



CNYSBA NEWS

Train, Empower, Advocate, and Mobilize for Students

SSFC Executive Director Dr. Rick Timbs on Foundation Aid, State and Federal Funding

It appears that Foundation Aid is on track for full funding. It is hoped however, that the formula is updated and some of the metrics within the formula are corrected to insure greater equity. Dr. Rick Timbs cautions that this funding boost depends on state resources. *(Read the complete statement from Dr. Timbs on page 2)*

Adviser, Coach, Educator and Consultant Doug Eadie to Speak at April Board Roundtable

Join us for our next very informative Board Roundtable entitled, "Building Your Board's Self-Management Capacity." on April 29, featuring education expert Doug Eadie. *(Story on page 3)*

Remember: The 2021 School Budget Vote and School Board Election is Coming Up in May

The School Budget Vote and School Board Election is just 1 month away - May 18, 2021.



Frazer Students Share Native Culture through Bilingual Storybooks

Frazer English as a New Language (ENL) teachers Nicole Tabolt and Kendra Powell were on a mission to help provide their students who are learning English with extra tools to help them succeed.

Thanks to two grants funded by the SCSD Educational Foundation, they were able to do just that. The grant funding enabled them to order visual/picture bilingual dictionaries to meet the needs of almost all the students in the school: with some in Dinka, Somali, Spanish, Arabic, Swahili, Karen, Vietnamese, Nepali, Ikinyarwanda, French, Farsi and Burmese! They were also able to purchase 11 iPads, which will be loaded with apps to help with *(continued on page 2)*





SSFC Director Warns Boosts in Funding are Only as Stable as NY's Financial Resources

It appears that Foundation Aid is on track for full funding. It is hoped however, that the formula is updated and some of the metrics within the formula are corrected to insure greater equity. This funding boost will be maintained only as long as the state has financial resources to do so. It is important that all districts engage in thoughtful long range planning and financial analysis just in case of a state funding cliff in the next few years.

We await specific guidance from SED on the use of the new Federal "Stimulus" funds. SED guidance is the benchmark to determine an appropriate use of these funds, the restrictions on their use and an identification on portions of the funds that have distinct permissible uses. It is imperative that these funds be used for "non-recurring costs" as the funds sunset. Those districts that have used the funds for programs and initiatives that result in recurring and escalating costs might be expected to absorb these items into the district budget after the Federal funds are exhausted in just a few years.

Dr. Rick Timbs is the Executive Director of the Statewide School Finance Consortium

(continued from page 1)

translation and language acquisition skills, allowing the school's English Language Learners (ELLs) to research, read and view stories in their native language and from their homelands.

To help students put these new resources to work, the teachers assigned a bilingual cultural storybook project where students listened to stories from their home country and rewrote them in English and their home language, then illustrated hard cover books that they shared with the class. The stories, all fables or fairytales, included morals like being yourself and not being afraid of what you don't know. In third and fourth grade alone, students presented 17 different stories in 9 languages!

"A lot of students were very proud of their stories," Ms. Powell explained. "Part of this project involved students recording themselves reading the stories, and everyone was excited to share their stories in English or their home languages. It helped build their confidence about speaking in a second or third language and allowed others to experience their culture or language."

In addition to the storybook project, Ms. Powell also received an additional Educational Foundation grant to purchase 20 C Pens, text-to-speech reading pens. All entering and emerging English Language Learners in third and fourth grade received one to keep in the classroom with them, using them to help read shorter story books, scan unfamiliar vocabulary or read directions.



Thanks to these creative teachers and the SCSD Educational Foundation for helping to make learning a new language fun!

April 29th CNY SBA Board Roundtable Will Feature Education Expert Doug Eadie

CNY SBA's latest Board Roundtable, entitled "Building Your Board's Self-Management Capacity," will be a virtual event free to all members on April 29, from 6 - 7:30 p.m..

Drawing on his newest K-12 governance book, *Building a High-Impact Board-Superintendent Partnership*, Doug Eadie will provide detailed, nuts and bolts guidance in building your board's capacity to manage itself as your district's governing body. Doug will set the stage by describing significant developments in the rapid field of K-12 governance and providing a contemporary, detailed definition of the work that a school board actually does when it governs your district.

Doug will then take a close look at three key components of your school board's self-management function:

- (1) developing board members' governing knowledge and skills
- (2) managing your board's governing performance, including guidelines for board members' communication and interaction with each other
- (3) managing your board's working relationship with the superintendent.

In addition to his PowerPoint presentation, Doug will address questions from participants and facilitate discussion.



About Doug: Over the past 35 years Doug Eadie, President & CEO of Doug Eadie & Company, Inc., has assisted over 500 public and nonprofit organizations, including dozens of public school districts around the country, in developing their board's governing capacity and building rock-solid board-superintendent partnerships that can withstand the inevitable stresses and strains at the top of all school districts. Prior to founding Doug Eadie & Company, Doug taught ancient history and English at Tafari Makonnen

School in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as a Peace Corps Volunteer, and served as a community college vice president, state and city budget director, and nonprofit corporation chief operating officer. The author of 23 books, including Building a High-Impact Board-Superintendent Partnership, Governing at the Top, and Five Habits of High-Impact School Boards, Doug has written over 100 articles and manages a national blog in close cooperation with NSBA and AASA, www.boardsavvysuperintendent.com. Doug has also presented workshops at several NSBA and AASA annual conferences over the years. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, Doug was awarded the Master of Science in Public Management Science degree by the Weatherhead School of Case Western Reserve University.



