



SCHOOL CHIEF'S

N E W S & N O T E S

www.suffolksuperintendents.org

MEET THIS YEAR'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CLUSTER LEADERS

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(631) 331-3112

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

This has been one heck of a year for all of us but, somehow, working closely together we made it through.

Looking back, our association accomplished many positive things, including:

- ★ Awarding seven \$1,000 college scholarships to deserving high school graduates
- ★ The Annual Valedictorian reception and luncheon
- ★ Our midwinter Long Island summit, including all superintendents from Long Island at Dowling College
- ★ Professional Development meetings, seminars, and special events for superintendents, their assistants, and aspiring administrators.
- ★ Some tremendous committee work resulting in educational position papers, advisory information, and lobbying efforts to meet the challenges of CFE, unfunded mandates, and state assessments.
- ★ Improved website with addition of "Legal Briefs"
- ★ Recognition of meritorious service among our colleagues, including:
 - Dr. Bill Brosnan — Math A Committee Chairperson and President-Elect for NYSCOSS
 - Dr. David Gee — President-Elect for AASA
 - Dr. Candee Swenson — New York State Superintendent of the Year for 2004



I'd like to personally recognize and thank an exceptional board of directors and their secretaries who made this year both professionally stimulating and personally enjoyable. Thanks also to many of you who served on our committees this year, as well as everyone who came to our meetings and contributed to the cause. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your president this year.

Jim Hunderfund

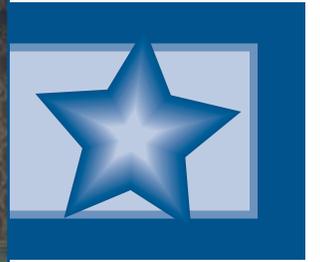
ASSOCIATION AWARDS

50TH ANNIVERSARY SCHOLARSHIPS

In celebration of the Suffolk County School Superintendents Association's 50th Anniversary, the Board of Directors established seven scholarships that were awarded to outstanding members of the Suffolk County Class of 2004 who are pursuing a career in education.

This year's scholarship recipients, selected from a highly competitive pool of outstanding applicants, are **Justine M. Herbold**, Deer Park; **Alicia Wunsch**, Commack; **Nicole Brooks Donolli**, Patchogue-Medford; **Alison Maddaleno**, Half Hollow Hills; **Danielle G. Egic**, Sagem; **Colleen Heaney**, Southold; and **Kimberly A. Sarris**, East Hampton.

The SCSSA extends its congratulations and best wishes to the scholarship winners, and to all the members of the Suffolk County Class of 2004.



HONORING SUFFOLK'S *Best and Brightest*

"Celebrating Excellence" was the theme of the annual Valedictorians Luncheon, sponsored by the Suffolk County School Superintendents Association. More than 50 valedictorians, accompanied by their parents, high school principal, and school district superintendent, were congratulated by SCSSA President Dr. James H. Hunderfund as being among the best and the brightest in Suffolk County.

The Key Note Address was delivered by New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, who shared several personal life experiences and encouraged the valedictorians "speak the truth, question the system, and hold onto what is good in your heart."

To commemorate the occasion, each valedictorian received a certificate of achievement. The Islip High School Show Choir "Swing" provided musical entertainment prior to the start of the program, under the direction of Phil Grusenmeyer.



Getting Into the Swing of Things

Members of the association, along with their colleagues from Nassau County, joined with members of SCOPE to test their golf skills for a good cause. During their annual golf outing at Rock Hill Golf and Country Club, everyone had an opportunity to enjoy a round of golf and professional camaraderie.

Funds raised during the annual event are used to offset the cost of the annual Valedictorian Luncheon.



END-OF-YEAR CONFERENCE

TIME FOR REFLECTION AND PLANNING

The association's annual end-of-year conference provided the perfect setting for those in attendance to participate in leadership seminars, professionally stimulating work sessions, and to become better acquainted with fellow colleagues.

"This conference is a great opportunity for all of us to share ideas and learn from one another," stated Association President Dr. James H. Hunderfund.

