of-hearing, blind, visually impaired, or who have speech and language disorders; teachers to speakers of other languages; and library media specialists.

**Need/Purpose:** The ELL population in New York State has increased by 10.7 percent over the past five years. “All teachers are teachers of ELLs and need to develop instruction accordingly to serve them.”

**Action:** Discussion

**Proposed Amendment:** The proposed amendment provides that at least three semester hours include language acquisition and literacy development of ELLs and at least three semester hours in language acquisition and literacy development of all students. It revises individual pathways for certification to reflect date changes accordingly.

**Effective Date:** Registered programs with candidates who first enroll in the fall of 2022. Candidates who apply for individual pathway certification after September 1, 2026.

## Certification Areas: Student Teaching Requirements

**Need/Purpose:** Student teaching requirements vary. Quality preparation is key for determining whether educators enter and remain in the profession. Student teachers are currently required to do a minimum of two twenty-day placements or a single forty-day placement. The Teach NY Advisory Council and edTPA Task Force met and recommended that more clinical practice is needed.

**Action:** Increased collaboration between teacher prep programs and school districts through MOU. Student teaching must be at least a full semester, full time, and aligned with daily school schedules and calendars. Students must be in full-time status. Certain experienced teachers are exempt from 100 clock hour field experience and full semester student teaching experience (must instead complete at least 50 clock hours of student teaching). Strengthen school-based educators and university-based teacher educators by requiring participation in professional learning on clinical supervision. Align individual evaluation pathways with above requirements.

## Proposed Amendment: Adoption

**Effective Date:** The effective date for students who first enroll in the registered program is fall 2022, for persons applying for an individual evaluation pathway, the effective date is on or after September 1, 2026.

**Certification Areas:** Extension of the Educational Technology Specialist Content Specialty Test safety net.

**Need/Purpose:** The extension of a safety net is needed due to the significant decrease in the pass rate. The extension will allow candidates to take either the revised Educational Technology Specialist CST or the Predecessor CST while SED reviews the test to see if adjustments are needed. Extending the safety net enables candidates to be held harmless during the redevelopment of the Educational Technology Specialist CST. It gives candidates who did not pass the revised test the option of taking either test again.

**Action:** A six month safety net after the revised Educational Technology Specialist CST is redeveloped and operational is proposed.

## Proposed Amendment: Emergency Adoption

**Effective Date:** July 31, 2019, if adopted at the July BOR meeting.

**Certification Areas:** Extension of Library Specialist edTPA for candidates receiving a failing score.

**Need/Purpose:** The Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning and Equity (SCALE) has not yet released the edTPA handbook to preparation programs. The extension will provide school library programs the ability to review the updated handbook and adjust programs accordingly.

**Action:** It was proposed to extend the safety net expiration date to December 31, 2021. This will allow candi-



For more information regarding the SAANYS legislative agenda, the New York State Board of Regents, the Educational Conference Board, or other government relations concerns, contact Cynthia Gallagher, SAANYS director of government relations, at [cgallagher@saanys.org](mailto:cgallagher@saanys.org).

dates to be held harmless during the use of the current Library Specialist edTPA while preparation programs transition to the updated Library Specialist edTPA. Candidates could take the ATS-W if they do not earn a passing score on the current Library Specialist edTPA.

## Proposed Amendment: Discussion

**Effective Date:** If adopted at the July BOR meeting, the effective date will be July 31, 2019.

**Certification Areas:** Professional Development Plans for School Districts and BOCES

**Need/Purpose:** Based on public comments, SED is proposing revisions to the regulations discussed in September.

**Action:** The wording was revised from professional development to professional learning. This requires a plan to describe how professional learning is consistent with culturally responsive practices to reflect the needs of the community. Clarification is needed regarding SED expectations on use of data in district plans. It will clarify that professional learning plans must include opportunities for teaching assistants and school leaders. CTLE hours claimed for serving as a mentor for a student teacher increased from 15 to 25 hours in each five year registration period. The number of CTLE hours that may be claimed for serving as a mentor for a first year teacher has increased from 25 to 30 hours.

## Proposed Amendment: Discussion

**Effective Date:** Adoption at July 2019 meeting.

## Overview of State Aid Increases and Other Funding Allocations

The full report may be found by scanning the QR code.



continued on page 7

## Advertisement

**We didn't think so. Jump-start your retirement planning with a 403(b) plan.**

A 403(b) is like a 401(k) retirement plan tailored for educators, and with AXA by your side, you could be on your way toward reaching your retirement goals. As the #1 provider of 403(b) plans for K-12 schools,\* AXA can help you retire more comfortably. Learn how you can save for the future and enjoy immediate benefits.

**Ever say, "I don't need to plan for retirement"?**

AXA is proud to be a strategic partner of SAANYS. To learn more about how AXA can help, visit [axa.com](http://axa.com) or call (866) 401-3030, option 5.

\* LIMRA, Not-for-Profit Survey, Q4, 2017, based on 403(b) plan assets, participants and contributions. 403(b) Retirement Plans are funded with an annuity issued by AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company (NY, NY) and co-distributed by affiliates, AXA Advisors, LLC and AXA Distributors, LLC (members FINRA, SIPC). "AXA" is the brand name of AXA Equitable Financial Services, LLC and its family of companies, including AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company (NY, NY); AXA Advisors, LLC; and AXA Distributors, LLC. GE-134295c (3/18) (Exp. 3/20) | G344746

## Advertisement

**Transform your schools with Creative Problem Solving** and prepare your students and educators to be the change-makers of the future.

