



Attention: MA School Committee Members, Superintendents
and other School Leaders

MASC/MASS Joint Conference

Social and Emotional Learning and
the Impact of Poverty on Education

Resort and Conference Center at Hyannis
35 Scudder Avenue
Hyannis, MA

┆ massachusetts association of school committees ┆
┆ massachusetts association of school superintendents ┆

www.masc.org
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DATE November 2-5, 2016

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11:00am **Conference registration opens**
(Exhibit Hall lobby)

11:00am-3:00pm **MASC Delegate registration**
(Ballroom)

12:30-1:40pm **PANEL SESSION I**

• **Small, Rural and Regional Districts: Fiscal and Enrollment Challenges** (Cape Cod) ✓

Many districts are facing declining enrollment and fiscal limitations as they try to meet the demands for expanded services for students with social/emotional learning issues and confront the impact of poverty on educational achievement. Hear from districts that are implementing strategies to address these challenges.

Presenters: **Perry Davis**, Executive Director, MARS (moderator); **Maureen Marshall**, President, MARS/ Superintendent, Quabbin Regional; **Ellen Holmes**, Ashburnham-Westminster Reg. School Committee; **Michael Buoniconti**, Superintendent, Mohawk Trail Regional

• **SEL: Moving from Compliance to Cultural Implementation** (Hyannisport West)

Making social-emotional learning a priority in your district can be a challenge. This workshop will describe the steps that Reading has taken to move away from a compliance checklist to cultural implementation. The presenters will describe the self-assessment, training and work that has been done by the district and building leadership teams. They will also share ways in which the district has kept social-emotional learning a priority at the district and building level, as well as some of the challenges and areas that continue to require growth.

Presenters: **John Doherty**, Superintendent, Reading (moderator); **Linda Snow Dockser**, Reading School Committee; **Joanne King**, Principal, Wood End Elementary School, Reading; **Sara Burd**, Director of Social Emotional Learning, Reading

• **Planning for Success: DESE Multi-year Improvement/Annual Action Plan** (Hyannisport East) ✓

Planning for Success, a new resource—NOT REQUIREMENT—from DESE is an improvement planning model plus resources for district and school leaders. The model consists of a multi-year improvement and annual action plans and provides templates, protocols and meeting structures districts can easily use to conduct their own inclusive, time-efficient planning process. Over the past two years, DESE has partnered with a dozen districts to pilot this planning model and tools. Planning for social and emotional learning and wellness has been a focal point for many of these districts as they created their multi-year and annual action plans and design SEL frameworks and implement tiered systems of support. Learn how several superintendents have found effective

planning in this area essential to progress and success.

Presenters: **Carrie Conaway**, Chief Strategy and Research Officer, DESE (moderator); **Lori Likis**, principal consultant, Creative Coaching; **Ruth Gilbert-Whitner**, Superintendent, Whitman-Hanson; **Chris Scott**, Executive Director, Valley Collaborative; **Joan Landers**, Superintendent, North Middlesex Reg.

• **MassKids: Implementing the New Safe Child Standards** (Barnstable I)

The new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) now allows schools to use Title II funds to educate their personnel and students about child sexual abuse and its prevention. It also prohibits schools from aiding and abetting the employment of an educator who has been involved in previous sexual misconduct from securing a position in another school. This workshop will discuss two bills that have been introduced to address these new provisions. The first bill supports schools in providing prevention-focused child sexual abuse training for their personnel, and in adopting safe child policies, including a detailed code of conduct to prohibit and respond to boundary-violating behaviors that could be precursors to sexual abuse. A second bill has been introduced that would provide schools with a standard protocol and tools to support their screening of prospective new employees; it also provides protection to schools from any legal liability when sharing information with other schools about a prospective employees previous history of misconduct.

Presenters: **Brenda Ennis**, former chair, Oxford School Committee/MASC Life Member (moderator); **Jetta Bernier**, Executive Director, MassKids; **Sponsoring Legislators**

• **Virtual Learning: Creating Regional Capacity to Expand Opportunities for All** (Barnstable III)

The Southeast Collaborative Regional Organization (SCRO) Virtual Learning Academy was founded by a partnership between nine collaboratives and their member superintendents. Through their collaborative efforts, a locally controlled virtual learning academy was launched to promote student learning. The project has put local, highly qualified teachers through intensive professional development to train them to present online courses. This session will describe the process of launching a virtual learning academy and share lessons learned in the process, including successes/pitfalls; collaborating with district personnel to engage and support students; and future plans for making online learning more affordable.

Presenters: **Theresa Craig**, Executive Director, READS Collaborative (moderator); **Paul Zinni**, Superintendent, Avon; **Patricia Oakley**, Superintendent, West Bridgewater

- **Interest-Based Bargaining** (Bass River Alcove) ✓

IBB is an alternative to traditional negotiations that has been praised by some and scorned by others. Learn about IBB and engage in a discussion with experts on why this “getting to yes” strategy can work, but what you need to know to protect your interests.

Presenters: **Glenn Koocher**, MASC Executive Director (moderator); **Elizabeth Valerio, Esq.**, Deutsch Williams; **Tom Johnson**, Senior Consultant, HR Associates

- **Universal Design for Learning** (Orleans)

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is an educational framework based on cognitive neuroscience. UDL is a part of the 2015 ESSA legislation, the 2016 US DOE’s National Education Technology Plan, and the Higher Education Opportunity Act. UDL is also part of the MA DOE’s multi-tiered system of support blueprint and a topic of training that meets the new recertification requirements for 15 hours of SEI/ESSL and special education and embedded in the new educator evaluation framework. Come learn the basics of UDL and see how the Groton-Dunstable school district is engaging the community (including the school committee) in the incorporation of UDL.

Presenters: **Kristan Rodriguez**, Superintendent, Groton-Dunstable Regional Schools; **Marlena Gilbert**, Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee

- **Social/Emotional Learning: A Priority Through the Education Pipeline** (Centerville) ✓

This session will feature district-level partnerships with the greatest opportunity to improve social-emotional learning. The session will begin with a research presentation providing context on the current state-level policy for SEL, followed by a discussion on the critical role SEL plays at several stages of the school pipeline, noting where the state has made progress and how MA leaders can support a more comprehensive and research-based vision for SEL for all educators, students and their families.

Presenters: **Chad D’Entremont**, Executive Director, The Rennie Center (moderator); **Jason DeFalco**, Chief Academic Officer, New Bedford; **Lea Ann Scales**, Vice President—Access, Transition and Development, Mt. Wachusett Community College; **Mary Bourque**, Superintendent, Chelsea; **Jason Rosenthal**, Assistant Director—School to Career, Boston Private Industry Council

- **Working Together for Student Success** (Ballroom)

Parents, school committee members, business and political leaders and virtually every other group of stakeholders in America are calling for improved educational outcomes for all public school children. Research over the past decade by the Rennie Center has found that one ozone labor-management-community collaboration has found evidence that collaboration leads to improved outcomes for students and that when teachers’

unions, community organizations and school districts share goes and resources through regular, systemic collaboration, the effects of poverty and inequity can be mitigated. This session will highlight how the Massachusetts Education Partnership (MEP) can support work in your district, with a focus on the Northampton Public School’s work through the MEP’s District Capacity Project (DCP) and the process that they have engaged with to include diverse stakeholders in the implementation of a three-year district improvement plan.

Presenters: **Emily Murphy**, Director, MA Education Partnership (moderator); **Karla Baehr**, Northampton Facilitator, DCP/former Deputy Commissioner, DESE; **Julie Spencer-Robinson**, President, Northampton Teachers Association; **John Provost**, Superintendent, Northampton; **Laura Fallon**, Northampton School Committee

1:50-3:00pm **PANEL SESSION II**

- **Improve Outcomes with Student Survey Feedback: Engaging Teachers and Keeping a Focus on Improvement** (Cape Cod) ✓

Research has shown that a well-designed student perception survey can reliably measure teacher effectiveness, student engagement as well as outcomes such as success skills and mindsets. Information collected from classroom level surveys can enhance evaluation systems and support professional learning. This session will address the opportunities and challenges involved when incorporating student perceptions to enhance the quality of feedback available to teachers and school leaders.

Presenters: **John D’Auria**, President, Teachers21 (moderator); **Julie Hackett**, Superintendent, Taunton; **John Provost**, Superintendent, Northampton; **Rob Ramsdell**, Co-founder, Tripod Education Partners

- **Innovative Practices to Social/Emotional Learning** (Hyannisport West)

Two schools - a common goal: to develop systems that promote social emotional learning, effective discipline strategies, and child safety through the use of innovative practices. Learn how the Hoover Elementary School (Melrose) and the Dartmouth Middle School continue to evolve their efforts to support learning and the well being of all students

Presenters: **Bonny Gifford**, Superintendent, Dartmouth; **Cyndy Taymore**, Superintendent, Melrose; From the Hoover Elementary School in Melrose: **Jenny Corduck**, Principal; **David Cyr**, Grade 3 Teacher; **Cindy Amirault**, Special Education Teacher

- **New Superintendent Induction Program: Ensuring a Smooth Transition** (Hyannisport East)

What lessons have been learned over the six years since its inception and what the data shows about the importance of this superintendent induction program to the successful transition of new leaders. Panelists will

discuss why this is now considered a “must” for first-time superintendents in MA and how school committees profit from the participation of their superintendents.

