



MHSSC Sets Training Session for School Board Fiscal Accountability June 16, 2007

MHSSC will co-sponsor the mandated training on school board fiscal accountability in cooperation with the SED approved curriculum of the Four County School Boards Association and Nugent & Haeussler, PC.

The full day program will take place on June 16, 2007, at Cascarino's Catering in Montgomery beginning at 8:30 AM and concluding at 4:00 PM.

With generous support from Nugent & Haeussler, PC, we are offering this training session

to our members at a significantly reduced cost of \$40 per person.

A *Save The Date* flyer was sent to our superintendents in October. We expect to mail the registration forms in May.

Mark your calendars now so that you can complete this mandated training before the end of the 2006-07 school year. Newly elected school board members are eligible to attend this session, as well.

Registration notices will be mailed in May.

Susan McNeil Headlines Workshop for Education Office Professionals

MHSSC's spring workshop for education office professionals will take place on April 26th at the Newburgh Ramada Inn. This program offers the office professionals in our schools a full day of professional development.

The workshop begins with a presentation by Margo May, an area school attorney with the firm of Shaw & Perelson. Margo will talk about sexual harassment issues, confidentiality, and FERPA.

Susan McNeil, an educational consultant from Amsterdam, New York, will continue the conference with an informative, as well as, entertaining program entitled, *We Can't*

Control The Wind, But We Can Adjust The Sails. With wit and humor, Susan will help participants learn to control stress and improve overall health and wellness. Her presentation will include improving communication, recognizing different personality types, and how to inject humor into our everyday lives.

Reservation notices will be mailed in March to our districts' offices and former attendees.



Susan McNeil

Calendar Highlights

Mentoring Sessions for New Administrators

Newburgh Ramada Inn
November 2, 2006, December 5, 2006
January 18, 2007, February 13, 2007

MHSSC - Bank of America Annual Legislative Brunch

Hotel Thayer, West Point
February 10, 2007

Conference for School Counselors

Newburgh Ramada Inn
March 1, 2007

MHSSC Executive Committee Meeting

Newburgh Ramada Inn
March 15, 2007

Workshop for District Clerks

Newburgh Ramada Inn
March 21, 2007

Legal Update for School Administrators

Newburgh Ramada Inn
March 29, 2007

MHSSC

**Room 101E, OMB, 800 Hawk Drive
SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz, NY 12561
Tel: (845) 257-2820 FAX: (845) 257-2797**

**Website Address
www.newpaltz.edu/mhssc**

MHSSC Legislative Platform for 2007

FUNDING INITIATIVES

With the necessity of addressing CFE comes the opportunity to construct a new, viable funding system for public education that is fair, clear, and predictable.

The state must provide aid to all schools that is equitable, timely, and understandable.

We accept our responsibility to be efficient and cost effective in our stewardship of public funds, and we ask our legislators to accept their responsibility to adequately and appropriately fund public education.

Nonetheless, it is imperative that a system of funding be implemented that reduces the reliance on the local property taxes and that can be understood by all of our taxpayers.

We must remember that public education is the foundation that supports our state and our future.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Legislation affecting employee negotiations should strive for a balance of power between labor and management that does not undermine local control.

Our local school districts must be able to negotiate in good faith without state imposed mandates.

Altering the Taylor Law will erode public faith in the local bargaining process.

The ability to manage local school budgets is the heart of local control of our public school system.

Collective bargaining is one of the few areas where our districts can exercise cost controls.

Weakening the Taylor Law will hinder our ability to manage escalating fiscal obligations.

ADDRESS FEDERAL ISSUES NCLB and P.L. 94 -142

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and Public Law 94-142 (special education) impose unfunded mandates on our schools. While their intentions are laudable, the laws should be reformed and fully funded.

NCLB is a significant federal mandate that has been and continues to be under funded. Other than high needs districts, the typical NY school district will receive limited funding; yet, programmatic and cost impacts are dramatic. The provisions of NCLB drain funds from public education and ultimately limit opportunities for our children.

While our schools embrace high standards for all, we are wary of the encroaching role of the federal government in our schools.

Under the banner of raising standards in education, NCLB creates another layer of bureaucracy, erodes local control, and burdens local taxpayers unnecessarily.

P.L. 94-142 must meet its stated goal of 40% funding reimbursement. Schools in our area receive significantly less reimbursement funding.

We ask our state legislators to be vigilant about the NCLB regulations imposed on and by New York State.

