

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
January 18, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Minutes No. 24

January 18, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Present: President Tobin, Vice President Linderman, Secretary Ferraro, and Board Members Caruso, Cheatham, Hare, Kershaw, Pierce, and Schutt – 9

Board President Tobin called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

No. 623 On motion by Board Member Linderman, seconded by Board Member Pierce, the Board moved into executive session at 6:02 p.m., to:

- discuss one student issue protected under FERPA, and to
- discuss four individual current employees and their employment history with the district – Ayes 9.

No. 624 On motion by Board Member Ferraro, seconded by Board Member Caruso, the Board moved out of executive session at 7:05 p.m. – Ayes 9.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Tobin.

MISSION STATEMENT

For the 2022-2023 school year, the focus will be on recognizing students and staff members using “Letters to an Inspirational Lion”. January’s focus is on the following students/staff at Anna Merritt Elementary School:

PUBLIC FORUM - Agenda Items and General Interest Items

There was one speaker:

1. Michael D’Addeo – 649 E. High Street – as always, thank you for letting me speak last month – likes to see everyone; was watching other board meetings on TV and saw “fighting”. Commends everyone for being so nice and setting an example. Asked for 1 ½ minutes and held up a sign saying, “Give me what I want and I’ll go away” – ended early (36 seconds) telling the board “you don’t deserve this”.

No. 625 On motion by Board Member Pierce, seconded by Board Member Ferraro, the proposed agenda was approved – Ayes 9.

No. 626 On motion by Board Member Linderman, seconded by Board Member Hare, the minutes for the Work Session Meeting of December 7, 2022 were approved – Ayes-8 Nays-0 Abstain-1 (Kershaw).

No. 627 On motion by Board Member Hare, seconded by Board Member Kershaw, the minutes for the Special Meetings of December 10, 12, 13, 15, 16; and the Regular Meeting of December 14, 2022 were approved – Ayes 9.

PRESENTATION

Transportation Advisory Committee Report – Deborah Coder, assistant superintendent for finance and management services

BUSINESS MATTERS

No. 628 On Motion by Board Member Kershaw

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education receive and file the treasurers’ reports for Lockport City School District for November 2022 and November 2022 for Lockport Public Library as attached.

Seconded by Board Member Schutt – Ayes 9.

No. 629 On Motion by Board Member Kershaw

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education receive the Certification of Warrant Reports from the Claims Auditor for the periods ending December 31, 2022 as listed below:

	<u>Accounts Payable Cash Disbursements</u>	<u>General Ledger</u>	<u>Cash Disbursements</u>
	<u>12/1/2022-12/31/2022</u>		<u>12/1/2022-12/31/2022</u>
General Fund	\$3,859,358.04		\$5,108,346.79
School Lunch Fund	\$ 217,381.78		
Federal Fund	\$ 149,309.23		
Capital Fund	<u>\$ 58,039.89</u>		
Total	\$4,284,088.94		\$5,108,346.79

Seconded by Board Member Schutt – Ayes 9.

No. 630 On Motion by Board Member Kershaw

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be and she hereby is authorized and directed to prepare specifications and advertise for bids for supplies and equipment for the 2023-2024 school year.

Seconded by Board Member Schutt – Ayes 9.

No. 631 On Motion by Board Member Kershaw

RESOLVED: That Laurie Banko and Karen Schleicher be appointed Co-Deputy Clerks to facilitate all aspects of the 2023 Annual School Board Election and Budget Vote of the Lockport City School District at a rate of \$900 each.

Seconded by Board Member Schutt – Ayes 9.

No. 632 On Motion by Board Member Kershaw

WHEREAS, Lockport City Fire Fighters wishes to donate 192 winter coats and 96 pairs of sneakers, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the recommendation to accept this donation is hereby approved, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board of Education accept this donation with thanks and appreciation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Clerk be and she hereby is authorized and directed to convey the Board of Education’s gratitude to Lockport City Fire Fighters for this donation.

Seconded by Board Member Schutt – Ayes 9.