Presenters: **Joan Connolly**, NSIP Program Manager, MASS (moderator); **Jane Tremblay**, Superintendent, Lynnfield; **Rich Sjoberg**, Lynnfield School Committee; **Kim Smith**, Superintendent, Wakefield, **Tom Markham** and **Greg Liakos**, Wakefield School Committee

• **DESE: Report from the Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force** (Barnstable I)

The Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force was established to provide guidance and recommendations to the Commissioner on ways in which the state can support effective practices and greater involvement by students in civic learning. This session will report on recent findings and examples and offer participants the opportunity to provide input to task force representatives.

Presenters: **Patrick Francomano**, King Philip Reg. School Committee (moderator); **Ed O’Connell**, Melrose School Committee; **David Buchanan**, Assistant Director-Office of Humanities and Literacy, DESE; **Maureen LaCroix**, Special Assistant to Deputy Commissioner, DESE; **Maureen Binienda**, Superintendent, Worcester

• **Planning for Continuous Improvement**

(Barnstable III) ✓

“If you don’t know where you’re going, any road will get you there.” This session, will cover the important role that goals play in framing and structuring the work of school committees. We’ll also discuss a framework for setting goals and monitoring progress toward accomplishing the goals.

Presenters: **Dorothy Presser**, MASC Field Director; **Kristan Rodriguez**, Superintendent, Groton-Dunstable

• **Foreign Exchange Students: Challenges and Benefits** (Centerville)

Many districts, both public and private, enroll foreign exchange students generating revenue and providing diversity for their schools. Learn the pros and cons of student exchange and the responsibilities of your district from those engaged in these programs.

Presenters: **Paul Schlichtman**, Arlington School Committee/MASC Past President (moderator); **Robert J. Gerardi Jr.**, Superintendent, Maynard; **Dawn Capello**, Chairperson, Maynard School Committee; **Mary Villano**, Coordinator, Foreign Exchange Program, Arlington; **Melanie Smith**, Director of School Relations, Educatius International; **Steven Jenkins**, Director of Academic Partnerships, Educatius International

• **Transparency in Budget Presentation** (Orleans) ✓

Your budget is more than spreadsheets and PowerPoints. At this session, presented jointly with MASBO, you will learn what to include to ensure that your budget document is transparent, informative, and easily understood by

the School Committee and the public.

Presenters: **Tracy Novick**, MASC Field Director; **David Verdolino**, Executive Director, MASBO, **Brian Allen**, Chief Financial and Operations Officer, Worcester

• **Policies You Need** (Bass River Alcove) ✓

This session will cover the basics of policy plus an update on recent MASC policy activity including an overview of MASC policy services, an updated MASC Policy Reference Manual and recent policy changes required by changes to law and regulation.

Presenter: **Mike Gilbert**, MASC Field Director

2:45pm **MASC Resolutions Clinic** (Ballroom)

3:00pm **EXHIBIT HALL opens**

3:15pm **MASC DELEGATE ASSEMBLY** (Ballroom)

3:25-4:00pm **PARTNER PRESENTATIONS** (Orleans)
Using Analytics to Change Public Perception and Win Support

The public’s expectations around access to information has changed dramatically over the last decade and misinformation can spread like wildfire on the Internet. In this panel discussion **ClearGov** explores ways in which school districts can leverage data analytics to battle misperceptions, manage misinformation and build support amongst all stakeholders.

3:25-4:30pm **PANEL SESSION III**

• **What Educational Collaboratives Can Do For You** (Cape Cod)

Over the past several years, Educational Collaboratives have evolved and become a go-to resource for DESE as well as their member districts. Learn how collaboratives are advocating for you behind the scenes and supporting MA districts as they strive to meet the needs of their students and comply with state mandates. Presenters will share examples of recent initiatives including work on SEL programming and inclusive practices and provide tips on how to make the most of your partnership with your educational collaborative.

Presenters: **Colleen Dolan**, Executive Director, EDCO Collaborative; **Kim Oliveira**, Executive Director, CREST Collaborative

• **Innovations in Global STEM Programming** (Barnstable I)

Learn about the Global STEM Classroom program which addresses challenges in poverty in education and provides innovative solutions to equal access to education for all students through technology and addresses poverty challenges from new perspectives and opportunities in social learning.

Presenters: **Isa Zimmerman**, Chair-Board of Directors, Global STEM Center (moderator); **Steven Hiersche**,

Superintendent, Beverly; **Marie Doyle**, Former Superintendent, Longmeadow; **Larisa Schelkin**, CEO/Founder, Global STEM Center; **Paul Manzo**, Beverly School Committee

• **Engaging Community Stakeholders in Emergency Operations Planning** (Barnstable III)

This session will focus on best practices to ensure that students and staff feel safe in their school environment and the community is involved in planning for multiple hazards: before, during, and after a potential event. Presenters from Granby Public Schools will explain processes used in creating a high-quality Emergency Operations Plan with key stakeholders, including linkages to overall school safety and specific social-emotional needs of students as part of the plan. Panelists from Pathfinder Reg. Voc. Tech, School will share protocols and case studies of effective—and ineffective—communications during a crisis situation.

Presenters: **Judith Houle**, former Interim Superintendent, Granby Public Schools/Vice President-Entrepreneurship, TM Solution, Inc. (moderator); **Ian Cyr**, Senior Emergency Operations Consultant, TM Solution, Inc.; **Lorianne Alves**, Pathfinder Reg. Voc. School Committee; **Nicole Heroux**, Director of Pupil Services, Pathfinder Reg. Voc. Tech.; **Daniella La Barre**, School Psychologist, Pathfinder Reg. Voc. Tech.; **Kathleen Connelly**, School Adjustment Counselor, Pathfinder Reg. Voc. Tech.; **Brenda Turner**, Guidance Counselor, Pathfinder Reg. Voc. Tech.

• **Candidate Assessment of Performance: Impact on Mentoring, Hiring, Evaluation and Preparation Processes** (Centerville)

Learn how the Initial License Practicum process has changed and how this has affected public school administration in the areas of teacher mentoring, hiring, evaluation and partnering with teacher preparation programs.

Presenters: **Patrice Dardenne**, Program Director-School Leadership Program, American International College (moderator); **Edward Costa**, Chair-CAP Project Implementation, American International College; **Richard Rege**, Superintendent, Chicopee; **Jim Kane**, Chief Licensure Officer, American International College

4:30pm **MASS Business Meeting** (Hyannisport West)

5:00-6:30pm

Reception with Exhibitors (Exhibit Hall)

Sponsored by:
Mirick O'Connell



7:00pm **KEYNOTE DINNER** (Bass River)

Sponsored by: Scholastic



Welcome: **Mary Bourque**, Superintendent, Chelsea/MASS President

Greetings: **Mitchell Chester**, Massachusetts Commissioner of Education

Guest Speaker: **Rev. Liz Walker**, former TV Journalist, Humanitarian

Topic: Getting Unstuck: What I have Learned About Poverty and Education

Teaching resilience to urban children and combating trauma in their lives and communities.

Special Presentation: Thomas P. ("Tip") O'Neill Jr. Award to **Michael J. Cavanaugh**, Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical School Committee

9:00pm-Midnite

MEET YOUR COLLEAGUES SOCIAL (Bogey's)

Musical Guest: The Cape Cod Slackers

**Troubled by Twitter?
Flummoxed by Facebook?**



Bring your social media struggles to MASC!

MASC Field Director for Social Media Tracy Novick will be available for your social media questions.

Visit her at the MASC Booth in the Exhibit Hall:

On Wednesday during the Exhibitors Reception

On Thursday during the Exhibitors Breakfast and Coffee

And learn more at the social media workshops:

Friday, 4:00pm (Effective Uses of Social Media)

Saturday, 9:00am (Students Discuss Social Media)

7:30-11:30am; 2:00-5:00pm **Registration open**

7:30am-3:00pm **Exhibit Hall open**

7:30-9:30am **Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors**

Sponsored by: Sodexo 

PARTNER PRESENTATIONS

7:50-8:40am

• **Independent Reading and the Whole Child: Creating Pathways for Literacy at School, Home, and in the Community** (Barnstable III)

Independent reading is the single most important factor linked to student achievement. It is key that students have access to high quality, engaging texts in all classrooms, at home, and in the community. This session presented by **Scholastic** will allow participants to review current independent reading research, create a link between independent reading at school, in homes, and in the community, and think broadly about independent reading and social and emotional learning in order to positively impact student achievement. Participants will hear from a leading practitioner in the field who has put theory into practice yielding strong results for students and families.

