



CNYSBA NEWS

Train, Empower, Advocate, and Mobilize for Students

Statewide School Finance Consortium - Lake Placid Conference

Presented by Dr. Rick Timbs

The 2022 SSFC Lake Placid Conference is scheduled for Monday, November 21, 2022 at High Peaks Resort in Lake Placid.



Sign-in begins at 8:45 a.m. and Dr. Timbs will make his presentation from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m..

Registration is due as soon as possible. Please check page 7 of this newsletter for a link to online registration. See you in beautiful Lake Placid.



Zero-Emission Buses- Quick Thoughts on the Transition

by Dr. Rick Timbs, SSFC / Photo credit: Auto Week

To Determine Budget Impact Budget implications can include:

1. Determine the difference is the price of a Zero-Emission bus and the buses you currently purchase
2. Calculate your bus replacement schedule with inflation or cost increases in mind as best you are aware of them
3. If you pay cash for your buses now, determine how the

Continued on next page



EDUCATOR IDENTITYWORK



Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching: The Ithaca CSD's New Educator Program

ICSD Administration attended a workshop with Dr. Sharroky Hollie, an expert educator on validating and affirming pedagogy through cultural responsiveness.

The ICSD's New Educator 4-Year Plan ensures that all new staff members engage in a shared understanding of anti-racist, inclusive, culturally-responsive, and student-centered practice. Micro-Credential Strands allow teachers to go through a process that will help them to look closely at, reflect upon, and build on their teaching in order to meet the changing demands of our continually increasing diverse student population.

To learn more click here for the infographic: [\[1\]](#) [\[2\]](#)

cost of a Zero-Emission bus effect your budget

4. If you buy more than one bus per year now, and need to continue with that trend, determine how these continued purchases, if they will now be for Zero-Emission buses, affect your annual budget and long-term budget plans and goals.
5. If you purchase buses now using Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) renewable over 5 years, compare the cost of interest and issuance costs from your current bus replacement schedule to the purchase of Zero-Emission buses.
6. If you purchase buses now using Serial Bonds (SBs) compare the cost of interest and issuance costs from your current bus replacement schedule to the purchase of Zero-Emission buses.
7. For school districts that partially or completely contract for busing, determine what can the school district expect for pricing over the initial five-year ramp up period and the seven-year compliance timeline?

We need a Q & A With Answers

A sample of questions in need of answers can include:

1. Will building aid be available to turn the current Transportation Facility into a Zero-Emission bus facility?
2. With approximately 50,000 buses to replace beginning in at least five years, in about a seven-year period, what is the anticipated rate within which vendors can produce and deliver Zero-Emission buses?
3. Will there be any state aid or grants available for the training of staff for the repair and maintenance of the Zero-Emission buses?
4. Are there any special safety considerations needed for Zero-Emission buses (storage, fire safety, including interface with local fire departments).
5. Will there be changes to the fire code and fire and safety reports to the state Education Department because of the acquisition of Zero-Emission buses?
6. What grants will be available to school districts, what is the value and how long will they last?
7. Is there assurance by energy companies across the state that the "Grid" will be able to charge all the Zero-Emission buses on demand?
8. Will there be any acceptance of late-filed transportation contracts and waiver of penalties due to administrative oversight?
9. Will there be funding for the School Bus Driver Instructor's program for the State Education Department?

10. Will there be a temporary suspension of the retiree earnings cap to help address school staff shortages to include school bus drivers?
11. Is there sufficient state funding for infrastructure and bus purchase considering projected state budget deficits?
12. Is school bus funding separated from public transit funding in the upcoming Environmental Bond Act?
13. Is there any assurance that aid and grants provide to transition to Zero-Emission buses will not jeopardize Foundation Aid or other Expense driven aids in the future?
14. Is deference granted to smaller or less wealthy school districts or school districts in general compete with large vendors for these vehicles and the ability to create infrastructure to support them?
15. What will be the amount of state investment is needed in the statewide “grid” infrastructure and how long will it take? Will statewide infrastructure upgrades occur simultaneously, considering the transition to Zero-Emission buses is required to occur in 2035?
16. Notwithstanding the investment needed in statewide “grid” infrastructure, the transition to Zero-Emission buses is purported to include state support in the form of grants, Building Aid and Transportation Aid. Has there been a study on the actual state contribution to the initiative and does the state have sufficient resources to produce that support beginning now through at least 2035 and beyond as financing for these buses could continue for over a decade?
17. Will there be the formation of a statewide task force to include New York’s school transportation industry stakeholders to guide transition to electrification?
18. Will there be support of the school bus dealership model to provide service and technical support to bus operators as innovative technology transitions into bus fleets?
19. Will the state allow for diversified near-zero emissions fleet where a Zero-Emission electric bus is not practical due to safety, environmental and economic factors?
20. What will be the conditions by which a waiver for school districts to delay transition to electric buses granted?