[CreativeEducationFoundation.org](http://CreativeEducationFoundation.org)  
(508) 960-0000

## Advertisement

**UP CLOSE & CONNECTED**

**ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE**  
[sjfc.edu](http://sjfc.edu)

Fisher's graduate education programs, including the Online M.S. in Library Media, prepare you for a fulfilling career. Take a closer look and visit [www.sjfc.edu](http://www.sjfc.edu).





**SAANYS and NASSP  
NYS Assistant  
Principal of the Year**

**William Bohen**

Assistant Principal, Transit Middle School  
Williamsville CSD

William Bohen, assistant principal at Transit Middle School in the Williamsville Central School District, has been selected as a 2019 New York State Assistant Principal of the Year. This award is given annually by SAANYS and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) to an assistant principal who has set the pace, character, and quality of education for the students in his or her school. Nominees are administrators who are committed to students, parents, and the community and have shown exceptional contributions to the educational process.

Since joining Transit Middle School in 2011, Bohen has become known as an open and approachable leader who has the best interests of all students at heart. Commented student Patrick Frank, “Dr. Bohen is the kind of vice principal who looks out for all the talents in students, not just the obvious.” He continued, “His openness and casual interactions with students make him easily approachable.” Commented parent Mary Beth Scumaci, “Dr. Bohen is an educator my children speak fondly of at the dinner table. They were always impressed when he was aware of accomplishments, especially when they weren’t aware he was watching. Dr. Bohen is a pillar of the school, devoted to educating children.”

During his time at the school he has also reduced disciplinary referrals by 52 percent by introducing several positive recognition initiatives focusing on rewarding behavior consistent with school expectations, “Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe.” These initiatives include a quarterly “Pancakes with Principals” breakfast, mentoring programs, a community service day, and monthly “Kudos” awards for students demonstrating these positive behaviors. In conjunction with these fun activities for the students, Bohen has implemented an informal mentoring program, established a service learning initiative for at-risk students, and spearheaded a schoolwide curriculum mapping initiative. Commented Principal Daniel Wahl, “Bill hosts a morning meeting with the building PPS team four days per week to review, discuss, and act proactively on behalf of our students. This information helps to inform large scale decisions around programming, wellness initiatives, capacity building for the staff, and procedures for how students access programs such as advanced classes, intervention services, and student leadership opportunities.” 🍌



**Leadership and  
Support Award**

**Mark Bordeau**

Senior Food Service Director  
Broome Tioga BOCES

Mark Bordeau, senior food service director at Broome Tioga BOCES, has been selected as the 2019 recipient of the SAANYS Leadership and Support Award. This award was established to recognize the outstanding leadership efforts of those members whose responsibilities require leadership through support services to educators and students across and between buildings and districts.

Recognized as a visionary promoting nutrition and healthier meals, Bordeau has been the food service director at BT BOCES for 20 years. Under his leadership, BT BOCES expanded from serving two districts to now operating in 15 districts. One of his team’s greatest accomplishments has been the creation of the nationally recognized marketing brand “Rock on Café,” the purpose of which is to promote school meals serving more fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as whole grains and low-fat/fat-free milk. His innovative approach has been featured in the Society for Public Health Education’s nationally acclaimed research periodical, Journal of Health Promotion Practice.

Bordeau has been at the forefront of the movement to buy local NYS produce and products for use in school meals. He spearheaded an incentive whereby schools would receive an additional reimbursement from the state for school meals in exchange for using local products. Since 2014, he worked tirelessly in conjunction with the New York School Nutrition Association (NYSNA) to bring this program to statewide implementation. As a result of his efforts, NY now has one of the most robust farm to school initiatives in the nation.

Working in an area where 62 percent of students experience some form of food insecurity, Bordeau has been instrumental in implementing several community-wide nutrition programs. He worked with the Food Bank of the Southern Tier to bring a backpack program to his districts as a means of filling the gap for kids who do not have access to meals when school is not in session, now filling approximately 2,000 backpacks per week. Additionally, the Breakfast After the Bell program has grown to serving more than 12,000 breakfasts per day and four of his districts have been recognized by Hunger Solutions NY as having the largest increase for breakfast in the state.

Noted Jennifer Martin, executive director of NYSNA, “Mark has had a tremendous impact on children and families in his community. He truly leads by example, a sign of a great leader. He is honest, ethical, and always conducts himself with the highest level of professionalism.” 🍌

**Congratulations 2019 S**



**SAANYS and NAESP  
NYS Elementary  
Principal of the Year**

**Doreen McSain**

Principal, Glenwood Elementary School  
Vestal CSD

Doreen McSain, principal at Glenwood Elementary School in the Vestal Central School District, has been selected as the 2019 New York State Elementary Principal of the Year by SAANYS and the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP). This award is given annually to a member of SAANYS and NAESP who is clearly committed to excellence, has programs designed to meet the academic and social needs of all students, and has firm ties to parents and the community.

