



CNYSBA NEWS

Train, Empower, Advocate, and Mobilize for Students



DID YOU MISS OUR BOARD REFRESHER ROUNDTABLE?

It featured Dr. Rick Timbs of SSFC, and Colleen Heinrich, ESQ of Ferrara Fiorenza PC. You can get all the info and watch the video of the roundtable [here](#). Just click this LINK.

Rockefeller Institute Report is About 6-Weeks Away - What to Expect.

by Dr. Rick Timbs

Based on recent interviews and Q & As at conferences here is what we have gleaned so far.

The Rockefeller team appears to have arrived at the following findings and conclusions:

1

OUTDATED

Significant portions of the Foundation Aid are terribly outdated.

2

CENSUS DATA

They have cited the census data from 200, and the Regional Cost Index data from 2007

3

METRICS

The concern is the result on school districts once the new metrics are exercised in the formula.

CAN WE FEATURE YOU?

Members...Is there something your district has done that you want us to highlight. We'd love to feature it! We love to nrtag about the great things happening with our members. Just contact Ashley at the CNYSBA office or email us at ashley@cnybsa.org

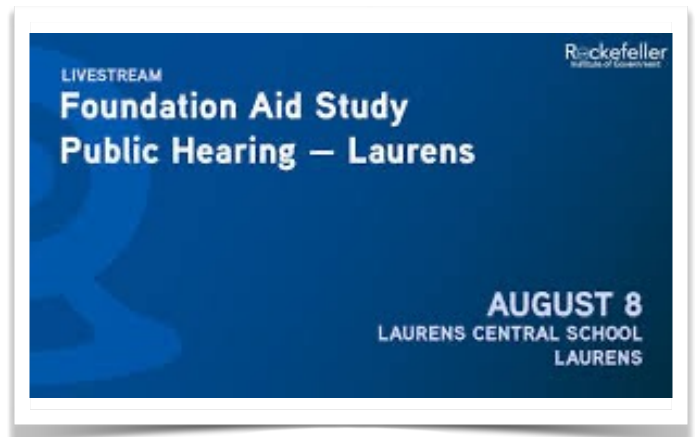
This is a critical piece that permeates the entire formula study.

The Law of Unintended Consequences enters the entire process.

Significant weightings within the Foundation Aid formula are terribly outdated, or insufficient when compared to modern educational expectations.

- Often cited are formula weightings for such groups as students with special needs, English Language Learners, or lack of any real weighting for students suffering from mental health issues, the homeless and so on.
 - Increased weightings for these students would, for non-save harmless districts, with stable enrollment, increase aid.
 - For some save-harmless districts, it could remove save-harmless status and increase aid.
 - Or do absolutely nothing for a district significantly deep into save-harmless.

Recent interviews have noted that the Foundation Aid formula cannot, and should not, be changed all at once, but, instead over time. The notion that over a series of years the formula could go through a number of changes has been mentioned.



The rationale for this is compelling:

- Large sections of the Foundation Aid formula, to be improved, need significant study. That requires time to flush out the issues concerning some elements of the formula, search and research potential remedies and then run models to ascertain the impact of changes.
- Additionally, there may be elements of the Foundation Aid formula that might better be left out of any revisions to formula, and by contrast, other new elements or metrics could be added. These issues in turn need more study as mentioned in the previous paragraph.
- There is also a case to be made for more study to determine any community’s ability to pay their “local share” as currently articulated in the formula. That would involve a study of a more equitable or reasonable calculation of the combined wealth ratio and use of state sharing ratios.



There is also the issue of the effect of the changes on any district's financial future.

