



CNYSBA NEWS

Train, Empower, Advocate, and Mobilize for Students

CNYSBA SAVE THE DATES

April 11, 2024 – OCM BOCES – “Get on the Bus” Event w/ NY Bus Sales – in person – from 6pm-7:30pm – [Click Here to Register](#)

April 16th, 2024 – “So... You Want to be a School Board Member?” Event – Virtual / Zoom – 6:00pm – 7:00pm – [Click Here to Register](#)

May 22nd, 2024 – CNYSBA 41st Annual Dinner – The Lodge @ Hillrom – [Click Here to Register](#)

June 5th, 2024 (6-9pm) & June 8th, 2024 (9am-3pm) – Governance Training – at the CNYSBA Offices (both days required to received certificate of completion) – Registration to follow.

If you have questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact Ashley by phone or email - [email Ashley](#) or call 315-463-1904.

Nira Irby

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
SPECIALIST



Women’s History Month: Amplifying the Voices of Young Women in STEM

*Nira Irby, Workforce Development Specialist,
Partners for Education & Business, Inc.*

By Nira Irby

In celebration of Women’s History Month, we embark on a journey to amplify the voices of young women in STEM. Throughout history, women have encountered numerous hurdles in pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, facing discrimination and unequal opportunities for advancement. Despite these challenges, trailblazing figures such as Marie Curie and Ada Lovelace have paved the way for future generations. Today, we witness women in STEM breaking new ground, with visionaries like Dr. Mae Jemison and Dr. Jennifer Doudna leading the charge.

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The future of STEM shines brightly, with a growing commitment to effect change happening in our communities every day. In our own backyard, the Institute of Technology at Syracuse Central (ITC) High School is tirelessly working to bridge the gender gap and expand opportunities for young women in STEM. With only approximately 12.5% of young women engaged in these fields, ITC is dedicated to amplifying the student voice to drive change and foster growth within its program.

As we focus on the future, we had the privilege to sit down with former and current young women of ITC to listen to their experiences and aspirations in STEM. Here are some of their insights:

Q: Why are you interested in learning and exploring STEM as a career opportunity?

Madison W.: "All the opportunities and how much you can do by knowing and understanding STEM. Since things have become more expensive the ability to get a better career that pays more is ideal and appealing."

Samira A.: "Because it is not just one thing, it is a group of things coming together to build a community network."

Q: When you think about women in the STEM field (past or currently relevant), who comes to mind? If no one, why do you think people can name more men than women?

Kiamesha C.: "I can really only think of myself, unfortunately majority of my professors, bosses, teachers, and coworkers were male and none of the women made a permanent mark on me."

Leigh S.: "I believe that for a while and still today it discouraged/frowned upon for women to join the field for various reasons. Only most recently has there been people trying to encourage more women to go into the field."

Q: As you are early in or exploring STEM careers, do you feel you have to work harder than young men in the field?



SAVE THE DATE!

For the CNYSBA 41st Annual Dinner

May 22nd, 2024
5:00pm-8:00pm

The Lodge at Baxter

4355 State Street Skaneateles Falls, NY 13153

We will be reaching out for Nominees to win our Board Member of Achievement Award for this year SOON!

Menu and Other Details – TBD

Elif C: “You must be able to balance it. You cannot be bad; you do not want to look bad at what you are doing so you overachieve BUT then you are seen as the smart girl, and you cannot ever be just a person doing this because you want to.”

Q: Do you feel enough is being done to attract more young women/women into the STEM field? What more can be done?

Kiamesha C: “No, I don’t think enough is being done to attract women in this career field. For future female STEM inquires I feel like numbers should be involved. I was always told this would be a good career for me because of my gender and skin color. I feel more advocacy for higher pay rates can be addressed immediately to start, if me being a woman in STEM is “valuable” then that would be the best way to show it.”

Q: Why do think there is a focus on attaining more young women into the STEM/STEAM field?

Madison W: “More diverse perspectives and opinions, a lot of stuff in today’s world is not made for women, rather designed after what men want/need.”

Q: What advice would you share with future you or the young women who will come behind you into this field?

Leigh S: “Do not allow someone to tell you your worth or how important your voice is. Everyone has a voice that should be heard regardless of your background, it is important for society to have more perspectives.”

As we celebrate Women’s History Month, let us continue to champion the voices of young women in STEM and foster an environment that truly embraces diversity and equality. Together, we can work towards creating more inclusive opportunities and resources for the trailblazers of tomorrow.