Since joining the leadership at Glenwood Elementary School almost ten years ago, McSain’s priority has been to create a school environment where she would want her own children to attend, “a place where the adults and students value each other and where acts of kindness and consideration run rampant.” To that end, her nomination by a large team of faculty, staff, parents, and students embodies her mission as an exceptional and compassionate leader. Noted fourth grade teacher Jessica Mirtallo, “Doreen makes parental and community involvement in the school a focus at Glenwood Elementary. Both families and students often comment on how wonderful it is to have these positive experiences at school.” Commented parent Sanjiv Patel, “Principal McSain has created a culture of development, friendship, and dedication. You can see these and other core values all over the Glenwood campus. She has truly been an inspiration to the teachers and parents.” One of the students described her this way, “You might think that Mrs. McSain is a special person, that is true. Believe me, she is.”

McSain considers herself the school’s lead learner and is also known as a mentor who cultivates leadership in others. She and her teaching team have implemented several innovative programs such as a “Learning Through Play” program where students use an imaginative play space in order to practice social skills in a supervised setting; a “One Book, One School” initiative where the entire school reads the same book at the same time as a way to build community; and a dedicated “Maker Space” where all the children have the opportunity to engage in hands on STEAM time.

Commented Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Laura Lamash, “I have often said that I cannot ‘do it’ without Doreen McSain. In her you find an educator who has committed her life to enriching the lives of students and teachers through creating a school where learning is joyful and friendships abound.” 🍌



**Outstanding Educator  
Award**

**Teresa Calabrese-Gray**

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction  
and 21st Century Learning  
Champlain Valley Educational Services  
BOCES

Teresa Calabrese-Gray, assistant superintendent for instruction and 21st century learning at Champlain Valley Educational Services (CVES) BOCES, has been selected for the SAANYS 2019 Outstanding Educator Award. This award is given annually to a SAANYS member who has made outstanding contributions in New York State schools through public education, professional organizations, or research and/or writing in the field of education.

Known as a collaborative leader, Calabrese-Gray has instituted a model for shared leadership and district-wide decision-making teams to guide the work across the 17 districts under CVES/BOCES. As a way to encourage a chain reaction of positive change, Calabrese-Gray encourages administrators to “find their sparkplugs,” empowering others to provide all stakeholders with the appropriate tools to implement desired change. She notes that “Everyone needs to work together to build a common vision and promote collaboration at all levels.” Commented Peru Central School Board of Education President Bonnie L. Berry, “Teri is an articulate leader and able to communicate her ideas to others, energizing her audience – be it students, teachers, or colleagues – with her positivity and enthusiasm.”

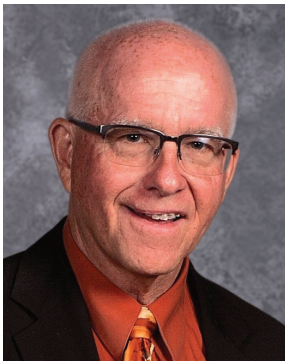
In 2018, Calabrese-Gray spearheaded an initiative partnering BOCES S/CDN with SED to develop and deliver statewide training on the Next Generation Math Learning Standards to more than 2,000 educators. And she is currently collaborating with leaders within the Teacher Education Program at SUNY Plattsburgh to develop a pipeline for future teachers within local education agencies. Commented District Superintendent Mark Davey, “She is an invaluable member of the district superintendent’s cabinet, which is crucial in helping to advise me on all recommendations to the BOCES Board, and she is essential in helping to make the daily operational and strategic leadership decisions for our BOCES. She has also been a visionary leader in her support and implementation of CVES’s strategic plan, now in our fifth year.” Continued Davey, “She is an outstanding educator who demonstrates collaborative and synergy-promoting leadership abilities in all her undertakings.” 🍌



# AANYS Award Winners

## SAANYS and NAESP NYS Middle School Principal of the Year

**David Dunn**  
Principal, Martha Brown Middle School  
Fairport CSD



David Dunn, principal at Martha Brown Middle School in the Fairport Central School District, has been selected as the 2019 New York State Middle School Principal of the Year by SAANYS and the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP). This award is given annually to a member of SAANYS and NAESP who is clearly committed to excellence, has programs designed to meet the academic and social needs of all students, and has firm ties to parents and the community.

A lifelong resident of Fairport, Dunn has the distinction of not only serving as principal for 24 years and as a math teacher for the previous 18 years, but also of having attended Martha Brown Middle School as a student and having raised his three children in the district as well. This is a role he relishes, noting that all of his interactions within the school community have given him a “unique perspective of the strengths and areas of growth for the school.” One of his most rewarding accomplishments has been working with a leadership team that resulted in Martha Brown Middle School being named a New York State School to Watch over the course of several years, receiving the designation in 2012, 2015, and 2018. Commented Superintendent of Schools Brett Provenzano, “Our students ultimately benefit from the School to Watch process; it positions the school community on a trajectory of reflection and continuous improvement. It is also symbolic of Principal Dunn’s leadership and commitment to his students, staff, parents, and our community.”