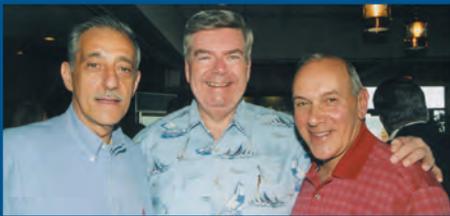
While the atmosphere was informal, seminars and

work sessions scheduled throughout the weekend focused on issues impacting education in Suffolk County and throughout New York State. Guest speakers provided insight and encouraged discussions among the superintendents by soliciting opinions and feedback during a question-and-answer session after each presentation.

The main goal of the conference was to continue to foster a sense of teamwork among the superintendents, who all share the common goal of improving education for all children in Suffolk County.



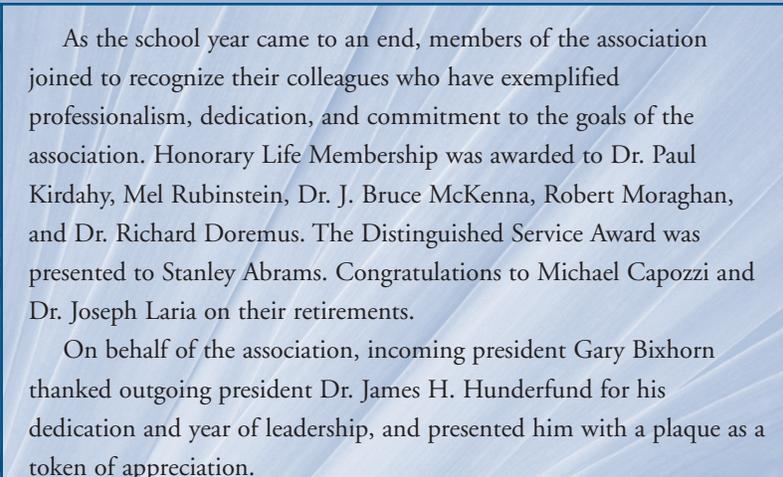
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RECOGNIZING SERVICE AND DEDICATION

As the school year came to an end, members of the association joined to recognize their colleagues who have exemplified professionalism, dedication, and commitment to the goals of the association. Honorary Life Membership was awarded to Dr. Paul Kirdahy, Mel Rubinstein, Dr. J. Bruce McKenna, Robert Moraghan, and Dr. Richard Doremus. The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Stanley Abrams. Congratulations to Michael Capozzi and Dr. Joseph Laria on their retirements.

On behalf of the association, incoming president Gary Bixhorn thanked outgoing president Dr. James H. Hunderfund for his dedication and year of leadership, and presented him with a plaque as a token of appreciation.



**MEET THE 2004-2005
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AND CLUSTER LEADERS**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Gary D. Bixhorn, Eastern Suffolk
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Executive Secretary

Joseph F. Donovan
(631) 473-0712



2003-2004 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & CLUSTER LEADERS

Thank You!

Thank you to the 2003-2004 Board of Directors and Cluster Leaders for their dedication and commitment to the goals and success of the association and the students of Suffolk County.

WORDS of WISDOM

The association would like to acknowledge receipt of thank-you letters from both Dr. Richard R. Doremus and Mel Rubenstein for the awards each received at the end-of-year convocation. Both expressed their gratitude and offered words of wisdom. "My best wishes are with you all," stated Richard R. Doremus. "Stand firm, do your best for your pupils and your communities." Mel Rubenstein asked that the following advice be shared with all superintendents; "Always make decisions in favor of improving academic success your number one goal," "Remember a superintendent is only as good as the last budget," and lastly "All successful superintendents must learn to swim with sharks."

Good advice for all to keep in mind!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, August 18	Board of Directors Eastern Suffolk BOCES	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, September 29	Board of Directors General Membership Dowling College	10:30 a.m. 12:00 noon
Wednesday, October 20	Board of Directors Eastern Suffolk BOCES	9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, November 17	Board of Directors General Membership Dowling College	10:30 a.m. 12:00 noon

For the complete 2004-2005 calendar of meetings and events visit our web site at www.suffolksuperintendents.org