- It has been mentioned recently that some recommended alteration to the amount of current reoccurring financial support will need to gradually be introduced relative to their magnitude of change and the implications the changes may have for any district's ability to adjust its financial plan in the short and long term. This will be of particular concern for those districts that are currently save-harmless or on the verge of save-harmless should the existence of save-harmless funding be withdrawn over some period or to some level of diminishment of state financial support..
- Then there is always the cost of any of the formula changes. In is in the realm of possibility that recommendation may accost more than the current formula. Based on past comments from the Governor, this is clearly not in the executive plan going forward.
- There is no doubt the Foundation Aid study is and will continue to be complicated and not settled in one set of recommendations. Because the recommendations of the study will be under executive and legislative purview, there is a political dynamic to any changes to the Foundation Aid formula. Decisions will be made based on financial share histories, potential winners and losers, regional differences, student and community demographics and the political futures of those with real decision-making powers- the Governor and Legislature.



Closing thoughts:

As we await the recommendations or report from the Rockefeller Institute we must be cognizant of the current trajectories of our budgets. Please keep in mind the real limitations on our revenues complicated by the tax cap and countered by our significant projected and continuous escalating costs.

There are community expectations for all districts that include expanding programs and assistance to students and families. Further, there is a developing shortage of candidates in critical leadership and instructional positions in various parts of the state. Also of note is the lack of candidates that enable a district's ability to maintain basic staff to ensure a secure and viable infrastructure and the continuum of activities executed by districts each day from, cooking to cleaning to transportation to maintenance and so on.

At least for me, I cannot wait for two events to occur; December 1, when the Rockefeller Institute study will be released and early to mid-January when the Executive budget will be released. These two events are critical to our understanding of what the future holds for our districts.

Be well,
Rick

CENTRAL NEW YORK SCHOOL BOARDS
ASSOCIATION PRESENTS:

REFRESHER BOARD MEMBER EXPECTATIONS & RESPONSIBILITIES ROUNDTABLE EVENT

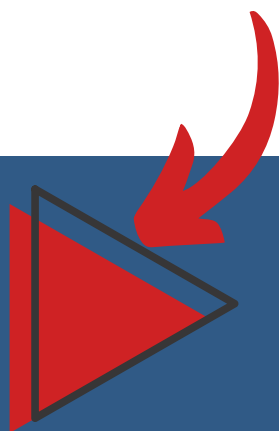
Join us on October 2nd at 6:30pm

Now

Available to

Watch on

our Website!!



Click the Play Button or the link below

MACNY presents

Future Women in STEM

MOST*



Explore careers in engineering, manufacturing, and science through hands-on activities with amazing local women in these industries!!



For: Girls in 6th–8th grades

When: Second Saturday of the month, 10–11am, October–May

Where: The MOST, 500 S. Franklin St, Syracuse (Armory Square)

FREE participation and museum admission for students and families



**OCT
12**

Feldmeier Equipment
How Stable is Your Table?

**FEB
8**

Perimetek Pest Management
What to Do About That Critter?!?
Using STEM in Pest Management

**NOV
9**

TTM Technologies & Micron Technology
Design & Build:
The Manufacturing Experience

**MAR
8**

**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Madison County & NewsChannel 9**
From Raindrops to Roots: the
Science of Weather and Farming

**DEC
14**

Tessy
Mix & Mold: Making
Everyday Plastic Products

**APR
12**

**Crouse &
Lab Alliance of Central New York**
A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Lab
and Critical Care Nursing

**JAN
11**

King + King Architects
Fun-Sized Floorplans

**MAY
10**

Byrne
Using Food Science to
Make Dairy Products



Learn more and register online at most.org/future-women-in-stem



A.I., Robotics Kick Off NYS School Boards Association's Annual Convention in New York City

School board members and school district administrators throughout New York State will get a glimpse into how artificial intelligence (A.I.) may be integrated into education in the future during the New York State School Boards Association's (NYSSBA) Annual Convention and Education Expo, held in New York City from October 20 to 22 at the New York Hilton Midtown.

More specifically, NYSSBA Executive Director Robert S. Schneider will sit down with the world famous Sophia – a robot that combines A.I. and robotics – for a wide ranging discussion about the future impact of A.I. on K-12 education and the workforce.