Known also as a leader who consistently goes above and beyond, Dunn can be found early in the morning greeting students as they enter the building, participating in many after school extracurricular activities, as well as initiating community service projects for students outside of school such as helping with fall cleanup for area veterans. He notes, “I willingly accept my 24/7 role as the principal of MBMS. I love the natural visibility that I have outside the work day to be available and accessible to my students and their families.” A testament to his commitment can be seen in the loyalty returning students have to their home district. Parent Deborah Vangellow commented, “Our high school students – some graduates, and even alumni who are now parents themselves – love to come back to say ‘hi’ to Dave, give him an update on life, and just check in with ‘their’ middle school principal.” 🍷

## Irving Schwartz Distinguished Retiree Award

**Dennis Priore**  
Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda UFSD  
(retired)



Dennis Priore, retired principal from the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Union Free School District, has been selected as the recipient of the SAANYS 2019 Irving Schwartz Distinguished Retiree Award. Irving Schwartz was a founding member of SAANYS. This award is given annually to a retired SAANYS member who, in retirement, has made significant contributions to the welfare of the association, education, and the greater community.

A retired principal having served 36 years in public education, Priore considers retirement a golden opportunity to embrace his passion for volunteering. As he notes, “Volunteering has been tremendously rewarding, not only because of the satisfaction of giving back and making a difference, but also because of the numerous friends I’ve been fortunate to make.” In addition to serving on many educational organizations, Priore is proud to be among the group of volunteers who worked tirelessly to bring back a local chapter of the Honor Flight to the area. Honor Flight flies World War II, Korean War, and any veteran with a serious illness to Washington, D.C. where they have the opportunity to visit Arlington National Cemetery and the national monuments. He commented, “To see the enthusiasm of the men and women who served in World War II is awe inspiring. Many of the volunteers, like I do, serve in gratitude of our late fathers.” Another group that he actively volunteers with is The Teacher’s Desk, an organization that distributes \$1,000 of new school supplies to every teacher whose school has a 70 percent or greater poverty level. These supplies have been delivered to almost 5,000 teachers in 180 schools within the seven Western New York counties.

Commented colleague Douglas Regan, “Dennis’ community and volunteer work transcends most. He’s a member of the Western Zone of the New York State Retired Teachers’ Association, former president of the Kenmore Retired Educators’ Association, the Western New York Middle School Principals’ Association, and the Western New York Technology Education Association. He is a volunteer lector at St. Mary’s Church in Swornsville, on the Erie County Association of School Boards, on the Clarence Central School Board of Education, the Clarence Youth Board, Clarence High School PTO, and also a board member on the Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight as their public relations chairperson.” 🍷

## SAANYS and NAESP NYS Assistant Principal of the Year

**Samantha Buchholz**  
Assistant Principal, Cornwall Central  
Middle School  
Cornwall CSD



Samantha Buchholz, assistant principal at Cornwall Central Middle School in the Cornwall Central School District, has been selected as a 2019 New York State Assistant Principal of the Year by SAANYS and the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP). This award is given annually to a member of SAANYS and NAESP, promoting educational excellence for pre-kindergarten through eighth grade (PreK-8) schooling and calling attention to the fundamental importance of the assistant principal.

An administrator who always makes the students her top priority, Buchholz values the importance of ongoing home/school communication, creating a positive school culture. Rather than only contacting parents with disciplinary matters, she prides herself on taking the time to make the “good calls” or to send a “good news” note home in order to recognize a student being a good citizen within the school. She also maintains an open door policy and is often found participating in school activities both during and after school hours. Parents Irene and Ray Meyer, whose son is on the autism spectrum, noted that, “Mrs. Buchholz took the time to understand our son, his interests, disability, and struggles. She has shown great patience in understanding each situation. She has always done what is in the best interest for him. He understands that even now that he is a freshman at the high school that Mrs. Buchholz is on his side and is always available to him if he feels a need to talk to her.”

Gina Dinnocenzio, one of several teachers who nominated Buchholz, commented, “Mrs. Buchholz is a true leader who leads by example. She began her education career as a teacher, and although now an administrator, she continues to teach the students, parents, teachers, and the community. She enjoys her job, and as a result of that, we all benefit.” Teacher Janine Lazos added, “Samantha is loved not only by all of her colleagues, but also by the student population. Cornwall CSD is incredibly lucky to have someone like Samantha Buchholz as an administrator. She is a remarkable person with a lot to offer.”

Commented Principal Kate Pulumbo, “Every day Samatha brings fresh ideas, boundless energy, humility, kindness, and compassion when working with students, faculty, and families. She takes the time to establish a personal connection and forge a relationship in order to maintain a lasting positive rapport.” 🍷

## K-12 Building Principal Award

**Gregory Cuthbertson**  
Principal, Poland School  
Poland CSD



Gregory Cuthbertson, principal at Poland School in the Poland Central School District, has been selected as the recipient of the SAANYS 2019 K-12 Building Principal Award. The K-12 Building Principal Award was created to recognize the unique characteristics of a K-12 building and the related demands, expectations, and challenges of a principal in this multi-level environment. It is given annually to a SAANYS member who is a successful K-12 principal, a recognized educational leader, and who demonstrates leadership in establishing the pace, character, and mission of the building and demonstrates creativity and resourcefulness in providing comprehensive programs and services for all levels and grades.