Presenter: Nicole Bosworth, Project and Training Development Specialist, Scholastic

• **Working with your Community and the MSBA to a School Building Solution: Finding Balance Between Educational Needs and Community Capacities** (Orleans)

This workshop is intended to share practical thoughts, advice and perspectives related to the many inherent dynamics associated with gaining public approval and acceptance of an MSBA project. Insights regarding navigating educational needs with local funding capacities and tolerance levels will be shared by a panel of superintendents from across the state who will provide insights

on this topic moderated by **Colliers International**— a leading provider of owner’s project management services with extensive MSBA and local public K-12 educational experience.

Presenters: Jon Winikur, Executive Managing Director, Colliers International | Project Management Northeast (moderator); **John Barry**, Former Superintendent, Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School District/Consultant, MARS Consulting Group; **Peter Dillon**, Superintendent, Berkshire Hills Regional; **Steve Hemman**, Assistant Director, MARS Consulting Group/Formal Superintendent, Narragansett Regional

8:00-8:40am

• **The Redesigned SAT, Khan Academy, and AP Program Updates** (Barnstable I)

This session will provide participants with the latest information on the **College Board’s** Redesigned SAT Suite of Assessments as well as the partnership with Khan Academy which provides personalized free test prep and skill development for students at no cost. Participants will learn about updates on the **College Board’s** Advanced Placement Program, including new courses and the innovative AP Capstone Diploma.

Presenter: Jenny Caccavale, The College Board, Director of K-12 State and District Partnerships

8:45-10:00am **PANEL SESSION IV**

• **Strategies for Children: Implementing Pre-K Programs and Building Capacity** (Cape Cod)

An update on the impact on communities of the Pre-K for MA legislation and a review of recent initiatives to coordinate early education programming, analyze quality and build capacity. Presenters will share approaches that public and private providers of early education and care are implementing in the area of social-emotional learning.

Presenters: Chris Martes, President, Strategies for Children (moderator); **Amy O’Leary**, Campaign Director, Strategies for Children; **Titus DosRemedios**, Research and Policy Director, Strategies for Children; **Laura Healy**, Field Associate, Strategies for Children

• **Vocational Technical/Agricultural Education: Best and Emerging Practices** (Bass River) ✓

Presentations of best practices and programs in vocational/technical/agricultural classrooms and new instructional strategies with proven success for students.

Presenters: Deborah Davis, Northeast Metro Reg. Voc. Tech. School Committee (moderator); **Tammy Quinn**, Superintendent-Director, Norfolk Agricultural; **Ernie Houle**, Superintendent-Director, Assabet Valley Voc. Tech.; **Luis Lopes**, Superintendent-Director, Southeastern Reg. Voc. Tech.; **William Lupini**, Superintendent-Director, Essex Tech.

MASC Division Meeting Locations

Thursday, November 3 10:00-10:35am

Division VIII Bass River Alcove
Division IX/Minority Caucus Hyannisport East

Friday, November 4 1:45-2:30pm

Divisions I & II Hyannisport East
Division III Hyannisport West
Division IV Barnstable I
Division V Barnstable III
Division VI Centerville
Division VII Bass River Alcove

• **Building Blocks for Learning: Connection Between Social/Emotional Health and Academic Achievement** (Hyannisport West) ✓

Too often educators think they have to choose between paying attention to academic goals and focusing on social-emotional learning, which is too often seen as an add-on, or an areas relegated to specialists such as counselors and school psychologists. This session will present current research that shows the connection between mindsets, self-efficacy, resilience and civic identity to academic achievement, college/career readiness and community engagement

Presenter: John D'Auria, Executive Director, Teachers21

• **Families in Crisis: Addressing Social and Emotional Needs of Students and Families** (Hyannisport East)

School officials are all too familiar with how society's crises often play out in our classrooms. With recent attention on the state's opioid crisis, struggles with poverty, and the growing number of children who are registered with the Department of Children and Families, school communities have been forced to add to their already full agendas. Recent statistics show that growing numbers of students are being identified as in need of behavioral health support. Learn about how this impacts districts and how stressors such as poverty, homelessness and parent addictions impact a child's emotional well-being and how these stressors create a significant need to train staff, commit financial resources and forge partnerships with community agencies to provide short and long-term support services. The presentation will also focus on the barriers facing school districts and families based on the limited access to behavioral health supports beyond the schoolhouse door.

Presenters: Paul Dakin (retired) Superintendent, Revere (moderator); **David DeRuosi**, Superintendent, Saugus; **Jeannette Meredith**, Saugus School Committee; **Carol Tye**, Revere School Committee

• **Code of Conduct: Establishing a Positive Behavioral Intervention Support Model** (Barnstable I)

Learn how one district's school committee, administration, faculty, parents and students came together to address behavioral issues of 3rd-5th graders and the impact on school climate of a new Code of Conduct and the training involved to establish a Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support model.

Presenters: Judy Paolucci, Superintendent, Leicester (moderator); **Paul McCarthy**, Leicester School Committee; **Tina Boss**, Principal, Leicester; **Ashley Niggi**, Leicester School Psychologist; **Laura Stuart**, Board Certified Behavior Analyst

• **Charter School Reform Update** (Barnstable III)

While charter schools are in the news due to the ballot question, hear about changes that have already been made in charter school governance and others still to come.

Presenters: Geoffrey Swett, Wareham School Committee

(moderator); **Cliff Chuang**, Senior Associate Commissioner for Educational Options, DESE; **Patrick Murphy**, Barnstable School Committee

• **NEASC Accreditation Process: A New and Improved Model** (Centerville)

Learn about important changes to the NEASC evaluation protocol that are designed to streamline the process, reduce duplication with state requirements and focus on continuous school improvement.

Presenters: Jim Stockless, Framingham School Committee (moderator); **George Edwards**, Director, Commission on Public Schools, NEASC; **John Doherty**, Superintendent, Reading; **Eric Conti**, Superintendent, Burlington

• **MCAS 2.0: An Update** (Ballroom) ✓

DESE staff will update participants and solicit feedback on the progress of the next-generation MCAS, the review of ELA and math learning standards and the development of the new history/social science standards and assessment.

Presenters: Jake Oliveira, Ludlow School Committee/MASC President (moderator); **Jass Stewart**, Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff, DESE; **Jeff Wulfson**, Deputy Commissioner, DESE; **Maureen LaCroix**, Special Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner, DESE

10:00-10:35am **MASC Divisions VIII, IX and Minority Caucus Meetings** See page 6 for locations

10:00-10:45am **Coffee with Exhibitors** (Exhibit Hall)

10:45-Noon **GENERAL SESSION** (Ballroom)

Keynote Speakers: Dr. Nicholas Covino, President, William James College; **Dr. Nadja Reilly**, Associate Director of the Freedman Center for Child and Family Development, William James College; **Dr. Shella Dennerly**, Program Director-Boston Children's Hospital Neighborhood Partnerships Program

Topic: SEL and the Mental Health Needs of Children, in and out of the Classroom

Emphasis on Social Emotional Learning is important both because there remains a significant mental health crisis for children and an investment in school climate benefits the academic and emotional needs of all children. This session will review the elements of a healthy school climate and some of the empirical support for Social Emotional Learning. Panelists will also offer suggestions and resources for school systems and teachers who wish to implement these techniques into the classroom and school environment.

12:00pm **BUFFET/NETWORK LUNCH** (Bass River)

Sponsored by: Colliers International



1:00pm **Ice Cream Social with Exhibitors**
(Exhibit Hall)

Sponsored by: Cape Dairy, LLC



1:15-2:15pm **PARTNER PRESENTATIONS**

Measuring Social and Emotional Learning (Barnstable I)

Though not currently assessed by standardized tests, a growing body of research indicates social-emotional or “non-cognitive” skills significantly impact students’ academic performance, development, and their broader life outcomes. We now know that social-emotional learning (SEL) helps foster characteristics like grit, growth mindset and self-regulation that impact students’ schoolwork and interpersonal relationships, but have struggled to find ways to measure growth in these areas. Today, however, innovative school districts across the nation are increasingly turning to perception surveys as a means of collecting this data. In his presentation, Aaron Feuer will share examples from **Panorama Education’s** partnerships with these districts, in an effort to help Massachusetts district leaders measure the “whole child” growth that matters in their students.

Community Eligibility Program: A Boost for Student Nutrition AND School Budgets (Barnstable III)

School districts are under constant pressure to do more with less. One potential area that can have a significant impact on revenues AND improve your student’s ability to learn and achieve is the implementation of the Community Eligibility Program (CEP).

Research has shown that not all districts are taking advantage of the tools that allow them to move CEP percentage rates. By increasing your direct certification applications, you can drive your free reimbursement rates that will lead to increased financial returns to the district’s Food Service Program and allow students to eat nutritional foods which will enhance their academic performance. In a pilot study done at Fitchburg Public Schools the district was able to move from 56% direct certified to 63% direct certified. This result was from the **Sodexo** Management team working through the direct match process that resulted in a 100% free reimbursement from 63% the year prior. The district saw significant financial returns through this result. Learn how Fitchburg’s success can be replicated in your district.