To [learn more about Partners for Education & Business](#), Inc. and the work they do to educate the community about STEM career pathways, visit their page.

[Click here to see more on the MACNY website.](#)



CELEBRATING
WOMEN'S
HISTORY
MONTH

Learn more about Women's History Month [here](#)

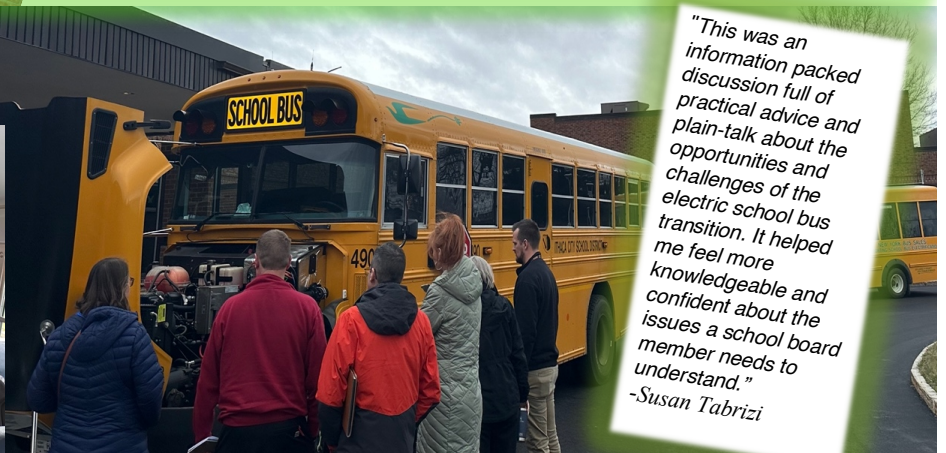
Did you Get on the Bus with CNYSBA & NY Bus Sales Yet?

Pictured:

Susan Tabrizi, Missy Rynone, & Ashley Stoltz (of CNYSBA), Jeremy Johnston (of NY Bus Sales), & Shaun Ketari, and Christopher Horstran (of Ithaca CSD) in front of ICSD Electric Bus.



This event took place on March 9th, 2024 at the TST BOCES Smith School Cafeteria. Jeremy Johnston gave an informational presentation about electric busses that included information on current mandates, current/past funding opportunities, electric bus pre-requisites, the lifespans, & the good/bad that comes with them. We also were extremely grateful to have Christopher and Shaun from Ithaca City School District present. They provided their districts electric bus for the tour and took participants for a ride in it. Chris and Shaun provided their REAL and RAW take on ICSD's journey since their purchase of 5 electric busses in August that they have in rotation with their current fleet. Thank you to all who came and asked amazing questions. We look forward to our next event with NY Bus Sales.



*"This was an information packed discussion full of practical advice and plain-talk about the opportunities and challenges of the electric school bus transition. It helped me feel more knowledgeable and confident about the issues a school board member needs to understand."
-Susan Tabrizi*

CENTRAL NEW YORK SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Board Members, Superintendents, other School Officials, & the General Public are WELCOME!



GET ON THE BUS!



INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION, TOUR, & RIDE ON AN ELECTRIC BUS



Special Guest Jeremy Johnston from New York Bus Sales located in Chittenango, NY to present information regarding electric buses (requirements prior to purchasing an electric bus, bus ranges, maintenance, lifespan, and any other questions). We are also providing an opportunity to take a live tour and RIDE on an electric bus for all participants interested!

APRIL 11TH, 2024

6:00pm – 7:30pm

OCM BOCES – 110 Elwood Davis Road Liverpool, NY 13088 in the Seneca Conference Room located on the second floor to the right.



REGISTRATION ALSO AVAILABLE BY SCANNING QR CODE WITH ABOVE.

SSFC Director, Dr. Rick Timbs In The News...

Shrinking Tax Bases Rely on Albany's Bailout



State Sen. George Borrello speaks on the importance of restoring the proposed school aid cuts at Attica Central School last month.

by JOHN D'AGOSTINO The Post-Journal - Editor's Corner - [read more](#)

Dunkirk Board of Education members in February had their annual dose of despair when it comes to future funding from New York. Dr. Richard Timbs, a financial consultant and former Board of Cooperative Educational System superintendent, again painted that bleak picture for the second-largest county school system.

Noting a growing state deficit, he warned city officials that even though this year looks stable, troubles are lurking in the coming years with aid from Albany. "I think they're going to try to continue to shortchange districts like yours across the state," he said. "Your rate of increase will decrease. ... I think this is going to put a big crimp on your revenues, I think you're going to be very strapped for revenue in the future, in large part due to this."

