



SCHOOL CHIEF'S

N E W S & N O T E S

April 2003

MEET THIS YEAR'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CLUSTER LEADERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Dr. William R. Bolton, Copiague
(631) 842-4015, Ext. 501

President-Elect:

Dr. James H. Hunderfund, Commack
(631) 912-2010

Vice President:

Gary Bixhorn,
Eastern Suffolk BOCES
(631) 687-3001

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Dr. Christopher Gallagher, Southold
(631) 765-5400

Secretary:

George L. Duffy III, Riverhead
(631) 369-6717

Past President:

Dr. Richard J. Hawkins, William Floyd
(631) 874-1201

CLUSTER LEADERS

Dr. William Bernhard, Babylon
(631) 893-7925

Dr. Sheldon Karnilow,
Half Hollow Hills
(631) 592-3008

Dr. Jerry L. Jackson, Central Islip
(631) 348-5001

Barbara H. Krakehl, Oysterponds
(631) 323-2410

Lynn Schwartz, Westhampton Beach
(631) 288-3800

Dr. Candee A. Swenson, Longwood
(631) 345-2172

Executive Secretary:

Joseph F. Donovan
(631) 331-3112

THE SCSSA WEB SITE IS LIVE!

The SCSSA web site is up and running. The web address is: www.suffolksuperintendents.org.

One of the features of the new web site is the Super's Corner. This message board will allow you to express opinions about the topics listed and review opinions provided by other superintendents. If you wish to include additional topics you may do so.

This is a secured area. To access this

link it will be necessary to have a Login and Password. Logins and Passwords have been provided to all regular members. After your initial entry, you may change your password.



Online help for all major features is also available. If you have a question about a feature, look for the help button on the menu bar or post a message asking for help (Click "Post" on the menu bar.)

MINUTES & HIGHLIGHTS of the March 2003 Meeting PROPOSED STATE BUDGET NUMBER ONE PRIORITY

The combination of good food, the chance to connect with friends and colleagues, and interesting guest speakers is keeping attendance at our regular meetings at an all-time high. Or maybe it's the challenge of being the cluster group with the highest attendance earning the free lunch. Whatever the motivation, more than 100 superintendents and invited administrators attended the last general meeting and special program "Albany Disaster," presented by Tom Rogers, NYSCOSS Executive Director.

Tom outlined the new initiatives for the

association involving reorganizing the council to include a "Superintendent in Residence," a position Tom Rogers believes will help superintendents across New York State and add a dimension of service that is lacking at this time. Regarding the budget, Tom stated that the state is about \$11 million dollars short and hasn't agreed on how to fill the gaps. He believes there were good signs that the budget may well be settled sometime in May, but then many predictions have been made before. Tom hopes to join us at the Gurney's Inn Retreat in May.

ATTENDANCE BY CLUSTER

Babylon	67%
Brookhaven	59%
Huntington-Smithtown	40%
Islip	92%*
North Fork	50%
South Fork	33%

**Congratulations to the Islip Cluster for having the highest average attendance at our general meetings to date (88%) and for having more lunches on the SCSSA than any other Cluster.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING MAY 30 - JUNE 1?

- A. Cleaning out your garage.
- B. Mowing your lawn.
- C. Organizing your Memorial Day photo album.
- D. Explaining to your spouse why everyone else is away and you are not.
- E. **JOINING YOUR COLLEAGUES FOR A FUN FILLED INFORMATIVE WEEKEND AT GURNEY'S INN!**

It's still not too late to register for the best and most fun-filled three-day conference you will ever attend! Don't sit home wondering what everyone else is doing. If you haven't already done so (and we know who you are) be sure to send in your registration form.



CAUGHT ON CAMERA
AT THE
MARCH 19TH MEETING



KUDOS & CONGRATULATIONS

- Tom Shea has been appointed South Huntington Superintendent
- Tom Quinn has been appointed Springs Superintendent
- Jeanne Schultz has been appointed Fishers Island Superintendent



Best Wishes to the following retirees:

- Dwayne Adsitt, Mattituck-Cutchoque School District
- Don Bright, Deer Park School District
- Barbara Krakehl, Oyster Ponds School District
- Connie Lorthridge, Middle Country School District
- John Murphy, Sayville School District
- Irene Norwell, Remsenburg-Speonk School District

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Traditionally, the committee has always focused its energy on state issues. This year, for the first time, the Association has prepared a Federal Legislative Program. We believe the federal government must provide more support to local schools and propose the following:



- IDEA must immediately be *fully* funded and funding must reach local levels.
- NCLB must immediately be *fully* funded and funding must reach local levels.
- Budget proposals to eliminate Perkins funding must be opposed in order to preserve important educational opportunities for students.

The committee is organizing a trip to Washington May 7th and May 8th to express the Association's views and to oppose the proposed cuts in state aid to Suffolk County schools. Special thanks to Gary Bixhorn and the committee for their outstanding work this year.

ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE AT GURNEY'S INN

Bridging the Digital Divide: Leadership



The keynote speaker at the Annual Spring Conference will be Michael Furdyk, 20-year-old Co-founder and Director of Technology, TakingITGlobal.org. As one of Teen People's 20 Teens That Will Change the World, Michael has turned his interest in computers into a series of successful online companies, co-founding MyDesktop.com in 1997 and BuyBuddy.com in 1999. He has worked with many corporations including Xerox, CIBC, IBM, and most recently a 6-month consulting engagement with Microsoft. He has made numerous media appearances including Business Week, USA Today, Time Magazine, CNN, and MSNBC.

Another Successful Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent Convocation

Thanks to Jim Hunderfund, the 2nd Annual Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent Convocation was a big success. Sponsored by several vendors, the evening was both informal and informative. Addressing the topic of "Preparing for the Superintendency," Dr. Leonard Adler, Deputy Director of Management Services for SCOPE, offered some bits of wisdom relative to those considering seeking superintendent positions. His advice included:

- Do your homework. Get to know the district you are applying to.
- Experience and years in profession are sought after commodities.
- Before signing a contract be sure to contact SCSSA for guidance.
- Be sure to take time for yourself.
- Connect with other superintendents.
- Be careful what you wish for, you might get it.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- May 14 Board of Directors Meeting
9:00 a.m. at Eastern Suffolk BOCES
- May 30 – June 1 ... General Membership Retreat –
Gurney's Inn (Be there or be square!)
- June 5 Valedictorian Luncheon – Guest
Speaker: Senator Charles Schumer
- June 26 Annual Convocation

JUST IN CASE

If needed, the Association will honor a superintendent's request for support for legal expenses up to \$5,000. If support is needed, contact an officer or board member for more details.