Presenters: **Jill Lucius**, Food Services Director, Fitchburg Public Schools; **Robert Jokela**, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, Fitchburg Public Schools; **Phil Bornstein**, Director of Business Development, Sodexo; **Mark Tucker**, District Manager, Sodexo

2:30-3:45pm **PANEL SESSION V**

• **Special Ed Transportation: Cost-Savings Strategies** (Cape Cod) ✓

Learn about the strategies one district has successfully implemented that have significantly reduced their special ed transportation costs.

Presenters: **John Hennessey**, Director of Pupil Transportation, Worcester, (moderator); **Colleen Cavanaugh**, MA Association for Pupil Transportation-Consultant, **Gerry Mazor**, Senior Education Specialist, Walker Partnerships

• **School Building Authority Update** (Hyannisport West)
Process, timelines, and your questions will all be covered in this session with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Presenters: **Barbara Davis**, Holbrook School Committee; (moderator); **Matt Donovan**, Director, Administration & Operations, MA School Building Authority; **Jack McCarthy**, Deputy Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director, MA School Building Authority

• **School Law 101** (Hyannisport East) ✓
A review of state ethics, open meeting and public records laws and implications for school districts.

Presenters: **Naomi Stonberg, Esq.**, Brody Hardoon (moderator); **Jonathan Sclarsic**, Assistant Attorney General, Director-Division of Open Government; **David Giannotti**, Public Education and Communications Division Chief, State Ethics Commission

• **Social/Emotional Learning: Educational Collaborative Initiatives** (Barnstable I)

The 26 educational collaboratives in MA are providing multiple levels of support (3 tiers) to school districts in meeting the social, emotional and learning needs of all students by helping to address barriers to learning often associated with mental/behavioral health, trauma, poverty or ELL status. This presentation will give an overview of the three levels of support and how collaboratives can help your district implement some of these strategies.

Presenters: **William Diehl**, Executive Director, Collaborative for Educational Services (moderator); **Michael Tempesta**, Executive Director, Central MA Special Education Collaborative; **Cathy Cummins**, Executive Director, Assabet Valley Collaborative; **Robert J. Gerardi, Jr.**, Superintendent, Maynard; **Chris Scott**, Executive Director, Valley Collaborative; **Dan Hayes**, Shutesbury School Committee

• **Advocacy and Media Strategies** (Barnstable III)
Many school districts are working on their communications capacities and, at the same time, working to educate parents, students and the public about the link between student achievement and their social and economic well-being. This session will present both broad and specific strategies to achieve both objectives and features one of the state’s most respected communications strategists to help you get out the message and support your students.

Presenters: **Christopher Horan**, Media Consultant/President, Horan Communications; **Glenn Koocher**, Executive Director, MASC

Bingo Drawing: 2:00pm | November 3

Exhibit Hall

• **Superintendent Contracting: Dos and Don'ts** (Orleans) ✓
Superintendents come well prepared to the negotiating table to secure a contract that will ensure mutual respect, collaboration, and clarity about roles and responsibilities. School Committees must also be ready to sign onto an agreement that will promote the best and most respectful collaboration.

Presenters: **Stacey Rizzo**, Revere School Committee (moderator); **Marc Terry, Esq.**, Mirick O'Connell; **Kimberly Rozack, Esq.**, Mirick O'Connell

• **Best Practices in the Boardroom** (Centerville) ✓
The award-winning District Governance Program helps committees learn and sustain practices that research has shown have a positive effect on student achievement. From building positive relationships to setting and monitoring goals, to using meeting time effectively, learn how taking advantage of this free member service can help your committee develop and refine practices to make you more effective and productive.

Presenters: **Dorothy Presser**, MASC Field Director (moderator); **Tari Thomas**, Superintendent, Ralph C. Mahar School District; **Lorraine Romasco**, Nashoba Regional School Committee

• **Supporting Transgender Students: Laws, Policies and Best Practices** (Ballroom)

A panel of students, parents, school administrators and school committee members will discuss the new anti-discrimination law and policies and best practices for supporting transgender students.

Presenters: **Devin Sheehan**, Holyoke School Committee (moderator); **Jeff Perrotti**, Director, Safe Schools Program for LGBTQ Students, DESE; **Roger Bourgeois**, Superintendent-Director, Greater Lowell Technical High School; **Lizbeth DeSelm**, Melrose School Committee

4:00-5:15pm **PANEL SESSION VI**

• **Recovery High Schools: Best Practices** (Cape Cod) ✓
Learn about the research and innovative curriculum and practices implemented at the state's five Recovery High Schools that are helping students who are struggling with substance abuse and trauma challenges.

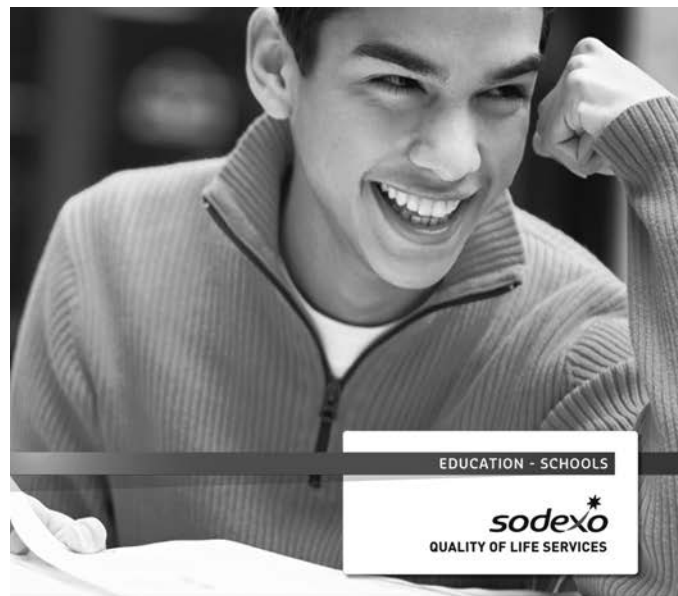
Presenters: **Joanne Haley Sullivan**, Executive Director, North River Collaborative (moderator); **Ryan Morgan**, Principal, Independence Academy; **Michelle Lipinski**, Principal, North Shore Recovery High School; **Susan Strong**, Principal, Rockdale Recovery High School

• **Special Education Issues Update** (Barnstable I) ✓
What's going on in the world of Special Education and how are educators working to ensure quality education for students with special needs.

Presenter: **Colleen Dolan**, Executive Director, EDCO

• **School Law 201** (Hyannisport West) ✓
A review by MASC and MASS legal counsels of recent state and federal education-related legislation.

Presenters: **Stephen Finnegan, Esq.**, General Counsel,



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MASC; **Michael Long, Esq.**, General Counsel, MASS

• **Budget Oversight: It's Your Responsibility!** (Hyannisport East) ✓

One of the most critical responsibilities held by the school committee is its responsibility for budget oversight. A growing number of committees have found themselves on the wrong side of newspaper articles for fiscal mismanagement issues that should have been caught by the committee. This panel will review the role a school committee member must play in the review of payroll and accounts payable warrant signing.

Presenters: **Ellen Holmes**, Ashburnham-Westminster Regional School Committee (moderator); **Jay Sullivan**,

Director, School Finance and District Support Center, DESE; **Julie Kelley**, MASC Life Member; **Stacey Jackson**, Wachusett Regional School Committee; **Kristopher Luoto**, Business Director, Assabet Valley

• **OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits): What Every District Needs to Know** (Centerville) ✓

Post retiree benefits represent a significant cost to districts and a potential budget buster. Learn about post-retirement benefits, your fiduciary responsibilities, and the potential costs over the short and long term for health insurance, pension costs, and other benefits for your staff after their employment ends.

Presenters: **David Katseff**, Dighton-Rehoboth School Committee (moderator); **John Kahn**, Keefe Voc. Tech. School Committee; **Mark Abrahams**, MA Auditors Association; **Frank Colvario**, CP Consulting Partners

• **Virtual Education: Family Engagement for Student Achievement at MA Virtual Academy** (Orleans)

In an era where districts and schools have aligned their goals around greater family and community engagement, they continue to formulate and refine exactly what that should look like. In this presentation, participants will learn how the MA Virtual Academy (MAVA) at Greenfield, the first 100% virtual school in MA, sponsors real, meaningful family engagement events and evaluates how these events tie into school-wide accountability. Presenters will also identify how MAVA defines family and community engagement in the virtual school setting and what metrics the school uses to measure the effectiveness of these events.

Presenters: **Carl Tillona**, Executive Director, MAVA (moderator); **Susan Powers**, Family Engagement Coordinator, MAVA; **Alison Kinsey**, Family Engagement Coordinator, MAVA; **Daryl Essensa**, Board Chair, MAVA

• **Evaluating the Superintendent** (Barnstable III) ✓

Are you confused about the new model for evaluating the superintendent? Do you find it to be a cumbersome and convoluted process? Learn how you can put processes in place to make the evaluation cycle smooth and clear and ensure that it is a useful tool in moving your district forward.

Presenter: Dorothy Presser, MASC Field Director

• **Chapter 70: What It Is/How It Works/21st Century Challenges** (Ballroom) ✓

How does the funding system for Massachusetts public schools really work?