No. 633 On Motion by Board Member Kershaw

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education does hereby accept and approve the Payment In Lieu of Tax Agreement between Niagara County, the City of Lockport, OAHS Urban Park Housing Development Fund Corporation, OAHS Urban Park TC LLC and Lockport City School District, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the first year of this agreement shall relate to the 2023-2024 School Tax and the 2024 City and County tax years,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the President of the Board of Education be and she hereby is authorized to sign the agreement.

Seconded by Board Member Schutt – Ayes 9.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

No. 634 On Motion by Board Member Hare

RESOLVED: That the resignation of Kimberly Pellegrino as substitute teacher aide be accepted, effective January 5, 2023.

Seconded by Board Member Caruso – Ayes 9.

No. 635 On Motion by Board Member Hare

RESOLVED: That the resignation of Emily Taylor as substitute teacher, substitute teaching assistant, and substitute teacher aide be accepted, effective January 19, 2023.

Seconded by Board Member Caruso – Ayes 9.

No. 636 On Motion by Board Member Hare

RESOLVED: That the resignation of Michael Stack as substitute teacher be accepted, effective January 19, 2023.

Seconded by Board Member Caruso – Ayes 9.

No. 637 On Motion by Board Member Hare

RESOLVED: That the appointment of the following student observers be approved for the 2022/2023 school year. There shall be no compensation for these appointments.

a.	Madison Kuebler	CU(J D'Agostino)	ON BOCES
b.	Payton Carroll	CU(R Carlin)	ON BOCES
c.	Zara Boyer	CU(R Carlin)	ON BOCES

Seconded by Board Member Caruso – Ayes 9.

No. 638 On Motion by Board Member Hare

RESOLVED: That the recommendation for tenure for Tiffany Ellis, special education teacher be approved, effective March 1, 2023 following the successful completion of her probationary period.

Seconded by Board Member Caruso – Ayes 9.

No. 639 On Motion by Board Member Linderman

RESOLVED: That the resignation for purposes of retirement be accepted for the following professional staff members, effective July 1, 2023, unless otherwise indicated:

a.	Kim Kremer	special education teacher	
b.	Megan Cain	elementary education teacher	
c.	Thomas Dockery	social studies teacher	
d.	Lynn Dockery	elementary education teacher	
e.	Susan Manhardt	elementary education teacher	
f.	Cosetta Groff	teaching assistant	
g.	Terry Garlock	teaching assistant	
h.	Dawn Hammond	teaching assistant	
i.	Patricia Honan	LOTE teacher	
j.	Miriam Carey	school psychologist	effective 10/7/23
k.	Marianne Currie Hall	executive director	effective end of day 4/7/23

Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 640 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
RESOLVED: That the contract of employment between the Lockport City School District and Marianne Currie Hall be approved, effective April 11, 2023.
Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 641 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
RESOLVED: That the resignation of Deborah Cottrell as substitute teacher be accepted, effective January 19, 2023.
Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 642 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
RESOLVED: That the resignation of Ryan Hayter as substitute teacher be accepted, effective January 19, 2023.
Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 643 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
RESOLVED: That the appointment of Paula Missana, substitute administrator at the rate of \$400 per day be approved, effective January 23, 2023.
Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 644 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
RESOLVED: That the appointment of the following staff members as home teachers at the rate of \$32.51 per hour (unless otherwise indicated) be approved, effective January 9, 2023.
a. Candace LaRue
b. Nicole Austin
c. Shelby Pasquale
d. Ellie Todd
e. Claudia Robinson \$17.71 per hour
Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 645 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
RESOLVED: That the resignation of Sandra Emser as substitute teacher, substitute teaching assistant, and substitute teacher aide be accepted, effective January 19, 2023.
Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 646 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
RESOLVED: That the appointment of the following staff members as Computer Science Advisors at the rate of \$32.51 per hour be approved, effective January 19, 2023
a. R. Marshall Hall
b. Heather Bitka
Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 647 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
RESOLVED: That the resignation of Alyssa Wagner as substitute teacher, substitute teaching assistant, substitute teacher aide, and substitute clerical be rescinded, effective December 8, 2022.
Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 648 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
RESOLVED: That the unpaid child rearing leave of absence for Kaylee Goodier be approved, effective on/about September 1, 2023 through on/about December 3, 2023.
Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 649 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
 RESOLVED: That the resignation of Kathy Cutter as noon hour monitor be accepted, effective January 3, 2023.
 Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 650 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
 RESOLVED: That the appointment of Lequan Andrew, temporary assistant custodian at the rate of \$16.30 per hour be approved, pending fingerprint clearance and physical, effective on/about January 23, 2023 through on/about April 14, 2023.
 Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 651 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
 RESOLVED: That the appointment of the following student observer be approved for the 2022/2023 school year. There shall be no compensation for this appointment.
 Leanna LeFerve CU
 Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 652 On Motion by Board Member Linderman
 RESOLVED: That the appointment of Kimberly Pellegrino, teacher aide at a salary of \$22,782 (prorated) be approved, pending fingerprint clearance, effective on January 23, 2023. This is a twenty-six week probationary appointment with an approximate permanent appointment date of October 10, 2023.
 Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