*MHSSC and Bank of America
Annual Legislative Brunch
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February 10, 2007
Hotel Thayer at West Point*

Gregory & Olivo Anchor Mentoring Sessions

With a wealth of experience and knowledge, Charlotte Gregory (I., Superintendent, Eldred) and Terrence Olivo (Retired Superintendent, Monroe-Woodbury and current Research Director for MHSSC) continue to serve as the anchors for MHSSC's mentoring sessions for new school administrators.

Now in its fourth year of operation, this effort provides an important mentoring experience for our new school leaders. While different panel members are invited to participate in our sessions, Charlotte Gregory and Terry Olivo provide consistent guidance to our new school leaders by serving regularly as panel presenters. Their sage counsel is an important stabilizing force throughout these

sessions, and we value and appreciate sincerely their dedication to the new school leaders in our region.

This year's program started in November at the Newburgh Ramada Inn with the topic, *Serving As Change Agent*. The December session focused on *Helping Teachers in Need of Improvement*, and the January session will address *Pitfalls and Predicaments to Avoid As a New School Administrator*.

The final meeting of this school year will take place in February, and participants will review *Writing Effective Evaluations*. Interacting with panel members and an area school attorney, participants will take part in a hands-on experience at this final program of the 2006-07 school year.



Charlotte Gregory



Terrence Olivo

Upcoming Events

Conference for School Counselors

March 1, 2007

Topics included in this full day program

- * Managing Issues of Self-Destructive Behaviors
- * Medications and Their Effects
- * Kids and Families in the Social Service System

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Workshop for District Clerks

March 21, 2007

Agenda items include

- * Update on Budget Votes and School Board Elections
- * A Review of BOCES
- * Roundtable on Best Practices

Now....

Register online for MHSSC

workshops and conferences.

Visit our site at

newpaltz.edu/mhssc

and open the calendar

to the specific event.

To register, complete the

registration form

and send the e-mail.

You are then registered!

MHSSC Annual Dinner Meeting May 31, 2007

Mark your calendars now for our annual meeting at the Inn at Central Valley.

Legal Update for School Administrators

March 29, 2007

An interactive review of the following legal issues

- * Student Investigations
- * Staff Investigations
- * Students' Rights

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An Invitational Conversation on School Leadership

April 20, 2007
SUNY New Paltz

Discussion topics to include

*Looking at School Administration in 2007
Fostering Quality Leadership For Our Schools
Trends for the Future of School Administration*

Awards for Excellence Dinner Hosts 800+

Over 800 people attended the awards dinner sponsored by MHSSC, Glencoe-McGraw Hill, and Bank of America. The October event at Anthony's Pier 9 granted 36 awards for excellence in teaching, administration, school board service, support staff service, and pupil personnel services.

MHSSC nomination forms for next year will be mailed in May. The Dean of Education will mail nominations for excellence in teaching in March.



Winners of the 2006 Awards for Excellence in School Board Service



Winners of the 2006 Awards for Excellence in Administration



Winners of the 2006 Awards for Excellence in Pupil Personnel Services



Winners of the 2006 Awards for Excellence in Support Staff Services



Winners of the 2006 Awards for Excellence in Teaching

MHSSC Executive Committee Members 2006-2007

President - Joseph P. Zanetti, Tuxedo

Vice President - Debra Lynker, Livingston Manor

Treasurer - Mark Silverstein, Hawthorne-Cedar Knolls

Ann Bogert - O/U BOCES, Anne Byrne - Nanuet, Christopher Como - Dutchess BOCES, Alan Derry - Sullivan West, John DiNatale - Haldane, Valencia Douglas - Nyack, Richard Feller - Monticello, Nancy George - Tri-Valley, Carmine Giangreco - Roscoe, Richard Hooley - Valley Central, - John McCarthy - Highland, Edward McCormick, Arlington/Dutchess BOCES, Dean Robert Michael - SUNY New Paltz, Carl Onken, O/U BOCES, Frank Pepe - Arlington, Joseph Phelan - Rhinebeck, Marilyn Terranova - Carmel, Lisa Wiles - Ellenville, Joseph Zambito - South Orangetown, Peggy Zugibe - No. Rockland

Ex-Officio Members

Steven Poskanzer - SUNY New Paltz President, Martin Handler - Sullivan BOCES, Robert Hanna - Orange/Ulster BOCES, John Pennoyer - Dutchess BOCES, James Ryan - Rockland BOCES, Martin Ruglis - Ulster BOCES, Ronald Smalls - Southern Westchester BOCES

Honorary Member - William F. Moran

Staff

Eileen Casey - Legislative Director

Lynne Cruger - Assistant to the Director

Terrence Olivo - Research Director

Susan Doyle - Executive Director