Presenters: **Patrick Francomano**, King Philip Reg. School Committee/member, Foundation Budget Review Commission; **Colin Jones**, Senior Policy Analyst, MA Office of Budget and Policy; **Tracy Novick**, MASC Field Director

5:30-6:30pm **Presidents' Reception** (Lobby Lounge)

Sponsored by: Deutsch Williams



6:30pm **THURSDAY NIGHT BANQUET** (Bass River)

Guest Speaker: **Jimmy Tingle**, Comedian, Harvard graduate, occasional presidential candidate

Topic: *Jimmy Tingle for President*

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7:30-11:30am **Registration open**

7:30-9:30am **Continental Breakfast**
(Ballroom Foyer)

Sponsored by: BoardDocs



9:00am-4:30pm **COSCAP WORKSHOP** (Cape Cod)
Network with the best of the best and learn new strategies for keeping up with your superintendent/school committee responsibilities and requirements (written and unwritten). *(see box at right for details)*

9:00-10:15am
FEATURED PRESENTATION
Between a Rock and a Calm Place: Behavioral Intervention Strategies (Ballroom)
With nearly one in four children struggling with anxiety in this country, overwhelmed adults are in need of a new approach. This session will present effective and easy-to-implement toolkit of strategies and interventions for reducing anxiety, increasing self-regulation and self-monitoring.
Presenter: Jessica Minahan, Behavior Analyst, Author, Educator

9:00-10:15am **PANEL SESSION VII**
• **MIAA: New Initiatives** (Barnstable I)
Hear from MIAA leaders about the current status of interscholastic competition, sportsmanship, and how administrators, coaches, teachers, and school committee members are working together to support students as they wrestle with the challenges that confront them.
Presenters: William Gaine, Executive Director, MIAA (moderator); **Charles Flahive**, Blue Hills Reg. Voc. Tech. School Committee; **Jeffrey Granatino**, Superintendent, Marshfield

• **Creating a New Path for Assessments** (Barnstable III) ✓
With ESSA being implemented during this year, what better time to explore a more relevant assessment system that contains multiple measures to use in assessing student academic progress and school quality, while serving as a powerful tool to improve local instruction, assessment, and student learning. Hear from the nine MA districts and their local teacher unions that have come together to carve a new path for assessment.
Presenters: Dan French, Executive Director, Center for Collaborative Education (moderator); **Paul Schlichtman**, Coordinator of Research, Testing and Assessment, Lowell Public Schools; **Stacy Scott**, Former Superintendent, Framingham; **Erik Fearing**, President, Revere Teachers Association

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE SECRETARIES/
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS
Joint Conference Program**
(Cape Cod)

9:00am – 9:30am **Registration/Coffee Pastry**

9:30am – 11:00am **Ethics & School Employees**
Presenter: David Giannotti, Public Education and Communications Division Chief, State Ethics Commission

11:00am - 11:15pm **Break**

11:15am - 12:00pm
The Art of Writing Job Descriptions
Presenter: Sandy Stapczynski, President, Human Resources Services, Inc.

12:00pm - 1:00pm **Lunch Break**
Sponsored by: BoardDocs

1:00pm - 2:30pm
Presenter: Andrew J. Waugh, Esquire
Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm **Break**

2:45 pm – 4:00 pm **Retirement 101**
Presenter: Judith Corrigan, Deputy General Counsel & Managing Attorney, Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission

4:00pm - 4:30pm
COSCAP Member Business Meeting/Q & A

• **L.E.A.P. Program** (Centerville)
Learn how the Leadership Empowerment Awareness Program (L.E.A.P) is being successfully integrated into schools helping children to be confident, mentally and physically strong and stay safe.
Presenters: Charlene McEntee, Plainville School Committee (moderator); **Nancy Fischer**, Assistant Principal, King Philip Middle School, Plainville; **Michelle Palladini**, Detective, Norfolk Police Department and School Resource Officer, King Philip Middle School; **Susan Gibson**, Principal, King Philip Middle School

• **Addressing Violence in Our Schools: From Bullying to Dating Violence** (Orleans)

This session will delve into effective ways of providing and funding education and training to address violence in our schools at all levels. Experts in the field will provide insight into the problems of bullying, cyber-bullying and relationship violence, offer examples of effective programs and provide some ideas on how to fund them. We will share examples of school policies district plans and ways to encourage and maintain student engagement in promoting healthy relationships.

Presenters: **Julie Ramos Gagliardi**, Communications Director, Katie Brown Educational Program (moderator); **Ann Burke**, RN, Retired School Nurse-Teacher/Health Teacher; **Mark Costa**, Fall River School Committee; **Michaela Hetzler**, School Adjustment Counselor, Diman Regional & Coordinator of Fall River Youth Violence Prevention Steering Committee; **Eric Poulin**, Program Manager, Community Affairs Unit, Bristol County District Attorney's Office; **Claire Spaulding McVicker**, Executive Director, Katie Brown Educational Program

• **Transparency in Budget Presentation** (Osterville B) ✓

Your budget is more than spreadsheets and PowerPoints. At this session, presented jointly with MASBO, you will learn what to include to ensure that your budget document is transparent, informative, and easily understood by the School Committee and the public. (A repeat of the Wednesday session.)

Presenters: **Tracy Novick**, MASC Field Director; **David Verdolino**, Executive Director, MASBO

10:30-11:45am: **GENERAL SESSION** (Ballroom)

Keynote Speaker: **Ron Ferguson**, Harvard University
Topic: **Questions School Committees Can Ask in Pursuit of Excellence with Equity and Some Common Answers**

Schools have two curricula: the official one that teachers deliver and the unofficial one that students teach through peer dynamics. For each of these curricula, both the content and the delivery affect the developmental outcomes that test scores measure as well as the character and mindset skills that they don't.

An important role for school committees is to raise questions concerning how both curricula operate. For example, what do students experience both instructionally and socially in schools? How do we know? What are the associated priorities for improvement? How are priorities affecting expenditures of time and resources? This session will draw heavily on Dr. Ferguson's work over the past fifteen years, emphasizing several issues that warrant more attention in K-12 school systems.

Noon-1:45pm **LEADERSHIP LUNCH** (Bass River)

Guest Speaker: **Maurice Cunningham**, Professor, Political Science, UMASS Boston

Sponsored by:

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1:45-2:30pm **MASC Division 1-7 Meetings**

(see box on page 6 for locations)

2:30-3:45pm **PANEL SESSION VIII**

• **School Committee Self-Evaluation** (Hyannisport East) ✓

How do you know if your School Committee is governing as it believes it should? Periodically evaluating the Committee's governance role against standards or using its own operating protocols is considered a best practice in strengthening School Committee governance.

Presenters: **Glenn Koocher**, MASC Executive Director (moderator); **Margaret Driscoll** and **Jessica Dugan**, Melrose School Committee

• **ESSA and the Arts** (Barnstable I)

ESSA includes the Arts and Music as essential components for a well-rounded education. As DESE develops its new state accountability plan to comply with ESSA regulations, this is a golden opportunity to balance schools with the arts, creativity, innovation, social-emotional growth, and interdisciplinary learning. A coalition of partners led by Arts/Learning and MASSCreative will present important information on policy implications in these areas.

Presenters: **Jonathan Rappaport**, Executive Director, Arts/Learning; **Matt Wilson**, Executive Director, MASSCreative; **Tracie Konopinski**, MASSCreative; **Myran Parker-Brass**, Executive Director of the Arts, Boston Public Schools

• **Small District Issues** (Barnstable III) ✓

Hear from a panel of small and rural school district leaders about the challenges of student enrollment, transportation, curriculum opportunities, and the structure of district governance.

Presenters: **John Hockridge**, North Adams School Committee (moderator); **Lark Thwing**, Mohawk Trail Reg. School Committee; **William Cameron**, retired Superintendent, Central Berkshire Reg.; **Michael Buonoconti**, Superintendent, Mohawk Trail Reg.; **Patrick Murphy**, Barnstable School Committee

• **Parliamentary Procedures** (Orleans) ✓

Learn the basics of parliamentary procedures to ensure efficient meetings, good order, and how to present exemplary board practices to your constituents.

Presenter: **William Gilmeister**, Parliamentarian/Tantasqua Regional School Committee member

• **Sustaining a Strong Superintendent/School Committee Relationship** (Osterville A) ✓

What happens at the committee table affects every classroom in your district. A good working relationship between the school committee and superintendent is critical to creating a strong district culture and making progress toward

your goals. Come and learn about the important factors in building and sustaining this important relationship.

Presenters: **Dorothy Presser**, MASC Field Director (moderator); **Lisa Dana**, Superintendent, Danvers; **Mary Beth Verry**, Danvers School Committee; **Jim Marini**, MASS Coach/Consultant

• **Family Engagement** (Hyannisport West)

How can your school district work to ensure that the community feels it is being heard, respected, and engaged in the education of students?

Presenter: **Mike Gilbert**, MASC Field Director

• **Legislative Update** (Ballroom)

Legislators will update members on what recently has been done and what we can expect in the coming session.