The reality has already started to hit home.

[Read the full editorial here from the Post-Journal](#)

Did You Attend One of Our Legislative Forums?

February 3rd, 2024 - OCM BOCES, February 8th, 2024 - TST BOCES

February 10th, 2024 - CiTi BOCES, February 10th, 2024 - C/O BOCES

We Want Your Feedback!

[Click here to take our Legislative Forum Feedback Survey](#)



[Click here to view a gallery of photos from our Legislative event on February 3rd.](#)

Thanks to our Sponsor: C&S Companies

IN THE NEWS

New Notice Requirements for Unemployment Benefits

BY WENDY DEWIND, Partner Ferrara Fiorenza PC

There has been a long-standing requirement in New York State for all employers to provide notice to employees separating from employment of their right to file for unemployment benefits. On September 14, 2023, Governor Hochul signed into law Chapter 366 of the Laws of 2023, which amended Section 590 of the New York State Labor Law effective November 13, 2023. Section 590 of the New York State Labor Law governs employees' rights to apply for unemployment benefits and Section 590 applies to school districts. Chapter 366 added a new requirement to Section 590 of the Labor Law which requires the employer to notify

experience only a
from or a reduction
employment.
reduction of hours



FERRARA FIORENZA PC
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

temporary separation
in hours of
Temporary separation or

and interruption of employment.

Under Section 590, an interruption of employment or partial layoff will qualify

employees for unemployment benefits if the result of the interruption of employment or partial layoff will result in the employee earning less than \$504 per week or working less than 30 hours per week. The Department of Labor, in their FAQ regarding the changes to the notice requirements indicates that the notice must also be provided to employees voluntarily separating from employment. Voluntary separation includes separation by virtue of a negotiated settlement agreement in lieu of discharge. The FAQ can be found at: <https://dol.ny.gov/notice-eligibility-ui-benefits#:~:text=A%3A%20The%20law%20states%20that,than%20%24504%20in%20a%20week.>

The change to Labor Law 590 presents a particular concern for school districts. Annually, school districts have employees, mainly substitute teachers, subject to an interruption of employment when summer break occurs. Substitutes are per diem employees who have their employment interrupted because of summer break. Section 590 of the Labor Law provides that substitute teachers are eligible for unemployment benefits when there is a break in employment unless they receive reasonable assurance of their position for the next school year. The New York State Appellate Division held in 2005 that reasonable assurance for unemployment purposes must include a representation that claimant will receive in the upcoming school year at least 90% of the earnings received in the current school year.

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Now, unless a letter of reasonable assurance is given to employees who are laid off over the summer such as substitutes, schools must provide them with a notice of eligibility for unemployment benefits. Best practice would suggest sending the notice of reasonable assurance or the notice of eligibility for unemployment benefits at the same time in spring. The notice must contain the employer’s name and registration number, the address of the employer to which a request for remuneration and employment information with respect to such employee must be directed. Additional information may be required by the Commissioner of Labor. Currently the unemployment regulations have not been updated to include any additional information for the notice.

School Districts can find the current Department of Labor form with the appropriate notice provisions at: https://dol.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/11/ia12.3_0.pdf.



Wendy K. DeWind is a partner in the law firm of Ferrara Fiorenza PC

Visit the New SSFC Website.

