



# CNYSBA BUSINESS PARTNERS INSIGHTS

## (JUNE 2014)

Welcome to CNYSBA Business Partner Insights, a periodic newsletter that shares useful information and the expertise of the Central New York School Boards Association's business partners.

If you have any questions or comments, please let us know.

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- A-P-W SCHOOL ADDITIONS EARN LEED CERTIFICATION
- SCHOOL DISTRICT OBLIGATIONS UNDER DASA
- ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS AND LEARNING POTENTIAL



**ASHLEY McGRAW ARCHITECTS:** The Altmar-Parish-Williamstown Central School District's Elementary School and Junior-Senior High School additions have been LEED Certified by the United States Green Building Council. LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a rating system that recognizes excellence in green building design and construction. The additions were part of a \$34.8 million capital project that reconfigured the district's existing campus to better suit their evolving needs and enhance the district's sustainability. At the elementary school, 16 new classrooms were constructed in two separate wing additions and both the kitchen and cafeteria were expanded. The junior/senior high school addition was LEED Silver certified by the USGBC. At the junior-senior high school, eight classrooms were added, as well as a media center and a technology classroom. [CLICK HERE TO READ ARTICLE.](#)



**BOND, SCHOENECK & KING:** On May 14, in [\*J.G.S. v. Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District\*](#), the New York State Supreme Court in Nassau County held that the parents of a minor student could proceed with their lawsuit against the school district alleging that their daughter, an eighth-grade student who attends a private school, was bullied by two of the district's middle school students. This case is significant: It is the first time a court has suggested that the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) provides for a private right of action against school districts. In addition, the decision addresses the scope of a school district's obligations under DASA to respond to harassment of students who do not attend public schools. The court's ruling in [\*Bellmore-Merrick\*](#) is not binding on school districts outside of Nassau County, but it serves as a reminder of the potential liability school districts may face in connection with incidents of harassment or bullying. If you have any questions regarding your school district's obligations under DASA, please contact Christa Cook at 315-218-8321 or [cookc@bsk.com](mailto:cookc@bsk.com). [CLICK HERE TO READ FULL ARTICLE.](#)



**KING + KING ARCHITECTS:** Undoubtedly, our surroundings have an impact on how we work, learn and relate. When it comes to education, a student's surroundings need to provide some key necessities in order to allow that student to perform at their maximum potential – free from environmental distractions. These environmental elements are : Light, Sound/Acoustics, Temperature/ Thermal Comfort and Seating/Furniture. [CLICK HERE TO READ ARTICLE.](#)

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Thank you for your support of CNYSBA. Thanks to you, we are able to help school board members enhance the skills needed to fulfill their significant responsibilities to their students and schools. Dollars from the Partner program directly support the many annual professional and leadership development programs offered by CNYSBA.

Do you know of another community business interested in partnership opportunities? Please share our brochure with them! [\*\*CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD BROCHURE.\*\*](#)