Presenters: **Stephen Finnegan, Esq.**, MASC Legislative Counsel (moderator); **Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz**, Co-Chair, Education Committee; **Senator Patricia Jehlen**, Education Committee

• **Courageous, Compassionate Leadership** (Centerville)

A panel of student advocates and mental health professionals share their experiences and offer guidance for helping students with mental illness. Participants can expect to learn, as well, about the types of actions district leaders can take to promote safety and security for this vulnerable student population.

Presenters: **Keith Wortzman**, former member, Randolph School Committee (moderator); **Nancy Parker**, LICSW, Director of Allies for Student Mental Health—NAMI Mass.; **Patricia Kinsella**, Assistant Superintendent, Lincoln; **Patric Lareau**, a peer who will share his experiences living with mental health challenges while a student in public school; **Sue Hanly**, Nurse, Westford Public Schools

(2:30-5:00pm)

DOUBLE SESSIONS

• **New Member Orientation: Part I** (Grand) ✓

First of a two-part program (continued on Saturday) that will review everything new school committee members need to know about their role and responsibilities to satisfy the mandated training requirement.

Presenters: **MASC Field Staff**

• **Multi-generational Communications** (Osterville B)

How do you stay informed? Newspapers? Blogs? TV, Twitter? This session will focus on the generational tendencies of information gathering, and how you can access the tools available to create a multigenerational community engagement plan.

Presenter: **Jim Hardy**, MASC Field Director

4:00-5:15pm **PANEL SESSION IX**

• **Social Media: How to Use it Effectively** (Osterville A)

Bring your own device (BYOD) and discuss benefits to gain and pitfalls to avoid in using social media.

Presenters: **Tracy Novick**, MASC Field Director; **Darren Klein, Esq.**, KP Law, P.C.; **Mary Ann Stewart**, Member, MA Board of Elementary & Secondary Education

• **Edward M. Kennedy Institute: Senate Immersion Model** (Barnstable I)

The Kennedy Institute engages students in the process, content and language of lawmaking in their Senate Immersion Model (“SIM”), helping students to develop understanding of complex issues as they craft a law while practicing valuable critical thinking and collaboration skills. Deliberation, negotiation, debate and role-play are the tools students use to engage in the SIM. In the Kennedy Institute’s full-scale reproduction of the U.S. Senate Chamber, 30 to 100 students can experience this hands-on approach to learning about representation and the legislative process. Using digital tablet technology, students work together to create a bill on a historic issue or current policies affecting the country. This session demonstrates the process and opportunities afforded by this unique, immersive, and highly interactive educational experience.

Presenters: **Edward O’Connell**, Manager for Exhibit Interpretation and Civic Engagement; **Lou Rocco**, Education Program Facilitator; **Sarah Yezzi**, Education Manager for the Kennedy Institute

• **Student Activity/Revolving Funds: Audit Guidelines** (Orleans) ✓

Every district maintains Student Activity Funds, for which districts are responsible for custody and processing of a large dollar value and amount of transactions. This creates a significant risk that sometimes is not properly mitigated by existing internal controls, which can lead to a public relations nightmare. This panel will discuss a recent revision of “audit” guidelines and Student Activity Account funds, as well as guidance developed by DESE in conjunction with MASBO among others. If you don’t know the last time your district’s SAA funds were audited—this session is a must!

Presenters: **Dave King**, retired School Business Administrator, Waltham; **Joel Lovering**, retired Superintendent and School Business Administrator, Attleboro

• **Promoting a Maker Mindset in Schools** (Barnstable III)

The “Maker Movement” encourages learning through tinkering and creativity. Through the creation of “Maker Spaces”, schools are working to build students’ resilience and spark creativity. Hear from schools who have implemented Maker Spaces in grades K-12 to support, student-centered, inquiry-based exploration and integrate STEM education.

Presenters: **Jane Tremblay**, Superintendent, Lynnfield; **Jennifer Judkins**, Digital Learning Coordinator, Lynnfield; **Jared J. Perrine**, Director of Innovation, Technology, and Digital Learning, Benjamin Banneker Charter Public School, Cambridge; **Jonathan Schmid**, Director of Innovation & Technology, The Meadowbrook School, Weston

• **What the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Means for Your District** (Ballroom)

Adequate Yearly Progress is in our review mirror. But what took its place? The Every Student Succeeds Act means changes for districts. In this session, we'll talk about how ESSA differs from NCLB and what that means for the state and for your district.

Presenters: **Beverly Hugo**, Framingham School Committee (moderator); **Matthew Pakos**, Associate Commissioner-Resource Allocation Strategy & Planning, DESE; **Mark Bonjavanni**, Consultant, NSBA


5:00pm **MASC Past Presidents Council Meeting** (Room 104)

6:00pm **MASC Life Member/Award Recipients Reception** (Lobby Lounge)

7:00pm **Life Member/Leadership Awards Dinner** (Bass River)

Welcome: **Jake Oliveira**, President, MASC

Honors: Life Members; Lifetime Achievement and All-State Award Winners; MASC Board of Directors; and Friends of Public Education



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Saturday

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November 5

9:00-11:45am

• **New Member Orientation (Part II)** (Hyannisport East) ✓
Everything new school committee members need to know about their role and responsibilities to satisfy the mandated training requirement.

Presenters: **MASC Field Directors**

9:00-10:15am

• **Students and Social Media** (Cape Cod)
Students themselves will talk about how they use social media and what districts can do to incorporate it.

Presenters: **Tracy Novick**, MASC Field Director (moderator); Students to be announced

• **Focus on Students: Dual Enrollment Opportunities** (Barnstable I)

What are districts doing to create challenging higher education opportunities for their students while still meeting their graduation requirements.

Presenters: **Denise Pigeon**, Superintendent, Nashoba Valley Tech.; **Kyla Callahan**, Coordinator of Student Services, Nashoba Tech.; **Gabriella White**, Director of Curriculum, Nashoba Tech.; Students to be announced

• **Mindfulness in the Classroom** (Barnstable III)

We've all heard or read about the practice of Mindful-

ness and its many potential benefits for improving our lives. Mindfulness has applications in diverse areas, including education. Join us to learn how it's being used successfully in a first-grade classroom to help students improve focus, decrease stress and strengthen resiliency.

Presenters: **Jane Tremblay**, Superintendent, Lynnfield; **Jill Quickel**, Elementary School Teacher, Lynnfield

• **Role (and Responsibilities) of the Chair** (Hyannisport West) ✓

So you been handed the gavel and are expected to effectively and efficiently preside over your school committees' meeting. Are you ready? This session will provide some helpful tips and strategies for you to ensure that your committee is getting the most out of their meetings.

Pesenter: Jim Hardy, MASC Field Director

10:30-11:45am

• **Students in Poverty** (Cape Cod)

Students living in—or threatened by the prospect of—poverty are among the most at-risk cohorts. And increasingly, districts are realizing that poverty, home instability and the problems that go with it, cross all zip codes and are now at everyone's doorstep. Policy analyst Luc Schuster from the MA Budget and Policy Center will

define the issue and school leaders and students from area communities will share the challenges they face in school daily.

Presenters: Glenn Koocher, MASC Executive Director; Luc Schuster, MASS/MASBO School Finance Consultant;

• **Hot Topic! Early Start Times for Schools** (Barnstable III) Many school districts are looking closely at research on student sleep patterns and concluding that school start times don't match up. What are school committees doing to address this issue?

Presenters: Margie Ross Decter, Newton School Committee (moderator); James Adams, Superintendent, Ashland; Carol Jacobs, Superintendent, Georgetown; Barbara Linares, Georgetown School Committee; Amy Mistrot, Natick School Committee

• **Have you Done your Homework Yet?!!!** (Barnstable I) Does homework impact student achievement? Does it teach responsibility? Build the home-school connection? Add to student stress? These questions and more are being considered by districts around the Commonwealth. Join the discussion and learn how some districts are studying the data, approaching the issue and considering the options.

Presenters: Dorothy Presser, MASC Field Director (moderator); Tracey Sardine, Weymouth School Committee; Brendan Walsh, Salem School Committee; Geoffrey Swett, Wareham School Committee

• **Looking for a Leader: Superintendent Searching** (Hyannisport West) ✓

One of the most challenging tasks that a school committee faces is the search for a new superintendent. Where do we start? Who do we involve? How long will it take? Learn the answers to these and many other questions.

Presenter: Jim Hardy, MASC Field Director

12:00-1:00pm **Student Voices Luncheon**

A follow-up to the earlier session on poverty, a panel of student leaders will discuss the many challenges on the at-risk spectrum from poverty, to addiction, to homelessness and how they see this impacting their educational lives and opportunities and those of their peers.

Presenters: Glenn Koocher, MASC Executive Director (moderator); Aisling Novick, student, Burncoat High School, Worcester; Brianna Fisher, student, Doherty Memorial High School, Worcester; Other Students to be Announced

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Featured speakers



MITCHELL CHESTER

Wednesday Keynote Dinner

Dr. Mitchell Chester, Commissioner of the Massachusetts public schools since May 2008, began his career as an elementary school teacher in Connecticut, and later served as a middle school assistant principal and district curriculum coordinator. From there he moved to the Connecticut State Department of Education where he oversaw curriculum and instructional programs. In 1997 he was named the Executive Director for Accountability and Assessment for Philadelphia, where he headed the offices of Assessment, Research and Evaluation, Student and School Progress, and Pupil Information Services. In 2001 he moved to Ohio, where he served as the Senior Associate Superintendent for Policy and Accountability for the Ohio Department of Education, where he oversaw standards, assessments, accountability, policy development, and strategic planning.