No. 653 On Motion by Board Member Hare
 RESOLVED: That the resignation of Shelby Moreland as noon hour monitor and breakfast monitor be accepted, effective January 19, 2023.
 Seconded by Board Member Linderman – Ayes 9.

No. 654 On Motion by Board Member Hare
 RESOLVED: That the appointment of the following student observer be approved for the 2022/2023 school year. There shall be no compensation for this appointment.
 a. Jazmyn Shaw CU(K Pratt) Orleans Niagara BOCES
 b. Jathan Chandler EB(J Jablonski) Orleans Niagara BOCES
 Seconded by Board Member Linderman – Ayes 9.

No. 655 On Motion by Board Member Hare
 RESOLVED: That the contract of employment between the Lockport City School District and Brian Schnell be approved, effective January 20, 2023.
 Seconded by Board Member Linderman – Ayes 9.

No. 656 On Motion by Board Member Hare
 RESOLVED: That the resignation of Jessica Wheaton as noon hour and breakfast monitor be accepted, effective January 18, 2023.
 Seconded by Board Member Linderman – Ayes 9.

No. 657 On Motion by Board Member Hare
 RESOLVED: That the resignation of Barry Webber as teacher aide be accepted, effective at the end of the day on January 23, 2023.
 Seconded by Board Member Linderman – Ayes 9.

No. 658 On Motion by Board Member Hare

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Courtney Smith, speech pathologist at a salary of \$45,678 (prorated), step 1 column C+M of the teacher salary schedule be approved, effective February 6, 2023. This is a four-year probationary appointment with an approximate tenure date of February 7, 2027.

Seconded by Board Member Linderman – Ayes 9.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES MATTERS

No. 659 On Motion by Board Member Kershaw

RESOLVED: That the following digital textbooks be approved:

- a) HealthSmart High School complete Set Third Edition – Digital - ©2021 – ISBN 978-1-56240-402-4
- b) HealthSmart Middle School Complete Set Third Edition – Digital - ©2021 – ISBN 978-1-56240-415-4

RESOLVED: That the following field trips be approved:

- a) Lockport High School – four students, members of the Wrestling team, to Syracuse, New York from Thursday, January 26 through Friday, January 27, 2023.
- b) Lockport High School – 25 students, members of DECA, to Rochester, New York from Wednesday, March 8 through Friday, March 10, 2023.
- c) Lockport High School – one student to perform with the All-Eastern Mixed Chorus Honors Ensemble, to Rochester, New York from Thursday, April 13 through Sunday, April 16, 2023.

Seconded by Board Member Ferraro – Ayes 9.

SPECIAL NEEDS MATTERS

No. 660 On Motion by Board Member Ferraro

RESOLVED: That the minutes from the Committee on Preschool Special Education meetings and the Committee on Special Education meetings of October 12, 27; November 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 17, 28, 29, 30; and December 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 2022 and January 3, 6, 9, 2023 be approved as attached.