After having served only a few years as the 6-12 principal, Cuthbertson was honored to be approached by the superintendent to become the K-12 building principal for the district. Shortly thereafter, he received the New York State Council on Leadership and Student Activities Administrator of the Year award, which recognizes an administrator for outstanding dedication to the field of student leadership development and support of student activities in New York State. During his tenure as K-12 building principal, Cuthbertson has overseen the planning and implementation of the OLWEUS anti-bullying initiative districtwide, where all students were required to participate in educational class meetings designed to promote and build a positive school climate. As a result of the initiative, bullying incidents decreased in the district by 70 percent. Another initiative Cuthbertson is spearheading is the establishment of a middle school concept within the K-12 building.

Commented colleague and Director of Pupil Personnel/School Safety Brian Coleman, “Greg has developed a phenomenal program at Poland as he was instrumental in the conversion to a K-12 building. He serves on many committees, most recently the SAANYS Region 8 executive committee, and attends all events to enhance his skills and bring a better education to the Poland community.” 🍷

The award winners were honored for their contributions at an awards ceremony on May 3.

continued on page 7



# LEGAL BRIEFS

A Message from the SAANYS Legal Department



Jennifer Carlson  
SAANYS Deputy General  
Counsel  
jcarlson@saanys.org



## Retiree Health Insurance and Medicare Part B

In these trying economic times where school districts and BOCES find themselves looking for ways to trim their budgets, retiree health insurance has become a popular avenue to attack. Understanding Medicare and how it can and will affect you in the future is as important as understanding any other retirement benefit or pension plan.

So what is Medicare? In general, Medicare is health insurance that is available to individuals who are 65 years old or older. If an individual chooses to enroll, the

program will provide 80 percent health insurance coverage for hospitalization (Part A) and physicians (Part B). Because Medicare only provides 80 percent coverage, an individual will typically obtain secondary coverage to cover the remaining 20 percent. Secondary coverage is typically purchased on the open market (this is commonly referred to as Medicare Supplemental Insurance), covered by a former employer, or is offered through Medicare (Part C). Medicare Part B was never a mandatory program, but in the 1990s, health insurance compa-

nies began encouraging the school districts and BOCES they were insuring to instruct their eligible employees and retirees to enroll in Medicare. Some insurance policies require enrollment in Medicare Part B prior to paying any claims once you turn 65. It is important to read the fine print of your current insurance policy to determine this.

In order to encourage enrollment, many school districts and BOCES provide the Medicare Reimbursement Expense Benefit (MREB), which is much less expensive than paying the full cost of health insurance for retirees for the rest of their lives. All Medicare recipients pay a standard premium amount which varies over the years. The current standard premium is \$134 dollars per month and is deducted from the retirees social security check monthly. In 2007, as part of the Affordable Care

Act, Congress enacted the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA), which imposes an additional Medicare Part B premium on Medicare enrolled retirees whose income exceeds \$80,000 annually. This was passed

*The SAANYS Legal Department has continuously issued reminders over the years concerning the importance of language unconditionally fixing retiree health benefits as of the date of retirement "for life."*

with the goal of having high-income retirees pay more into the Medicare system.

What does all of this mean for SAANYS members? Once a member turns 65, their district will ask that they switch from using the district insurance as their primary insurance, to Medicare as their primary insurance and using the district insurance as their secondary insurance. While this is a reason-

able option for both the district and the member, it is important that before making any changes members should ensure that the contract language is clear and concise so as to ensure the reimbursement of the costs of Medicare Part B. More importantly, a trend SAANYS is seeing relates to employers only reimbursing the baseline Part B rate and not the entire amount potentially billed to a retiree under IRMAA. Should a retiree obtain a job

for supplemental income or the household has a second pension, the IRMAA could be a significant added monthly increase.

Members should be aware that districts may attempt to negotiate the removal of the Medicare Reimbursement Expense Benefit or reduce it. If the district is successful in removal or reduction of MREB, that would put the burden of payment for Medicare Part B on the member. As an aside, the district is strictly forbidden by the Retiree Health Insurance Moratorium Law from reducing retiree benefits without effecting a corresponding reduction in benefits for active employees. Be careful during negotiations that you do not fall into this trap as it could impact every retired member of your association and ultimately it will affect you in retirement. This is why the SAANYS Legal Department has continuously issued reminders over the years concerning the importance of language unconditionally fixing retiree health benefits as of the date of retirement "for life."

If members have any questions about switching to Medicare or about reimbursements, please contact the SAANYS Legal Department for advice on the matter. Additionally, if you are a member who is already on Medicare and getting reimbursement from the district, if they try to diminish that reimbursement in any way, call SAANYS immediately so that we may take the necessary steps to prevent it. Lastly, if you believe you may fall within the IRMAA category, be sure to check your statements to be sure that you are being properly reimbursed. If you think there is an issue, call the attorneys at SAANYS and there may be something we can do. That being said, much of that will depend on the collective bargaining agreement, and thus will have to be assessed on a case-by-case basis. ■



For information on any SAANYS professional learning event, contact Karen Bronson at kbronson@saanys.org.

It was a pleasure to attend the Diversity and Inclusivity Regional Forum sponsored by The New York State Council of School Superintendents (NYSCOSS) and Capital Region BOCES at the University at Albany on April 4.

The day began with an address by Dr. Havidan Rodriguez, president of SUNY Albany, and was followed by a musical performance by Albany High School students, which set the tone and message

of harmony and acceptance that would define the day.

After an address by Dr. Oliver Robinson, superintendent of the Shenendehowa CSD, which focused on the differences between prior assimilation models and current inclusivity goals, we had a choice of breakout sessions that included Policies and Practices, The Intersection of Cultural Diversity and Special Education, and Engaging in Courageous Conversations with Confidence.

I chose Courageous Conversations, always a timely topic. This workshop, facilitated by Kathleen McLean and Markeia K. Robinson of the McLean Group, focused on

effective techniques for leading and navigating discussions with colleagues and students. We began with some guiding principles, including:

- Being fully present
- Being self-responsible for change
- Listening, listening, listening
- Experimenting with new behaviors
- Accepting conflict
- Being crisp and getting to the core
- Being hard on barriers to understanding while at the same time, soft with people
- Honoring confidentiality

Here's a sample scenario:

You receive a report that there was an exchange between two students in the lunchroom. A white student made a comment to a black student that he wanted to 'sell him as a slave' on the Internet. This was actually the second exchange of this nature between these two students. If you were the administrator, how would you respond using the guiding principles we discussed?

It was great having the opportunity to share experiences and approaches with colleagues, which is what we envision for the SAANYS 2019 Annual Conference with its theme, Educate for Equity. Meeting the needs of diverse student populations and elevating equity to more than a buzz word is the focus of our conference this year. We are fortunate to have Dr. Sharroky Hollie, executive director of the Center for Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning, as our featured speaker. His expertise with concrete actions and responses that result in more affirming, inclusive, and culturally responsive schools and classrooms will engage and enlighten us as we continue to move forward to ensure the well-being and academic success of all of our students. ■

Advertisement

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**

**EDUCATE for EQUITY**

**DR. SHARROKY HOLLIE**  
ON CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS IN OUR SCHOOLS

**SAANYS ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
SAGAMORE RESORT | LAKE GEORGE | OCT 20-21, 2019

**READ MORE ABOUT OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS ON PAGE 8**

**2019 NYSIR SYMPOSIUM**

**PATHWAY TO THE PILLARS:  
PLOTING YOUR DISTRICT'S  
COURSE IN SCHOOL  
VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

NYSIR presents a no-cost symposium on preventing and dealing with school violence. Open to all educators and public school officials. **Seating is limited.**

Visit [nysir.org](http://nysir.org) for more information and registration.

**DoubleTree by Hilton, Tarrytown, July 30-31**

Presented by:

**NYSIR** **Munich RE**



# Congratulations 2019 SAANYS Award Winners



## Friend of Education Award

**Darlene Browell**  
Owner, Darlene's Kitchen  
Chittenango

Darlene Browell, owner of Darlene's Kitchen in Chittenango, has been selected as the recipient of the SAANYS 2019 Friend of Education Award. This award is given to an individual, group, or organization that has consistently contributed to the support and advancement of outstanding public education and the students of New York State.

Believing that there's nothing more important than giving back and paying it forward, Browell has long been an active supporter of Chittenango schools. In addition to hosting many varsity sports dinners at Darlene's Kitchen and giving all students a 10 percent discount at the restaurant, she also employs a BOCES culinary arts student on an annual basis for a six-week internship, giving them the opportunity to gain real world experience and learn firsthand how to run a restaurant business. Browell also supports Bolivar Road Elementary School's "Read to Them One School, One Book" initiative. Darlene's Kitchen hosted a weekend long event where Browell was given the opportunity to be a guest reader for one of the book chapters; hosted a two-day One School, One Book breakfast with themed breakfast choices from the book; and passed out raffle tickets and candy corn to celebrate the event.

Students and community members alike know that they will always be greeted with a friendly smile by Browell at Darlene's Kitchen. Browell notes that she and the staff enjoy talking with the students about their upcoming games and extra curricular activities when the students visit the diner. Commented Bolivar Road Elementary School Principal Renee Burgess, "As you walk through the doors of Darlene's Kitchen, you are pleasantly greeted with a warm smile from Darlene or one of her dedicated waitresses. You feel welcome and right at home. She is always eager to lend a helping hand or participate in school initiatives."

Continued Burgess, "Darlene from Darlene's Kitchen has been an influential partner not only to Bolivar Road Elementary School, but to all Chittenango schools. Her efforts have impacted our school community in a powerful way." 🍌

## Dolgeville Principal Selected as NYS High School Principal of the Year and NASSP NYS Principal of the Year

*continued from page 1*

are a family, and that we will do what it takes to help everyone succeed." Jenny created a group to represent the student body known as the Principal's President Cabinet. Student presidents of each class, National Honor Society, and Student Council, along with the student board member, meet at least once a month in "cabinet" meetings with Jenny to share exciting ideas and to ensure that they have a voice in their school. In addition, Jenny, along with the school counselor, set up individual meetings with every freshman to get to know them and their needs, challenges, goals, and accomplishments. Seniors also participate in exit interviews to reflect on their time at the school and to share their thoughts on how the school can improve to better serve the students.