Dr. Chester has presented nationally on accountability, assessment and teacher induction and retention. He has served as a consultant to states and school districts regarding curriculum and instruction, teacher evaluation, student achievement, and assessment and accountability. Dr. Chester holds a doctorate in Administration, Planning, and Social Policy from Harvard University, as well as advanced degrees from the University of Connecticut and the University of Hartford. He and his wife Angela live with their son Nicholas in Winchester.



REV. LIZ WALKER

Wednesday Keynote Dinner

Liz Walker is a minister, award winning journalist and activist for community healing and cross cultural and interfaith dialogue. Currently Pastor of Roxbury Presbyterian Church, a dynamic faith community with a 130-plus year history of making a difference in one of Boston's most challenging neighborhoods, under Reverend Walker's leadership the church is home to the Cory Johnson Trauma Project, an innovative program that addresses the epidemic of post-traumatic stress in a low income African American community too often overrun by violence. The Trauma Education Project works to increase community awareness of PTSD as well as improving access to mental health services, and empowering community members with the skills to cope with and respond to PTSD.

In the summer of 2001, Reverend Walker traveled to Sudan as a reporter on a fact-finding mission on the con-

troversial slave trade there, one of the worst human rights atrocities in the world. As a result of what she saw, Reverend Walker co-founded the humanitarian organization "My Sister's Keeper" which focuses on economic and educational initiatives for Sudanese women and girls. In 2007 "My Sister's Keeper" built a Girls' school in the village of Akon, Sudan, the first of its kind in that region. On the first day of school, 1000 girls enrolled. Despite persistent violent conflicts and political upheaval in the region, the school continues to operate today. While in Sudan, Reverend Walker shot her own video and produced a number of television reports about Sudan and a documentary called "A Glory from the God" which profiles the work of "My Sister's Keeper". Her 31-year television news career resulted in two Emmy's and an Edward R. Murrow Award for excellence in her field.

Reverend Walker is a member of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization and serves on the Board for the New England Chapter of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.



NICHOLAS COVINO

Thursday General Session

Dr. Nicholas Covino, the president of William James College, is a practicing psychologist who, before his current position, was the Director of Psychology and Director of Training at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston for 20 years. He is past-President of the Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis, a member of the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute and a former faculty member at Harvard Medical School.

Trained in behavioral medicine and in psychoanalysis, Covino's work at William James College is the latest chapter in this career. Since becoming president in 2002, he has led the school in new directions, while maintaining its underlying mission and values, which are focused on serving the underserved and meeting the needs of a changing society. In the eleven years since he took office, the school has grown from a single-degree institution to one that now grants 12 separate master's and doctoral degrees.

In recent years, the need for more mental health professionals who understand the traumas faced by veterans of current wars has shaped the school's mission to become a center of excellence for the training of veterans and others who want to help that population heal from the invisible wounds of war. Collaborating with student and faculty veterans and other veterans, Covino has helped to create the Train Vets to Treat Vets Program, which has received funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the past two years, and a new soon-to-be-launched military curriculum.

Featured speakers continued



SHELLA DENNERY

Thursday General Session

Shella Dennery, PhD, LICSW, is the Program Director of the Boston Children's Hospital Neighborhood Partnerships Program (CHNP), the community behavioral health program in the Department of Psychiatry at Boston Children's Hos-

pital. Dr. Dennery directs a comprehensive behavioral health program that provides services to Boston area schools and community health centers. The program provides prevention focused activities, early intervention services, and clinical assessment and treatment services to students in their educational home. In addition, Dr. Dennery oversees the Training and Access Project (TAP). TAP provides high quality professional development and consultation to educators, administrators, and school staff. The goal of the project is to help build schools capacity to better address the social, emotional, and behavioral health needs of their students, staff and community.

She has spent the majority of her career working as a school social worker in the Boston Public Schools and teaching and consulting on behavioral health related topics in community settings. Dr. Dennery has extensive experience uniting parents, schools, and neighborhood organizations to help strengthen the social and emotional health of children and adolescents. She holds a PhD from Smith College and an MSW from Simmons College. She also holds two post-master's certificates in child and adolescent therapy and advanced clinical supervision from Smith College. Dr. Dennery is adjunct faculty in social work at both Simmons College and Smith College, and is an Instructor in Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School.



NADJA REILLY

Thursday General Session

Nadja Reilly is a clinical psychologist with over 17 years of experience specializing in children, adolescents, and families. Dr. Reilly completed her graduate training at the University of Miami, Florida, and her clinical internship and post-doctoral fellowship at

Boston Children's Hospital. She was a staff psychologist in the Department of Psychiatry at Children's Hospital for 12 years.

Dr. Reilly is the Associate Director of the Freedman Center for Child and Family Development at William James College, as well as the Director of Training for the Center's internship and practicum placements. At the Freedman Center, Dr. Reilly focuses on prevention, school and community mental health work, consultation, curriculum and program development, and education.

Dr. Reilly is a core faculty member of the Clinical PsyD program, and faculty in the Children and Families of Adversity and Resilience (CFAR) concentration.

Dr. Reilly is the editor of Preventing Depression: A Toolkit for Schools, co-editor of the How Not to Keep a Secret peer leadership curriculum, editor and principal author of the Break Free from Depression school curriculum, and executive producer of Break Free From Depression, a documentary focusing on adolescent depression. Dr. Reilly is also the author of the book Anxiety and Depression in the Classroom: A Teacher's Guide to Fostering Self-Regulation in Young Students.

Dr. Reilly has presented in numerous local and national conferences, and continues to promote awareness of child and family mental health needs through her teaching, research, and practice.



JIMMY TINGLE

Thursday Banquet

The Cambridge, MA-born Jimmy Tingle has a career spanning three decades, as a comedian, writer, actor, activist and entrepreneur. He up from the Boston comedy boom of the '80s, the scene that spawned Denis Leary, Bobcat

Goldthwait and Paula Poundstone.

He did two seasons of 60 Minutes II on CBS in the "Andy Rooney" spot. Tingle was less curmudgeonly journalist and more exasperated wry comic: "Some cities are using money from parking tickets to funds the schools. Why should the quality of a child's education depend on their parents' inability to park? Dad, the school needs a new computer. Don't worry son, I'll leave the car in front of a hydrant."

Tingle also worked as a contributor and satirist for the MSNBC and has appeared on The Tonight Show, CNN, Larry King's Weekend, Late Night with Conan O'Brien, The American Comedy Awards, as well as his own HBO half-hour comedy special. He has also been a guest on NPR's Fresh Air with Terry Gross and appeared regularly on "Heat" with John Hockenberry.

Tingle has produced several comedic and theatrical productions including Jimmy Tingle's Uncommon Sense at Harvard's Hasty Pudding Theater, which became the longest-running one person show in the theater's history.

He also wrote, produced and starred in his first documentary film Jimmy Tingle's American Dream, which aired on over 60 PBS affiliates. Other film credits include small roles in Larry David's Clear History; Chris Rock's Head of State; Next Stop, Wonderland; and Boondocks Saints. He played himself in the International Emmy Award-winning documentary on arts censorship "Damned in the USA."

Theatrical credits include writing, starring and producing

Featured speakers continued

four one-person shows: Jimmy Tingle's *Uncommon Sense*; *The Promised Land*; Jimmy Tingle's *American Dream*; and *Jimmy Tingle for President*.

Tingle also has the rare distinction of winning *Boston Magazine's* "Best of Boston" in two different categories. He won as a performer in the Stand-Up Comedy category and then the venue he founded in 2002, *Jimmy Tingle's OFF BROADWAY* was named Best Alternative Theater. Tingle was artistic director-producer at the Somerville, MA theater.



JESSICA MINAHAN

Friday Featured Speaker

Jessica Minahan is a board-certified behavior analyst (BCBA), author, special educator, and consultant to schools internationally. Since 2000 she has worked with students who struggle with mental health issues and challenging behavior in public

school systems. She specializes in training staff and creating behavior intervention plans for students who demonstrate explosive and unsafe behavior. She also works with students who have emotional and behavioral disabilities, anxiety disorders, or high-functioning Autism. Her particular interest is to serve these students by combining behavioral interventions with a comprehensive knowledge of best practices for those with complex mental health profiles and learning needs.

She is a blogger on *The Huffington Post*, the author of *The Behavior Code: A Practical Guide to Understanding and Teaching the Most Challenging Students*, with Nancy Rappaport (Harvard Education Press, 2012), and author of *The Behavior Code Companion: Strategies, Tools, and Interventions for Supporting Students with Anxiety-Related or Oppositional Behaviors* (Harvard Education Press, 2014). She holds a BS in Intensive Special Education from Boston University and a dual master's degree in Special Education and Elementary Education from Wheelock College. She has a certificate of graduate study (CGS) in teaching children with Autism from the University of Albany and received her BCBA training from Northeastern University in Boston. She is sought-after internationally to speak on subjects ranging from effective interventions for students with anxiety to supporting hard-to-reach students in full-inclusion public school settings.