Capital Construction Matters

Creating a Zero-Emission Transportation Facility:

1. Will Zero-Emission buses fit in the bus repair and maintenance bays?
2. Will the current lift capacity in your bus repair and maintenance bays lift a Zero-Emission bus?
3. What changes are required to transform the current at the transportation facility for a Zero-Emission bus fleet?
4. Depending on the characteristics of each school district’s transportation program, what will it cost in total project size and related financing to turn the current Transportation Facility into a Zero-Emission bus facility?

5. How long with it take to turn the current Transportation Facility into a Zero-Emission bus facility?
6. What are the anticipated issues that can arise as you plan, seek voter approval, and to turn the current

Transportation Facility into a Zero-Emission bus facility?
(Cost inflation, escalations, contingencies, and availability of items in the capital project)

7. Are charging stations uniform between different bus

manufacturers?

8. If vendors are

not able to provide Zero-Emission buses as needed by school districts, is there a downside to having multiple buses from different manufacturers?



Photo credit: Syracuse.com

Practical Matters

Consider the following practical matters about Zero-Emission buses as the school district plans replacement schedules to begin in 2027 and end with a full Zero-Emission fleet in 2035:

1. Length of routes in topography, time, and miles.
2. Road conditions and terrain to include traffic, road conditions and special conditions such as low weight threshold culvert covers bridges and roads.
3. The time it takes to recharge the batteries for the next day or a return trip to the school district.
4. What will be the process for charging “out of district buses” and what invoicing structure provides the invoice to recoup the cost of charging?
5. Are there additional safety or security issues with the transition to Zero-Emission buses and related infrastructure?

I am sure there are more. We will keep investigating!



CNYSBA

CYBER SECURITY ROUNDTABLE

**Thursday, Nov 17
5:30 - 6:30 PM**

VIRTUAL MEETING

FREE OF CHARGE

**featuring
Security
Expert,
Steve
Stasiukonis**

[CNYSBA] [CNYSBA.org]

Steve Stasiukonis is the President of Secure Networks Technologies and travels throughout the United States presenting to companies and school districts on ways to safeguard their networks. Secure Network is a full service information security consulting firm based in Syracuse.

This **FREE** Roundtable is an informational and interactive presentation designed to help our members become more aware of the threats and potential risk to their networks, and to give you a true view of what attackers can passively gather to harm districts.

REGISTER NOW

CNYSBA | 5788 Widewaters Parkway, 1st FL, Dewitt, NY 13214

You Do What for a Living?

**Watch our video segment, You Do What
for a Living? to learn about Alivia Allen -
a Syracuse-area Iron Worker.
(Click on the video below to view)**



Click on the Video Above to View

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[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

STUDENTS AS PARTNERS & LEADERS

'Human' Rights Mural Celebrated at Northeast Elementary in Ithaca

Last year, Ithaca Central School District second-grade students at Northeast Elementary expressed a desire for a mural to creatively represent the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Northeast Elementary staff collaborated with Ithaca Murals to orchestrate an open call for designs. While eleven professional muralists entered proposals, Northeast community members voted for Egypt Hagan's image of "youth coming together as one - through the power of learning, laughter, curiosity, and happiness." A Washington, D.C.-based collective of street artists, graffiti writers, and organizers called 411 Collective signed on to produce the students' vision.

During the first weekend of October, 411 Collective muralists Shani Shih and Gilbert White painted the foreground of the mural; they were joined by Principal Little, Associate Principal Humble, and Northeast community members for the finishing touches! For more photos, check out our Instagram.