Seconded by Board Member Linderman – Ayes 9.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – JANUARY 2023

Trustee Hare reported on several Legislative updates:

In the final weeks of the year, Governor Hochul signed three separate bills dealing with reforms to the current processes for payments-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOTS) and Industrial Development Agencies (IDAs). The three bills were priorities for NYSSBA to improve transparency, dialogue and disclosure, reflective of multiple position statements that have been adopted during past NYSSBA business meetings. Governmental Relations staff spent significant time in 2022 advocating for their passage.

Chapter 708 of the Laws of 2022: This law requires Industrial Development Agencies (IDAs) to provide school districts and others with formal notification of the termination or expiration of a payment-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) agreement. IDAs are required to provide notification within two years of a PILOT agreements' expiration or immediately upon its early termination.

Chapter 766 of the Laws of 2022: This law requires IDAs to notify school districts and other taxing jurisdictions upon acceptance of a PILOT application. This change will allow school districts more time to plan their finances, as well as require IDAs to directly communicate with school districts. The legislature and Governor agreed to adjustments to the bill to allow for notice to be provided by email to the district clerk and the local chief executive officer.

Chapter 799 of the Laws of 2022: This law requires businesses that have PILOT agreements to notify local governments, including school districts, with notice of intention to file for a change in their assessment. Under the law, that notification must occur no earlier than 45 days before they file for the change.

Updated End of Legislative Session Summary

The end of the calendar year saw the Governor act on a number of additional bills that NYSSBA either supported or opposed during the 2022 legislative session. NYSSBA's updated End of Session summary can be viewed below.

The following is a summary of notable legislation supported or opposed by NYSSBA that was acted upon by the legislature and either signed into law or vetoed by the Governor this year.

*An asterisk denotes that the bill is consistent with a NYSSBA position statement.

NYSSBA supported bills that have been signed into law:

***Chapter 1 of the Laws of 2022** – S.7623-A (Gaughran)/A.8591 (Thiele): This law extended the ability of political subdivisions, including school districts, to hold meetings remotely for the duration of the COVID-19 state disaster emergency.

Chapter 172 of the Laws of 2022 – S.7619 (Mayer)/A.9025 (Bronson): This law allowed voters in 2022 to vote in school votes and elections via absentee ballot, if voting in person would present a risk of contracting or spreading an illness (i.e., COVID-19).

Chapter 201 of the Laws of 2022 – S.8276-A (Mayer)/A.9600 (Benedetto): This law, similar to legislation in 2020 and 2021, eliminated the requirement that school districts conduct annual professional performance reviews (APPR) for the current year (2021-22), and updates tenure statute to comply with such elimination.

Chapter 206 of the Laws of 2022 – S.89-B (Kaminsky)/A.6716-A (Wallace): This law establishes the crimes of "making a threat of mass harm," and "aggravated threat of mass harm." A person would be guilty of these crimes when intentionally intimidating others by threatening to inflict harm, or by creating public alarm which causes the evacuation or lockdown of a school or other public place.

Chapter 309 of the Laws of 2022 – S.8979-A (Kennedy)/A.10219 (Conrad): This law ties the duration of commercial learner's permits to the duration of validity in federal law for commercial learner's permits. Currently, New York commercial learner's permits are only valid for 180 days. This law raises that to match the federal duration of one year. This change will potentially increase the pool of school bus drivers.

***Chapter 455 of the Laws of 2022** – S.8717 (Gaughran)/A.9880 (Thiele): This law extends the ability of school districts to engage in cooperative purchasing (also referred to as "piggy-backing"), so long as the original contract was bid on and let in accordance with New York State statute. The law extends the current sunset, which is July 31, 2023 to June 30, 2026.

***Chapter 626 of the Laws of 2022** – S.123-A (Kaplan)/A.5913-A (Lavine): This law establishes a statewide campaign for the acceptance, inclusion, tolerance, and understanding of diversity. The law directs the state's Division of Human Rights to develop materials in consultation with stakeholders, including school districts.