RONALD FERGUSON

Friday General Session

Ronald Ferguson is an MIT-trained economist who has taught at Harvard University since 1983. His teaching and publications cover a variety of issues in education and economic development. In addition to teaching and writing, he consults actively

with school departments and agencies at all levels of government on efforts to raise achievement levels and close achievement gaps. He is the creator of the widely used Tripod Student and Teacher Surveys and co-founder of Tripod Education Partners, the faculty director of the Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard University, and a faculty associate at the Harvard Kennedy School's Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy. He was also faculty co-chair of the Pathways to Prosperity Initiative on adolescent-to-adult transitions at Harvard's Graduate School of Education. After 31 years as full-time faculty, he transitioned into an adjunct position in 2014.

Most of his research since the mid-1990s has focused on racial achievement gaps and school improvement, appearing in publications of the National Research Council, the Brookings Institution, and the US Department of Education, in addition to various books and journals. Ron earned an undergraduate degree from Cornell University and Ph.D. from MIT, both in economics. He has been happily married for 38 years and has two grown sons.



MAURICE CUNNINGHAM

Friday Leadership Lunch

Maurice T. Cunningham is Associate Professor of the Department of Political Science at the University of Massachusetts at Boston and a co-founder and contributor to the blog *MassPoliticsProfs* which is featured at WGBHNews.org. He

teaches courses in American government including *Massachusetts Politics*, *The American Presidency*, *Catholics in Political Life*, *The Political Thought of Abraham Lincoln*, *American Political Thought*, and *Public Policy*.

His book, *Maximization, Whatever the Cost: Race, Redistricting and the Department of Justice* examines the role of the DOJ in requiring states to maximize minority voting districts in the nineties. He has published articles dealing with the role of the Catholic Church in MA politics and on party politics in the state. His research interests focus upon the changing political culture of Massachusetts. He is a former assistant district attorney and assistant attorney general in MA. Professor Cunningham comments on MA and national politics in the *Boston Globe*, *WGBH*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Boston Herald*, and many other news outlets. Cunningham is a lifelong resident of MA. He earned his BA at the UMass Boston, his JD at New England School of Law, and Ph.D at Boston College.

Exhibitors

Exhibit Hours

Wednesday: 3:00 – 6:30pm
 Thursday: 7:30am – 3:00pm

Exhibitors' Events in the Exhibit Hall

Cocktail Reception: Wednesday, 5:00 – 6:30pm
 Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors: Thursday, 7:30 – 9:30am
 Ice Cream Social: Thursday, 1:00-2:30pm
Bingo Prize Drawing: Thursday, 2:00pm

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MASC officers



JACOB OLIVEIRA

President

Currently serving his seventh year as a school committee member on the Ludlow School Committee, Jacob (Jake) Oliveira has emerged as a young progressive leader of vision and energy who is committed to advocating for students and

their families, educators and local school committee members.

Elected in 2014 as the association's President-Elect, Mr. Oliveira first joined the MASC Board of Directors in 2011 as Chair of Division V (Connecticut Valley), having previously served as the Division's Secretary-Treasurer and Vice President. He is Chair of MASC's Resolutions Committee as well as the Board of Directors Policy Subcommittee. He has also participated at numerous state and national education workshops and conferences and organized the first of several MASC division meetings that focused on the new educator and administrator evaluation regulations.

At the national level, Mr. Oliveira was elected in 2014 to the National School Boards Associations Board of Directors. He is only the 7th member, and the first in nearly 20 years to be elected from Massachusetts. At 29, Mr. Oliveira is the youngest member of NSBA Board of Directors by over a decade. He is active as a member of Agenda for Action and Board Policy Review committees. During the 2015 Congressional session, Mr. Oliveira has been active advocating for school districts as the House and Senate debated the re-authorization of the ESEA.

In Ludlow, Mr. Oliveira is an active presence both on the School Committee as well as in many community undertakings. He also serves as Chair of the Policy and Advocacy subcommittee and as the School Committee's Legislative Liaison; and as Ludlow's representative to the Ludlow Energy Committee; and the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative Board of Directors. Mr. Oliveira is also very involved in local initiatives. He is currently Chair of the Ludlow Democratic Town Committee; member of the Michael J. Dias Foundation to prevent substance abuse; a member of a local credit union advisory committee and a former 8th grade CCD teacher. Nor is Mr. Oliveira's involvement in education limited to his school committee experience. As the Assistant Executive Officer of the MA State Universities Council of Presidents, his professional work entails representing the State Universities on Beacon Hill, with the Board of Higher Education, the Executive Office of Education and the public. Through his professional responsibilities, Mr. Oliveira believes he has become particularly attuned to the politics and complexities of education in the Commonwealth, especially in the budgetary and legislative processes. While in college, he served two years as the student member of the Board of Higher Education representing the nearly 50,000 students enrolled in the State University system, and three years as a member of the Framingham State University's Board of Trustees.



PATRICK MURPHY

President-Elect

Patrick Murphy is a 13-year member of the Barnstable School Committee having been elected four times town wide and has served as chair for three years and vice-chair for six years.,

Murphy also currently serves on the MASC Board of Directors as President-Elect, previously serving as Vice- President, Treasurer/Secretary plus two years as Chair of Division VII (Cape and Islands). Murphy is an appointed member of the Local Governance Advisory Committee which meets monthly with the Governor/Lt. Governor and local municipal officials.

After a twenty-year career in the private sector with various technology firms, Mr. Murphy made a career change and became a licensed school business official. He currently serves as Director of Finance and Operations for the Falmouth Public Schools. He is an active member in the Massachusetts School Business Officials association.

For the past several years, Mr. Murphy has been at the forefront of efforts to raise awareness of Cape-wide concerns related to declining student demographics combined with increased school choice, and competition from private schools and charter schools. Together with the area's superintendents, the Cape Cod Collaborative, and the Cape's legislative delegations, Murphy has helped to lead an effort to gather, analyze and present data to better understand the current challenges faced by districts on the Cape. As a member of the Board of Directors, Murphy has been a driving force for the recent legislative initiative and MASC charter school data analysis related to changing Commonwealth Charter School governance.

Over the years, he has also been extremely active at the community level in various board leadership roles. His leadership in numerous Cape Cod associations include the Chamber of Commerce, United Way, Technology Council, Workforce Investment Board which have focused on regional solutions to area concerns and challenges.

Patrick has been married for 26 years to Karen Murphy, a long time school teacher. They have two daughters Norah 18 and Fiona 15 who have been successfully educated by the Barnstable Public Schools.



BEVERLY HUGO

Vice President

Serving her fourth term on the Framingham School Committee, Beverly Hugo is a product of and staunch proponent for public education. She has been praised by her colleagues for her focus, experience and leadership in ensuring the best interests of

all students. She is committed to fiscal responsibility to taxpayers and is respected for her local, state and national advocacy for adequate funding and supports. Positive outcomes for all students is always first and foremost in her work. She believes that a label or an address should not determine a child's path to educational, career or life's opportunities.

Currently serving as Vice President of MASC, she previously served as the Division II (Metropolitan) Chair. Ms. Hugo has maintained an active role on various MASC committees (Budget; Legislative; Advocacy; Resolutions; Personnel) while frequently participating in state and national professional development events, including NSBA's annual convention; the Federal Relations Network (at which she was a previous speaker about Turnaround Schools); the Equity Symposium and at MASC's Day on the Hill and annual conferences, at which she has represented her district for several years as a delegate to the annual assembly and as a presenter on Gifted and Talented Education, PARCC/MCAS Testing, and Student Social and Emotional Wellness. For the past three years, Ms. Hugo has authored many resolutions that were voted upon favorably during the annual Delegate Assemblies, some of which have been enacted into law. She was recently appointed by Governor Baker to serve on his Local Government Advisory Commission.

She recently completed her fourth term as Chair of the Framingham School Committee, having served two terms as Vice Chair. She has served on numerous subcommittees including Finance; Policy; Collective Bargaining; Health Advisory Council; Academic Data Dashboard; and as Chair of the Superintendent Search Committee. For the past six years, she has been the Legislative Liaison to MASC, fostering productive relationships with state and federal legislators, and previously served for four years on the Board of Directors of the Education Collaborative (TEC). She was recently elected as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Suburban Coalition, a group of municipal and school leaders that advocates for adequate resources for public school districts throughout MA.

Ms. Hugo also serves on a wide range of committees and volunteer programs including as the current Chair of the Democratic Town Committee; the Metrowest STEM Education Network Advisory Board; as a director and judge for the Future Problem Solving International Program. She is a founder of both the Framingham Youth Zone and the Metrowest Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition.

A graduate of the Boston Public Schools (Girls' Latin), UMass-Amherst, and postgraduate studies at Boston University, