



CNYSBA NEWS

Train, Empower, Advocate, and Mobilize for Students

We Value The Contributions You Made in 2022

Each year, CNYSBA offers Governance and Finance Training for our members. Thank you to this year’s presenters.

Governance Training:

Kate Reid - Bond, Shoeneck, & King PLLC

Bonnie Russel - NYS PTA Social Media Consultant and NYS PTA Representative to the NYS Education Department of Technology Advisory Council

Rick Timbs - Executive Director of SSFC

Don Budmen - Ferrara, Fiorenza Law Firm

Colleen Heinrich - Ferrara, Fiorenza Law Firm

Finance Training:

Don Budmen - Ferrara, Fiorenza Law Firm

Jacob Skeval - CPA Principal at Bonodio

Michael Vespi - Forecast 5 Analytics (senior analytics advisor for the northeast region)

Michael Sheperd - Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services at Oswego County BOCES

Connie Wallis - Senior Loss Control Rep at Wright Insurance.



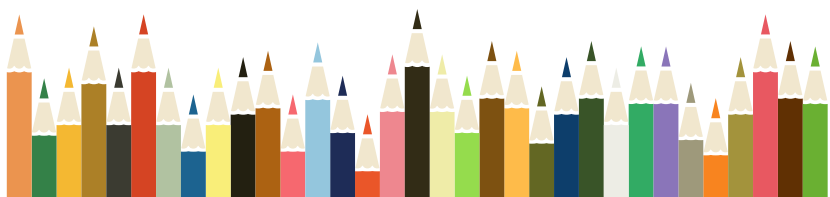
This is Why We Do “Pathways to Careers” Events with MACNY

Youth Apprenticeship Success Story

by Eileen Donovan, MACNY

I’m not in the habit of reading periodicals like Modern Machine Shop. That’s why I enjoy working with subject matter experts like Michelle Shatrau, President and CEO of N.E.T. and Die in Fulton, NY. Michelle sent along this article, with which I’ve taken liberties to excerpt here.

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Dr. Rick Timbs

When the Holiday Season Comes to an End... The Budget Building Season Kicks Into High Gear!



The development of the 2023-24 school district budget has begun in most school districts by now. But it kicks into high gear as the holiday season closes.

For 2023-24 there are a couple of things to consider as a school district budget is developed:

By now most districts have purchased everything they need for the school year and unless there is a “mission critical” reason to continue spending money, spending should be seriously trimmed for the rest of the year. This will aid in the creation of fund balance that will be important for school district survival in the long term.

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As a member of our Apprentice Advisory Committee for Youth, Michelle is on the lookout for articles and examples of ways in which the Registered Apprenticeship model is working for others, in the hope that we may borrow best practices. This manufacturer is in Wisconsin, a state for whom apprenticeship requirements differ from those of New York State. However, the point of the article is well-taken; we need to innovate to develop the emerging workforce in our own backyard. Apprenticeship for Youth is one of those ways. If you’re on the fence about whether to get involved with our Apprenticeship for Youth program, just check out how A to Z Machine is training “*Today’s Apprentices, Tomorrow’s Employee Leaders.*”

...In addition to investing in its current employees, A to Z Machine invests in its community with a long-running apprenticeship program. This focus on apprentices includes both journeymen apprentices studying at nearby technical schools — who receive tuition reimbursement and flexible schedules to accommodate class time alongside work — and youth apprentices from local high schools, who work at A to Z through the Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship Program.

Two or three youth apprentices start work at A to Z Machine in the summer every year, training in the toolroom and quality inspection department before making their first parts in what the company has dubbed the “training utility machining” area. This part of the shop features several older machines that have proven good fits for first-time machinists. These include an old Bridgeport mill, a manual lathe, a surface mill and two CNC mills — one with a Mazak control based on conversational programming and the other with a FANUC control based on G-code.

After creating simple and repetitive parts on these machines for a few months, the youth apprentices begin shadowing machinists in other departments. By the winter holidays, A to Z means for them to understand the key differences between milling and

turning in preparation for larger responsibilities in the new year. The apprentices start with conversational programming, then learn G-code once they have a little more experience. A computer in the training utility area also introduces the apprentices to GibbsCAM.

A to Z has recently taken further steps to develop the next generation of manufacturers by partnering with a local high school to develop shop class curricula. The company believes this school partnership will swiftly become mutually beneficial, with top performers in metalworking classes getting recommendations to work as youth apprentices at A to Z.

These investments have resulted in a valuable source of employees for A to Z and valuable work experience for young people in the Appleton area. Currently, 13 former youth apprentices work at A to Z Machine. Many have enjoyed lengthy tenures at the company: One of A to Z's first apprentices started at the company almost 20 years ago and has stayed there his entire career. Several former youth apprentices have also become leaders and specialists on the shop floor. Two former apprentices run the company's large Doosan HM 1250 W horizontal machining center, and a former youth apprentice now plays a strong role within A to Z's toolroom."

If you would like to learn how to become involved with MACNY's [Apprenticeship for Youth Program](#), please reach out Eileen Donovan edonovan@macny.org.

Sources:

Doran, E. (n.d.). *Top shop builds upon employee ownership for future success*. Modern Machine Shop. Retrieved October 13, 2022, from <https://www.mmsonline.com/articles/top-shop-builds-upon-employee-ownership-for-future-success>

Visit the New SSFC Website.

www.SSFCdata.org

Get the latest data and school finance information from Dr. Rick Timbs.

The Statewide School Finance Consortium (SSFC) is an organization of more than 400 New York State public school districts whose mission is to bring equity to the distribution of New York State educational aid. SSFC membership is largely comprised of school districts from average and low-wealth communities that receive a disproportionate share of state funding in comparison to high-wealth regions of New York. The reform of the state aid process will help ensure that all of New York's children receive the same educational opportunities regardless of the wealth or location of their community.

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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When the Holiday Season Comes to an End... The Budget Building Season Kicks Into High Gear!

Dr. Rick Times

Calculations should begin next month that define actual expenditures compared to budgeted expenditures. This will help school districts find the amount of money anticipated to be spent within their appropriations codes to secure funds for future cost escalations related to contractual obligations, new initiatives or to be used to fund restrictive reserves or other types of projects. Remember, that a school district budget should be large enough to handle any reasonable unknown cost that may arise within a school year. It is the hope for the best but plan for the worst approach that is the safest. Because the worst doesn't usually happen, there should always be funds.

State aid revenue are critical to the survival of almost all school districts. So I'm sure business officials are very busy trying to reconcile the state aid estimates recently released for school district to their own estimates. They will also be examining other sources of revenue as they compare budgeted revenues to actual revenues.

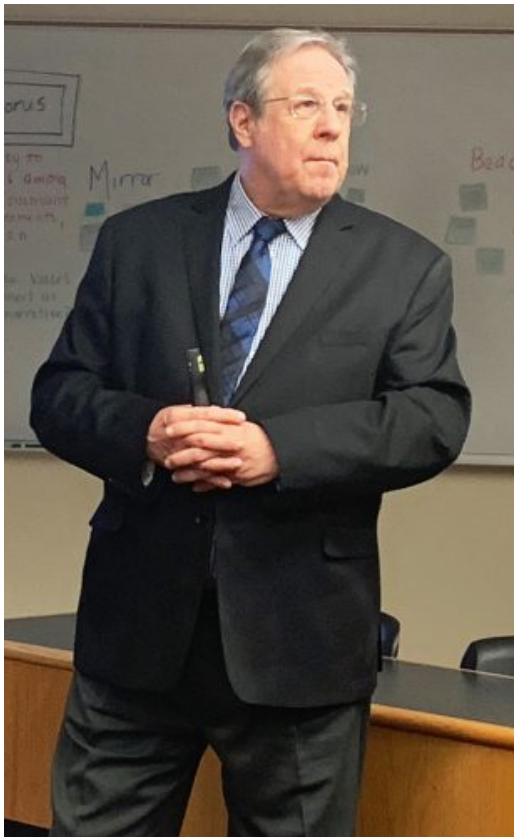
As usual all these estimates will become more realistic the closer we get to March 2023 when basically the budget should be ready to be approved by the Board of Education in April prior to the May vote.

It is also a good time to review long-range plans for vehicle, bus, equipment, and technology purchases for the next five years. Please keep in mind the new mandate for the purchase of zero-emission buses beginning in 2027; all bus fleets must be completely zero-emissions by 2035.

A particular interest should be the use of Federal grant funds. These large Federal grants should be used for three purposes -capital project work, supplementing a budget and/or supplanting a part of the budget. It is recommended that districts plan the use of these monies carefully and adjust their plans as their situations.

Capital work will need to be approved by the Office of Facilities planning so a building permit can be issued. The scope for these projects is very narrow. The timing of the project is critical and often dependent on the availability of bidders, ability to secure products, some of which are "long lead items" and the level of sophistication of the work.

If districts are "supplementing" a budget with the Federal grant funds they should be looking forward into the future years when those funds will no longer be available. They should determine their ability to absorb any salaries and benefits contained in those grants into the general fund budget going forward.



This process is as much political as it is economic because often the services provided by supplemented funds are desired by staff and community to continue as they have been very helpful or worthwhile. The desire to continue these services may be strong even though grant funds are no longer available.

If districts have been “supplanting” part of their budget with the Federal grant funds they should make sure that the amount that has been supplanted has not been removed from their general fund budget. If it has, provision should be made to put that amount of expenses back into the general fund budget next year. If any amount is to be added to next year’s general fund budget because it was withdrawn from the current year’s budget it will have an impact on expenditures going forward. It will escalate costs in some cases by a small amount and in others significantly.

I again caution school districts not to stray from their tax cap calculation. The tax cap calculation is technically not related to your general fund expenditures other than to importantly define the limit on the school district tax levy revenue amount. I would assume as I look forward that the state’s ability to maintain robust state increases will ebb; that the state will in a few years start to experience some amount of a fiscal cliff.

I am concerned that the presence of the Federal grant funds has convinced some school districts to levy under the tax cap. I don’t find this advisable unless the school district has determined through genuine long-range financial analysis and planning that they will no longer need some amount of revenues from the tax levy into at least the next five .

The creation of a school district budget is a complicated process. The determination of revenues and expenditures beginning with estimates now, that must also work by June of 2024 is not easy. There is much to consider, and the unknowns appear almost endless. But it must be done. Thankfully we have competent and thoughtful administrators and board members!

Best wishes for the Holiday Season to all!

Rick

An Essential Partnership

1

Our Business Partners Play a Vital Role

The generous support of our Business Partners plays a vital role in fulfilling a core CNYSBA objective of providing professional and leadership development programming that helps school board members meet and exceed the growing responsibilities they have for public education in their communities.

2

We Are Committed to Public Education

CNYSBA Business Partners comprise a growing list of companies that are committed to public education. We are grateful for their ongoing support.

3

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Thank You to Our Business Partners



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Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC

BS&K has a long history of representing school districts across the state. Our School Districts practice encompasses the comprehensive array of services necessary to meet the diverse needs of our school district clients. Currently, the firm provides general or special legal services to over 40 school districts throughout the state.



C & S Companies

Our four companies - C&S Engineers, C&S Technical Resources, C&S Construction Management Group, and C&S Operations - work together toward the common goal of building, protecting, enhancing, and maintaining your assets.



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Campus Construction Management Group Inc. is an employee-owned (ESOP) company that has been providing pre-referendum, construction management, and enhanced clerk-of-the-works services exclusively to education clients since 1989. With offices in Amherst and Rochester, Campus CMG is known as one of New York State's premier construction management firms, having completed over \$3 billion worth of educational CM projects throughout the state.

If your business is interested, or if you know of a business interested in becoming one of our Business Partners, please contact our Executive Director, Derrick Dorsey at 315.463.1904.

Thank You to Our Business Partners



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Ferrara Fiorenza PC provides advice, counsel and effective representation to public and private sector employers in the areas of education, labor relations, and

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Guided by our commitment to the community, the environment, our relationships, and building a legacy, we relentlessly pursue to be the best at all we do. We succeed

in this endeavor each day through strategically planned, cutting-edge, environmentally friendly, client-centric solutions. All developed with integrity – and each implemented by what we know is the finest team of professionals to get us there. We do more than build schools, we build relationships.



LeChase Construction

LeChase Construction is a full-service construction management and general construction firm with extensive experience in a wide range of industries. We pride ourselves on ensuring that our corporate culture, which is based on safety, quality and integrity, is evident from our office staff through to each job site.



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HUNT is a multidiscipline design firm with over 140 employees in three offices across New York and Pennsylvania. HUNT continues to strengthen its reputation as a premier provider of professional services within the many disciplines encompassing engineering, architecture, and surveying. The firm's diversified portfolio includes projects of varying sizes across the public and private sectors.