"Our Convention is the state's premier education and training event, so to headline it



with an interview with Sophia places A.I. and robotics at the forefront of what school board members and superintendents will be grappling with on a daily basis," said Schneider.

In addition, school board members and school administrators will discuss other pressing topics such as the use of cell phones in schools, the transition to zero-emission school buses, school safety, and cyber security. A complete listing of sessions is available [here](#).

THERE'S MUCH TO DO AT THE CONVENTION

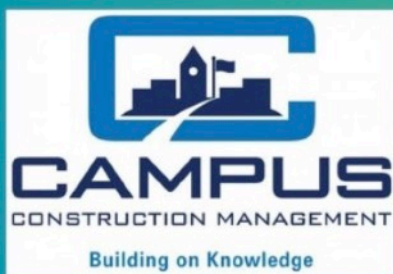
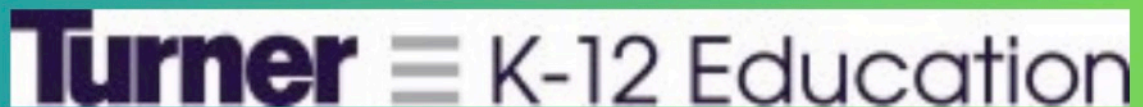
The multi-day conference includes additional keynotes from educational strategist Dan Fitzpatrick on the influence of A.I. on education and school policies, and musician and motivational speaker, Steven Sharp Nelson, on the power of resilience and creativity to recognize the call to board service.





CENTRAL NEW YORK SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Appreciates the Support of Our Business Sponsors:





WE WANT TO FEATURE YOU!

IN OUR NEWSLETTER!

We are looking for our members to submit a student, staff, or company highlight for our newsletter.

Did a student(s) in your district do something amazing?

Did a staff member go above and beyond?

Did or is your company doing something great in our community?

We want to showcase all the great things that our members are doing to make an impact!

**WANT MORE INFORMATION? INTERESTED IN SUBMITTING AN ARTICLE?
EMAIL US AT ASHLEY@CNYSBA.ORG**

UPCOMING CNYSBA EVENTS

October 26th, 2024 (9a-3p) – NYS Mandated Finance Training for New Board Members – CNYSBA Offices / In-Person - [Click Here to Register](#)

November 2024

November 14th, 2024 – Round-Table Event – Mental Health Awareness - *Time TBD – Date Subject to Change* – (Virtual)

January 2025

January 13th, 2025 – Round-Table Event – Refresher The Budget Process for Board Members - *Time TBD – Date Subject to Change* – (Virtual)

February 2025

February 6th, 2025 – TST BOCES Legislative Forum - *Time TBD – Date Subject to Change* – (In-Person)

February 8th, 2025 – OCM BOCES Legislative Forum - *Time TBD – Date Subject to Change* – (In-Person)

February 13th, 2025 – CiTi BOCES Legislative Forum - *Time TBD – Date Subject to Change* – (Virtual)

February 15th, 2025 – Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES Legislative Forum - *Time TBD – Date Subject to Change* – (Virtual)

March 2025

March 26th, 2025 – Round-Table Event – Tax Cap / Tax Levy Informational Session - *Time TBD – Date Subject to Change* – (Virtual)

April 2025

April 2nd, 2025 – Round-Table Event – Recruiting/Retention/Staffing Difficulties - *Time TBD – Date Subject to Change* – (Virtual)

May 2025

May 21st, 2025 – CNYSBA 42nd Annual Dinner – *Time TBD* – The Lodge in Skaneateles – In-Person.

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.



**CENTRAL NEW YORK
SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION**

**WE WANT
YOUR
FEEDBACK**



**LET US KNOW WHAT ROUNDTABLE
EVENTS YOU WANT CNYSBA TO
OFFER IN THE 24-25 SCHOOL YEAR!**

Take the short survey here:

<https://form.jotform.com/233545432603148>