



SUFFOLK COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 2007

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Executive Director:

Dr. Candee Swenson



A Message from *Neil Lederer, President*

As my term as Suffolk County School Superintendents Association President ends, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Board of Directors and membership for their support this year. The many challenges the role of president encounters were ones that we were able to overcome due to the collaborative interaction of experienced and dedicated educators.

I set out this year with the hope of impacting, in a positive way, the public's perception of the Superintendent as a dedicated, conscientious advocate for the students of Suffolk County. Through the efforts of many, our public relations firm Syntax Communication, and the Superintendents who serve Suffolk County school districts, I believe we have achieved that goal. We are now recognized as educational leaders of integrity, whose interests are the students and the community they represent.

Needless to say, much still needs to be done. NCLB reauthorization is right around the corner, on-going fiscal support from Albany for our districts is critical, and our learners' success on State mandated tests must continue to rise. In addition, we must never lose sight of the need to narrow the achievement gap between high needs/low wealth districts and those more affluent communities.

I am confident that under the very capable leadership of Dr. Rosemary Jones of Sayville, 2007-2008 will be a year of continued growth for our Association. But that will only come from the membership's continued support and participation in SCSSA events. Please make every effort to be involved, stay involved, and be part of the process that enables our students to be educated in the finest schools in our country.

I thank you for the opportunity you afforded me to serve and I thank you for the wonderful, enriching experiences I have had. Believe me I have gained much more from working with Suffolk School Superintendents, than I have given.



Worthy of Recognition...

The members of the Association wish to extend their appreciation to outgoing President, Neil Lederer. For the past year, he has led the Association in its efforts to heighten awareness regarding the numerous roles and responsibilities of the Superintendency. He has also been the driving force behind the Association's efforts to obtain additional State aid for Long Island School Districts.

With Deepest Sympathy...

The Association wishes to extend its deepest sympathies to the family of Michael A. Maina, former Superintendent of the Elwood Union Free School District, who passed away on August 2, 2007. His dedication and commitment to promoting quality educational opportunities for all children will serve as the cornerstone of his legacy.





RECOGNIZING

Celebrating Achievement

Long Island boasts many of the finest and most academically competitive school districts in the country. Achieving the status of Class of 2007 Valedictorian is a distinction worthy of recognition.

On Thursday, June 7, 2007, the Association hosted its Annual Suffolk County Valedictorians Luncheon in honor of this year's Valedictorians, their families, and school districts at the Hyatt Regency Wind Watch Hotel. On behalf of the Association, President Neil Lederer congratulated the county's best and brightest, while Keynote Speaker Mr. Ed Travanglianti, President of Commerce Bank Long Island and Chairman of the Board of Trustees Long Island University, offered words of advice and best wishes.



CORPORATE PARTNERS JOIN IN AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year the Association awards several scholarships. This year, as part of the Corporate Partner Program directed by Dr. Candee Swenson, the Association joined with its Corporate Partners to award nine scholarships. Congratulations to the following scholarship recipients:



- Triton Construction** - Stafani Russo, William Floyd high School
- ARS Financial Services Inc.** - Caitlin Burke, Center Moriches High School
- J.J. Stanis and Company, Inc.** - Jaclyn Goy, Mattituck Jr./Sr. High School
- The Thomas Group** - Amanda Marinace, Southold Jr./Sr. High School
- ECG Engineering, LLC.** - Jonathan Rebecca, West Babylon High School
- SYNTAX Communication** - Adele Costa, Elwood/John Glenn High School
- JUMA Technology** - Matiyahu Geller, Harborfields High School
- BBS Architecture and Engineering** - Alexandra Mallilo, Sayville High School
- ConnectEd** - Colleen Moore, Islip High School

EXCELLENCE



Acknowledging Leadership, Commitment, *and Vision*

Recognition of Retirees

The role of the School Superintendent requires vision, leadership, the character and integrity to lead by example, and an untiring commitment to serve others. During its end-of-year Convocation, the Association recognized the following Suffolk County School Superintendents for their many years of service to the students and communities in which they served. The Association extends its best wishes to the following retirees:



(from left to right) Neil Lederer, Dr. Brian M. De Sorbe, Dr. Judith A. Elias, Dr. Linda J. Bruno, Mr. B. Allen Mannella, Mr. Melvin S. Nobel, Dr. Rosemary Jones (Dr. Mary DeRose, not shown)

Dr. Brian M. De Sorbe, Amityville UFSD
Dr. Mary DeRose, Kings Park CSD
Ms. Judith A. Elias, Smithtown CSD

Dr. Linda J. Bruno, Southampton UFSD
Mr. B. Allen Mannella, Eastport/South Manor CSD
Mr. Melvin S. Noble, West Babylon UFSD

Service *Above* and *Beyond*

While many give generously of their time to further the goals of the Association, there are several former school district superintendents who have served above and beyond. At the end of the 2006-2007 school year, the Association recognized the following Past-Presidents of the Association with Honorary Life Membership:

Dr. Richard Brande

Dr. William Brosnan

Joseph F. Donovan

Dr. James Hunderfund



(from left to right) Neil Lederer, Dr. Richard Brande, Dr. Rosemary Jones



(from left to right) Neil Lederer, Dr. William Brosnan, Dr. Rosemary Jones



(from left to right) Neil Lederer, Dr. James Hunderfund, Dr. Rosemary Jones

A Look into the *Future*

During the 2006-2007 school year, the Association provided new superintendents with the opportunity to participate in a New Superintendents Orientation Program designed to serve as a source of information, and as an opportunity to dialogue with experienced superintendents and create a support network. The Association wishes to thank Mr. Alan VanCott and Mr. Gary Bixhorn, who both served as Chairpersons.



(from left to right) Mr. Gary Bixhorn, Ms. Patricia Sullivan-Kriss, Dr. Shelley Saffer, Ms. Judith A. Elias, Dr. Grace Brindley, Ms. Betsy Marino, Ms. Ellen Best-Laimit, Mr. Alan VanCott, Neil Lederer

CORPORATE PARTNERS SUPPORT SCSSA GOALS

At the start of the 2006-2007 school year, the Association launched its Corporate Partner Program, under the direction of Dr. Candee Swenson, to support the Association's programs, initiatives, and annual scholarship distribution. The Association wishes to thank the following corporate partners for their continued support:

GOLD LEVEL PARTNERS:

ARS Financial Services, Inc.
Jericho, New York

BBS Architects & Engineers
Patchogue, New York

ConnectEd
Sherman Oaks, California

ECG Engineering, LLC.
Smithtown, New York

J.J. Stanis and Company, Inc.
Jericho, New York

Juma Technology Corp.
Farmingdale, New York

SYNTAX Communication
West Sayville, New York

The Thomas Group
Farmingdale, New York

Triton Construction
Garden City, New York

SILVER LEVEL PARTNERS:

Lamb & Barnosky, LLP
Melville, New York

McGraw Hill Education
New York, New York

For more information on the Corporate Partner Program, please contact the Association's Executive Director Dr. Candee Swenson at (516) 524-0613.

Executive Director Appointed...

The Association has appointed Dr. Candee Swenson to the newly created position of Executive Director. The position of Executive Secretary, formerly held by Association Past-President Joseph F. Donovan has been eliminated and the responsibilities of that position have been included within the new Executive Director's scope of work. In addition to assuming her new role, Dr. Swenson will continue as coordinator of the Association's Corporate Partner Program. The Association wishes to extend its appreciation to Mr. Donovan for his many years of service to the SCSSA.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2 0 0 7 - 2 0 0 8 S C S S A C A L E N D A R		
Wednesday 8/15	Board of Directors, E.S. BOCES	1:00 p.m.
Thursday 8/30	Kick-Off Reception, Bellport Country Club	4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday 9/26	Board of Directors General Meeting at Dowling	10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday 10/17	Board of Directors, E.S. BOCES	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday 11/14	Board of Directors General Meeting at Suffolk Community College Ammerman Campus	10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday 12/12	Board of Directors, E.S. BOCES	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday 1/16	Aspiring Administrators at Dowling	12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday 1/30	Board of Directors General Meeting w/Nassau & Suffolk at Dowling	10:30 a.m. 12:00p.m.
Wednesday 3/5	Board of Directors Superintendents & Assistant Superintendents at Dowling	10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday 3/26	Board of Directors, E.S. BOCES	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday 4/16	Board of Directors General Meeting at Dowling	9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday 5/14	Board of Directors, E.S. BOCES	9:30 a.m.
Thursday 6/5	Valedictorian Luncheon, Hyatt	12:30 p.m.
TBD	Board of Directors Convocation, Villa Lombardi	