***Chapter 708 of the Laws of 2022** – S.4471-A (Mannion)/A.7295-A (Thiele): This law requires Industrial Development Agencies (IDAs) to provide school districts and others with formal notification of the termination or expiration of a payment-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) agreement. IDAs are required to provide notification within two years of a PILOT agreements' expiration or immediately upon its early termination.

***Chapter 766 of the Laws of 2022** – S.3256 (Comrie)/A.10056 (Solages): This law requires IDAs to notify school districts and other taxing jurisdictions upon acceptance of a PILOT application. This change will allow school districts more time to plan their finances, as well as require IDAs to directly communicate with school districts. The legislature and governor agreed to adjustments to the bill to allow for notice to be provided by email to the district clerk and the local chief executive officer.

Chapter 796 of the Laws of 2022 – S.9701 (Ryan)/A.9878 (Conrad): This law provides that, for districts in which a resident has won the lottery, another of their winnings in excess of 25% of a district's adjusted gross income is excluded from the district's yearly adjusted gross income.

Chapter 799 of the Laws of 2022 – S.953-A (Gaughran)/A.944-A (Magnarelli): This law requires businesses that have PILOT agreements to notify local governments, including school districts, with notice of intention to file for a change in their assessment. Under the law, that notification must occur no earlier than 45 days before they file for the change.

Chapter 810 of the Laws of 2022 – S.4104-A (Breslin)/A.7006-B (Fahy): This law requires the manufacturers of digital equipment to provide purchasers and independent, repairers' access to documents, parts, and tools on how to repair their equipment. With greater and market-based access to repair services, school districts across the state could reduce costs, receive prompter service, and get a longer useful life from equipment that they purchase. The legislature and Governor agreed to adjustments to the bill to clarify, among other changes, that the law will apply to equipment that is newly manufactured and sold on and after July 1, 2023.

NYSSBA supported local bills that have been signed into law:

Chapter 229 of the Laws of 2022 – S.5602-B (Gounardes)/A.10438 (Glick): This law extends the authority of New York City's speed zone school camera system for an additional three years, until 2025, with minor adjustments to expand the system's hours of operation.

Chapter 251 of the Laws of 2022 – S.7531 (May)/A.8295 (Salka): This law permits the Canastota Central School District to establish an insurance reserve fund.

Chapter 338 of the Laws of 2022 – A.8706 (Akshare)/A.9795 (Friend): This law permits the Candor Central School District to establish an insurance reserve fund.

Chapter 635 of the Laws of 2022 – S.8757 (Helming)/A.10106 (Lunsford): This law authorizes the town of Webster to dedicate certain land for use by the Webster Central School District.

Chapter 692 of the Laws of 2022 – S.4025 (Palumbo)/A.4217 (Thiele): This law provides that state lands in the Eastport-South Manor Central School District are taxable for school purposes.

NYSSBA supported Bills that were vetoed:

Veto Memo 41 of 2022 – S.9132 (Mannion)/A.10191 (Benedetto): This bill would have clarified that the tuition methodology for 853 schools, special act public school districts, and 4410 programs would authorize them to retain funds allocated to them in the 2022-23 state budget prior to the implementation of the reconciliation process of the methodology, including cost screens.

Veto Memo 42 of 2022 – S.9134 (Mannion)/A.10192 (Benedetto): This bill would have allowed for the application of a growth factor in the interim tuition and/or fee-for-service reimbursement rates approved during the 2022-23 school year and annually thereafter for 853 schools, special act public school districts, July and August programs, and 4410 programs and services. This would have allowed these schools and districts to realize the full 11% growth factor committed to by the State.

Veto Memo 142 of 2022 – S.5946-B (Reichlin-Melnick)/A.3491-B (Galef): This bill would have provided for more accurate assessments of condos for property taxation purposes, by allowing the sum of the valuation of individual condos to surpass the assessment of the building in which they are located in.