Inspired by his passion of flying airplanes, Jenny created the school motto "Soar to Success" and arranged for one of the art teachers to paint a mural of an airplane skywriting the motto while flying over the Adirondacks at the entrance of the school. This message has become so popular that it has even appeared in some senior's graduation speeches. Commented recently retired Superintendent Christine Reynolds, "Mr. Jenny models integrity, compassion, and kindness, and expects the same from all students and adults at the school... He knows every student in the high school by name and asks them if they are having any difficulties and how he can help them to be more successful as students and as people." 🍌

**Have questions? Need assistance?**  
Use the "Ask SAANYS" button at [saanys.org](https://saanys.org).

## Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES Educator Honored for Leader in Digital Education

*continued from page 1*

Recognized as a statewide leader with excellent collaborative skills, Brown has worked tirelessly to bring blended and digital learning through the Online Courses for the 21st Century (OC21) consortium and the Integrated Social Studies/ELA Curriculum to schools across the state. Through his efforts and collaborative skills, he has formed partnerships with 13 other regional BOCES and more than 230 school districts. Colleague Diane Cunningham noted, "Not only does he coordinate a complex, blended high school with teachers and students from multiple districts, his leadership focuses on best practices for learning, including project-based learning opportunities, authentic field experiences, feedback for learning, student-centered instruction, and standards based grading."

Commented Ardsley UFSD Assistant Superintendent Layne Hughes, "Dr. Brown's capacity to innovate is demonstrated in a variety of ways. The reach of OC21 ensures a diversity of learners that is not always present in small districts like ours. One of our teachers remarked that the range of lived experiences that her students brought to her 'classroom' created a vibrancy that she had not experienced before." PNW BOCES colleague Renee Gargano noted, "Beyond Dr. Brown's outstanding achievements in digital practices, I would describe him as a bright, thoughtful, knowledgeable, and compassionate school leader who continues to garner the admiration of those who are most fortunate to work with him."

Yorktown CSD Superintendent of Schools Ronald Hattar commented, "From my perspective, I never had any question as to whether the SS/ELA initiative would be successful. For me, the deciding factor in adopting the OC21 and SS/ELA programs was about Dr. Brown overseeing the programs." 🍌

## April BOR Meeting Summary

*continued from page 3*

The increased state aid is approximately the same percentage increase as was obtained in last year's budget. In addition to these amounts, funding to school districts is as follows:

- \$1 million for translations of the 3-8 ELA, math, and Regents state assessments.
- \$15 million for Expanded Pre-k for 3 and 4 years olds.
- \$1.5 million for student mental health need grants-through SED (mental health centers, training, anti-bullying programs, school climate surveys, school/family engagement resources).
- \$4 million for students in poverty to access AP and International Baccalaureate exams.
- \$47 million expands after school programs.

### ESSA Implementation

The full report (found by scanning the QR code) focused on support for student social, emotional, and developmental health; a well-rounded education; excellent educators; students placed at-risk; English language/multilingual learners; differently abled students; data access; identified schools and districts; and all students.



### Discussion Around the Table

The discussion by the members of the Board of Regents focused less on the update, but rather on how the plan would/could be revised as implementation is rolled out. Regent Johnson inquired as to how districts would be using data to project progress on benchmarks. Her line of questioning was an exploration of setting district benchmarks and how that would be monitored or reported. Regent Young discussed opportunity gaps and inequities in opportunities. He advanced the conversation by suggesting that the commissioner come up with a profile on which programs and services that schools on both ends

*continued on page 8*

## 2019 CALENDAR



*National Physical Fitness and Sports Month*

*Preservation Month*

*Better Hearing and Speech Month*

**May 8 National Teacher Day**

**May 8 National Bike to School Day**

**May 8 VE Day**

**May 12 World Red Cross Day**

**May 10 Anniversary of the Completion of the Transcontinental Railway**

**May 12-18 Food Allergy Awareness Week**

**May 12 Mother's Day**

**May 17 Anniversary of School Desegregation Ruling**

**May 18 Armed Forces Day**

**May 20-21 Lindberg Flight Anniversary**

**May 22 International Day for Biological Diversity**

**May 25 Ralph Waldo Emerson's Birthday**

**May 27 Memorial Day**



*Great Outdoors Month*

*Fireworks Safety Month*

*National Caribbean-American Heritage Month*

**June 5 World Environment Day**

**June 10-14 National History Day Contest**

**June 11-17 National Little League Baseball Week**

**June 12 Anne Frank's Birthday**

**June 14 Flag Day**

**June 15 Anniversary of Benjamin Franklin's Kite Experiment**

**June 15 Magna Carta Day**

**June 16 International Day of the African Child**

**June 17 Father's Day**

**June 18 Anniversary of First American Woman in Space**

**June 19 Juneteenth**

**June 21 First Day of Summer**

**June 27 Helen Keller's Birthday**





SAANYS ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
SAGAMORE RESORT | LAKE GEORGE | OCT 20-21, 2019

## Keynote Speaker Dr. Sharroky Hollie

**Dr. Sharroky Hollie** is a national educator who provides professional development to thousands of educators in the area of cultural responsiveness. Going back 25 years, he has been a classroom teacher at the middle and high school levels, a central office professional development coordinator in Los Angeles Unified School District, a school founder and administrator, and university professor in teacher education at the Cal State University. Sharroky has also been a visiting professor for Webster University in St. Louis and a guest lecturer at Stanford and UCLA.