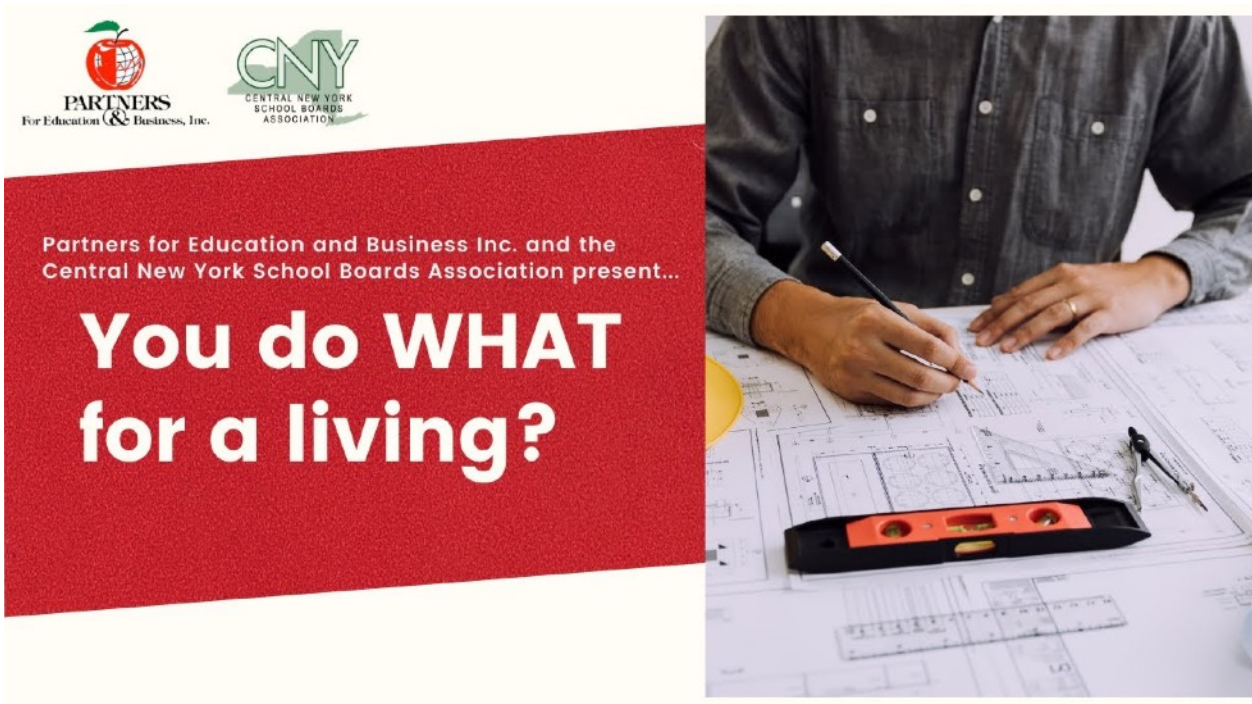
www.SSFCdata.org

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 Chef Eric Smith, of Giovanni Foods. He's the Director of Culinary Research and Development and Corporate Executive Chef at Giovanni Foods. The interview is hosted by Kathy Birmingham of Partners For Education and Business.



PARTNERS
For Education & Business, Inc.

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ASSOCIATION

Partners for Education and Business Inc. and the
Central New York School Boards Association present...

**You do WHAT
for a living?**

Click on the Video Above to View

Sponsored by





STEAM Explorers

MACNY presents

Future Women in STEM Series

Explore careers in engineering, technology, and science with amazing local women who work in these industries!

This free series for girls in middle school includes a fun, hands-on activity led by local women professionals that helps spark interest in high-tech careers.

Upcoming Programs

All programs are 10-11AM at the MOST | 500 S. Franklin St, Syracuse

April 13

May 11

I Built This!

Design & Build

Merit Alliance

Tessy



presented by

FREE admission to the MOST (student and their family) and light snacks are provided.



Scan to register or visit most.org/steam-explorers

There Are Openings On Our Board

The Central New York School Board Association currently has six open seats on our Board. Would you, or someone you know, be interested?

We currently have the following seats open:

- Cayuga - Onondaga - 3 seats available
- Cortland - Madison - 2 seats available
- Onondaga - Madison - 2 seat available

If you would like to inquire about the open seats on our board, please contact our Executive Director, Derrick Dorsey via email, at: derrick@cnysba.org

A very special Thank you to our current Board Members for 2023-24:

Cortland - Madison SBA

*Peg Peri - (Cincinnatus & OCM BOCES) - **President of CNYSBA***

Onondaga - Madison SBA

*Joan Reeves - (OCM BOCES) - **Vice President of CNYBSA***

Holly Frazee - (Fabius-Pompey)

Oswego SBA

Nicole Nadeau - (APW)

Connie Douglas - (Mexico)

Tom Ciappa - (Oswego City)

Tompkins - Seneca - Tioga SBA

Missy Rynone - (Newfield)

Jhoanna Haynes - (TST BOCES)

Susan Tabrizi - (Lansing)

NYSSBA Spotlight

NYSSBA's 2024
Leadership in Education Event
July 19 & 20 • Albany
The Desmond Hotel

SAVE THE DATE

JOIN US IN PERSON
for two days of learning, professional development
and networking with colleagues
from around the state.

 New York State
School Boards
Association

Sponsored by


[For More Information, Visit the NYSSBA website](#)



Please take our brief survey regarding topics for our upcoming 2024 roundtable events. [Click here for the survey.](#) It will only take a minute.