Veto Memo 154 of 2022 - *S.8447 (Rivera)/A.9288 (Gottfried): This bill would have allowed the sponsor of a School-Based Health Center (SBHC) the option to remain carved-out of the Medicaid Managed Care Program. This would have given school districts the flexibility to decide whether to remain under their current arrangements with local partners to facilitate their SBHCs, or instead choose to bill claims through the Managed Care Program.

Veto Memo 184 of 2022 - *S.7453-A (Krueger)/A.8327-A (Englebright): This bill would have established the Electric Landscaping Equipment Rebate Program, which would have made school districts and others eligible for up to \$15,000a year to incentivize using electric lawn care equipment.

NYSSBA opposed bills that have been signed into law:

Chapter 226 of the Laws of 2022 – S.1046-E (Myrie)/A.6678-E (Walker): This law establishes rights of action for denying or abridging of the right of any member of a protected class to vote, provide assistance to language-minority groups, require certain political subdivisions to receive preclearance for potential violations, and create civil liability for voter intimidation. While NYSSBA did not object to the intent of the bill, we highlighted numerous questions,

ambiguities, and potential conflicts that the application of the bill creates for school districts with regard to the relationship between state education law (which governs school elections/votes) and state election law (which governs most other elections/votes in the state).

NYSSBA opposed bills that were vetoed:

Veto memo 143 of 2022 – S.922-C (May)/A.5735-C (Joyner): This bill would have, with limited exceptions, prohibited the construction of school buildings located within 500 feet of certain designated major and secondary roadways. While NYSSBA recognized the concern with noise and air pollution, we noted that such conditions were not the only risks that the location of a school building could pose for students and staff. We stressed that school leaders need broad authority in determining where the most appropriate location for a school building in a district could be.

NYSSBA supported bills that have passed both houses for constitutional amendment:

***S.8803** (Mayer/A.9988 (McDonald)): This bill would amend the state constitution to allow for capital project financing equity for small city school districts. Currently, these districts are constitutionally limited to a 5% debt limit for such projects, while other fiscally independent school districts are subject to a 10% statutory limit. As a constitutional amendment, the legislature would have to pass this bill again in either 2023 or 2024, and then approved by voters in a general election.

Other notable legislation that has been signed into law:

Chapter 203 of the Laws of 2022 – S.66-A (Hoylman/A.648-A (L. Rosenthal)): This law creates a one-year window for the revival of otherwise time-barred civil claims arising out of sexual offenses committed against people who were 18 or older at the time of the conduct.

Chapter 223 of the Laws of 2022 – S.7866-A (Harckham)/A.8610-A (Abinanti): This law permits school districts to provide educational services in the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years to students who turned 21 years of age in the 2021-22 school year and were enrolled in the district and receiving special education services pursuant to an IEP. Such student(s) could, at district discretion, continue to receive services until the student completes the services detailed in the IEP or until the student turns 23, whichever is sooner.

Chapter 227 of the Laws of 2022 – S.7132-B (Reichlin-Melnick)/A.10018 (Zebrowski): This law requires district-wide school safety teams to consider the installation of a “panic alarm system” as part of the review of district-wide school safety plans.

Chapter 234 of the Laws of 2022 – S.8529 (Gounardes)/A.9513 (Fall): This law extends, for an additional year, through the end of 2023, the allowance for public employees of four hours of time off to receive a COVID-19 vaccination. The law allows for four hours per injection, unless a collective bargaining agreement allows for more time.

Chapter 490 of the Laws of 2022 – S.121-B (Kaplan)/A.472-C (Rozić): This law requires the Commissioner of Education to conduct a survey and submit a report to the governor and legislature on school district compliance with the requirement to provide an instruction on the Holocaust.

Chapter 516 of the Laws of 2022 – S.7548-A (Harckham)/A.8540-A (Burdick): This law requires school districts to develop a procedure to provide same-day notification to parents or guardians of students with disabilities who have a physical or mechanical restraint applied, or who are placed in a time-out room.