In addition to his experience in education, he has authored several texts and journal articles. Most recently, he wrote *Strategies for Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching and Learning* (2015) and contributed a chapter in the *Oxford Handbook of African American Language* (2015). Dr. Hollie's first book, *Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching and Learning: Classroom Practices for Student Success* was published in 2011, followed soon thereafter by *The Skill to Lead, The Will to Teach*, cowritten with Dr. Anthony Muhammad.

## Q&A with Commissioner MaryEllen Elia



**MaryEllen Elia** is the New York State Commissioner of Education and president of the University of the State of New York.

Commissioner Elia will once again join members at the Annual Conference. She will provide a quick update on current and future initiatives at the State Education Department and then open the floor to address questions, concerns, and comments from attendees. ■

### Contact a SAANYS Attorney

**24** hours a day!  
seven days a week

During normal business hours, please call (518) 782-0600.

### Evening & Weekend Pager

1-800-978-6055

Advertisement

## Transition to Superintendency Program

**July 17 & 18 and August 7 & 8, 2019**  
**O-C-M BOCES, Syracuse, New York**

The Transition to Superintendency Program is a four-day orientation to the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed for successful transition into the superintendency. The program has a comprehensive, integrated curriculum consisting of eight topic sessions. The sessions are coordinated to develop participant familiarity with and understanding of the superintendency. Participants get practical advice from a successful, experienced superintendent faculty.

## Online Training

Handouts sent prior to sessions

### Readiness for the Superintendency

Webinar - single sessions - 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM  
Tuesdays - May 28 or June 4

### Applying for the Superintendency

Webinar - single sessions - 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM  
Thursdays - May 30 or June 6

### Student Extraclassroom Activity Funds for Central Treasurers and Administrators

Webinar - three sessions - 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
Tuesday to Thursday - June 11, 12, and 13  
Tuesday to Thursday - July 9, 10, and 11

Detailed information and registration on the web at  
**www.SuperintendentOfSchools.com**

James M. Merrins, Ed.D., Executive Program Administrator  
716-672-5473 jmmerrins@cecomet.net

DR. SHARROKY  
HOLLIE

ON CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS  
IN OUR SCHOOLS



## April BOR Meeting Summary

continued from page 7

of the spectrum offer. He also indicated a need for data on the various graduation pathways to ensure that district capacity expands and does not inadvertently contribute to gaps between high schools that can offer a wide variety of pathways versus those that cannot.

Many members asked questions regarding support for building level leaders. Information was provided on P-20 Pilot Projects and funded collaborations with universities and districts in order to advance turnaround skill sets. Many board members felt that the skills needed for a turnaround leader were a very specific set of skills and they were unsure if universities were up for this type of initiative. Some members expressed surprise about this funding, questioned its potential for different leadership models and requested additional information on this project.

## Computer-Based Testing

The last meeting of the day focused on the recent computer-based testing problems. A small part of the conversation provided an overall summary of what happened and the number of students impacted. It was clear that SED and the Board of Regents were very concerned with the vendor, as well as that for a second year in a row the discussion centered on major failings with the computer-based testing initiative.

## Discussion Around the Table

The conversation among board members in attendance questioned the capacity of SED and the state as a whole to undertake such a large initiative. This line of questioning was in part a reaction from the commissioner's discussion on the limited field of potential alternate vendors for CBT examinations. Due to the number of students in the state, a high need for tests in languages other than English, and lack of resources coming into SED for testing, members expressed concern that this was not just a vendor problem. The meeting ended with an acknowledged need for further discussions on computer-based testing. ■

Moving onward and upward?

**VISIT THE SAANYS CAREER CENTER.**

[www.saanys.org](http://www.saanys.org)

Your destination for exciting job opportunities in school administration.

Advertisement

The time is approaching... are your students prepared?

**JUNE REGENTS TEST PREP**

**CASTLE LEARNING** (800) 345-7606  
info@castlelearning.com

Advertisement

**Launching in 2019-20:**  
**New AP Resources**

[collegeboard.org/ap2019](http://collegeboard.org/ap2019)

AP CollegeBoard

A message from a  
SAANYS corporate  
sponsor

**ZB Zaner-Bloser**

At Zaner-Bloser, we understand that to be literate is to be proficient in reading and writing... plus spelling, vocabulary, word choice, and more.

Alongside educators, communities, and schools, we provide instruction that builds comprehensive literacy skills through thinking and active participation. We work to ensure that today's students are empowered with the skills to become tomorrow's informed communicators, citizens, and leaders. And we help to set the stage for joyful, successful learning in every classroom.

Thank you for all you do to help New York state students realize their potential!

Contact: Tracy DiDio  
E-mail: [tracy.didio@zaner-bloser.com](mailto:tracy.didio@zaner-bloser.com)  
Phone: 518.466.3497  
[zaner-bloser.com](http://zaner-bloser.com) ■



continued from page 1

tion demonstrated a well-developed project that may have included but was not limited to the following; facilitates mentoring or tutoring programs, coordination of counseling services, family support programming, professional development, transportation to and from extracurricular activities, preschool outreach, weekend food programs, and physical improvements to shelter or school space to create a safe and supportive educational environment.

Learn more at:  
<https://bit.ly/2UALe7n>. ■

## Congratulations Retiring Members

Bernice Acevedo  
Rudolph Brouwer  
Michael R. Duprey  
Joseph Matzelle  
Russell B. Moore  
Lori A. Presti  
Richard Wiesenthal ■