[Click here](#) for Doug Eadie's latest K-12 book, “Building a High-Impact Board-Superintendent Partnership”

[Click here to register now](#) to attend this free informative 90-minute CNYSBA Members Roundtable on April 29, from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m..

Have You Seen Our Latest “You Do What For a Living?” Video?



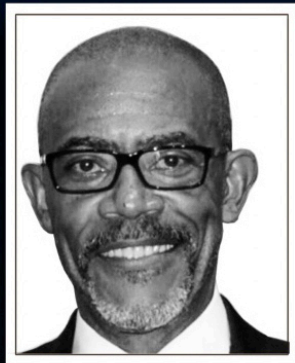
Mehudin Krdzic is the HR Manager for Stickley, Inc., in Manlius. Originally from Bosnia, Krdzic came to the United States 20-years-ago, in 1999. He speaks about the worst period in his life as a young boy during the war, and the opportunities he was able to take advantage of right here in Central New York. “You Do What For a Living” shows the many careers and opportunities for graduating students who wish to stay right here in the area.

CENTRAL NEW YORK SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

2021 ANNUAL DINNER

FEATURING



Dr. Lester W. Young, Jr.

Chancellor, NYS Board of Regents

Dr. Young will use his more than 50 years of public education experience to help us reimagine and build better futures, as we work to create "the new possible."

Wednesday, May 26th

**The Lodge at Hillrom (formerly The Lodge at Welch Allyn)
4355 State St, Skaneateles Falls, NY 13153**

5:30 pm

RSVP no later than May 19, 2021, Attend either in person or virtually

Cost in person \$50 • Virtually - \$20

All Reservations will be billed to your district and must be paid by a district check,

Please enclose purchase order, if required, with your reservation.

CNYSBA ANNUAL 2021 DINNER



[Click here to Register for the May 26th 2021 Annual Dinner](#)

“A Person of Good Will”

by Lawrence D. Lyon

One comment stands out from my conversation in 2009 with Anderson Young, veteran Dryden school board member. The most important qualification, he said, for someone considering serving on the board of education is that he or she be “a person of good will.” I was considering running, thinking that there was a need (I found out later that the advertisement I read was standard copy, not raising an alarm!), and wondering if I should try to fill it.

Clearly, Andy made an impression with that response. Adding to it over time, it has been a revelation to me how I could enjoy Board friendship with a fellow member when holding very different views and advocating for different approaches to District governance. It might be poor memory, or possibly the male penchant for compartmentalization, but the interaction around the table has often trumped the need I felt coming in to address a certain issue.

A couple of years ago, the Board president and I had a conflict regarding a District-related matter, mostly, but not completely, out of public view. We thought we ought to get together and try to come to an understanding. It was that transition time between the workday and family responsibilities; we only had a half an hour in the District office conference room. We ended up never getting around to the particulars; I frankly do not even remember what the trouble was. We instead spent thirty minutes sharing about our childhoods and career paths. That I do remember, and value it to this day.

School board service is a funny thing. Running the first time is like a kid eagerly imploring the coach to put him or her into the game, while not even knowing what the sport is. Celtic football? Jai Alai? Ice hockey? “Let me play! Put me in!” We think we can do some good, but do not even know the rules. Heck, we do not even know what the bucket-load of acronyms stands for. As importantly, we do not know our teammates well, or even, perhaps, at all. Yet here we are, meeting at least a couple of times a month, hearing reports, moving motions, sharing concerns, making policy, hiring and accepting resignations.

That thirty minutes with the Board president made an impression on me. I now believe that one of the most important things a Board can do – toward more effective Board work -- is to foster friendship among its members. Get together for breakfast or coffee. Picnic or go to a ballgame as families. Send an appreciative, cheery email. Ask for an opinion. Cheat, and consult a book on conversation starters: “Where were you born, and why?”

The better we know one another on the Board – especially those with whom we have differences on matters of faith, or politics, or the Bills or Jets or Giants – the more likely we are to forsake suspicion and affirm one another as a person of goodwill. Our Board discussions and decisions, and our District, will be the better for it.



TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What year was the Syracuse City School District Established?

*Stand a chance to WIN a Dunkin' Donuts Gift Card. Send your answer to: Rstone@CNYSBA.org
One winner will be selected from all correct answers.*

Check Next Month's Newsletter for the correct answer.

—————Here's last month's Question and Answer—————



What is New York State's oldest school district?

***Email answer to Rstone@cnybsa.org.
One person with the correct answer
will win a Dunkin' Donuts Gift Card***

Check Next Month's Newsletter for correct answer.

A special thanks to last month's contestants for guessing and submitting without looking up the correct answer on Google. It turns out, nobody guessed correctly. New York State's oldest school district is Canadaigua Academy, founded in 1791 as an all-boys school. The school still exists today, established as a public school in 1900. New York's oldest school is Trinity School founded in 1709 in the old Trinity Church at Broadway and Wall Street in New York City. The school is the fifth oldest in the United States. Boston Latin School is the country's oldest, established in 1635.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER?

Although the legal requirements for board membership are few, qualifications for effective service are many. Some of these include:

The board member should have a broad background of knowledge and experience. The details of school operations demand sensitivity, awareness, intelligence and honesty.

The board member should be tolerant and free of prejudice. It is imperative that the board member understand the needs of all children.

The board member should be willing to invest the many hours that are necessary to fulfill required duties.

The board member should be able to listen for a real consensus rather than hear only a few loud voices in the community.

The board member should understand that education today is very complex and that simplistic approaches will not adequately address issues.

Thank You to Our Business Partners

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[Do you have something newsworthy? Contact Renee Stone. Email \[rstone@cnybsa.org\]\(mailto:rstone@cnybsa.org\)](#)