Chapter 533 of the Laws of 2022 – S.6289-C (Gaughran)/A.1874-C (Jean-Pierre): This law requires food service companies to disclose ingredient lists and nutritional information for meals provided to districts. School districts will be required to publish such information on their websites.

Federal Budget Approved

At the tail end of 2022, Congress passed an omnibus bill appropriating funding for fiscal year 2023. Notably for public education, the bill included:

- \$18.4 billion for Title I-A grants to school districts, an increase of \$850 million
- \$14.2 billion in IDEA Part B grants to school districts, an increase of \$850 million
- \$1.4 billion for Student Support and Academic Enrichment State Grants, an increase of \$100 million
- \$890 million for English Language Acquisition, an increase of \$59 million

Governor Hochul Delivers 2023 State of the State Address

On January 10, Governor Hochul delivered her annual State of the State address, outlining her priorities and goals for 2023. While the speech itself was light on education references, the accompanying 2023 State of the State briefing book included a number of relevant proposals. Those include:

- A commitment to the \$2.7 billion necessary to fund the third and final year of the Foundation Aid phase-in plan
- \$125 million in new funding to continue investment in universal pre-kindergarten
- \$1 billion in statewide mental health investments, including support of school-based programs
- \$20 million for new early college high school and P-TECH programs

Additional proposals include civil service reforms to improve staff recruitment, the creation of a new statewide cybersecurity team, a reform to the property tax cap to count properties under PILOT agreements, a ban of flavored tobacco to combat child tobacco use, and investments and flexibilities to improve the high school-to-college-to-workforce pipeline, among others. We expect many of these proposals to be included in the executive budget proposal, which is due to be released by February 1st. NYSSBA will be able to offer formal reactions to these initiatives if and when they are formally proposed.

School Meals Lobby Day

On January 9, lawmakers gathered with education, anti-hunger and health advocates calling on the state to fund breakfast and lunch for all students to eliminate childhood hunger in schools. NYSSBA is one of over 250 organizations that has signed on to support the Healthy School Meals for All NY Kids campaign. During the lobby day, school board members from around the state gathered in Albany to seek relief for students and their families by advocating for the critical program. Some board members even brought students from their districts. One of those students was a featured speaker during the well-attended press conference in the NYS Capitol. Overall, the group was received with enthusiasm and positivity. In addition to the press conference that attracted about a dozen state lawmakers, the Coalition secured nearly 45 meetings with representatives and staff. Thank you to all who participated!

BOARD PRESIDENT COMMENTS

President Tobin commented on the following topics: February 15th is Legislative Lobby Day – received an invite from the ECASB to go and lobby; NYSPTA also having a lobby day; let Bonnie know if you would like to attend the Legislative Breakfast; there has been a lot going on in the last few weeks between concerts and sports.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Board members discussed/commented on the following topics: thank you to students and staff for the mission statement readers; hope everyone had a nice vacation; thank you to LFD for the coats, hats, and gloves; worked with staff on the HS musical and it feels like things are getting back to normal; feels like the changes coming are for the good; hope everyone has a good and prosperous new year; looking forward to attending basketball games and the support from family and friends; thank you to the Transportation Committee for all their hard work; the HS Guidance Dept. has a lot of scholarships—please take the time to look them over; thank you to Tim Parker and crew for getting things cleaned out from the storm; there is a bottle drive and meat raffle to benefit the robotics team; thank you to Eric Bootes for his help at AMES—it's good seeing people help each other. Vice President Linderman acknowledged Mr. D'Addeo's #12 Buffalo Bills jersey; Go Bills!

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Interim Superintendent Bonnewell commented on the following topics: we are deep into the budget process—thank you to the Business Office and Personnel Office for their hard work; Roy B. Kelley concert is Thursday, January 19th and the Emmet Belknap musical is coming up.

No. 661 On motion by Board Member Hare, seconded by Board Member Cheatham, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m. – Ayes 9.

Deborah A. Coder
Clerk of the Board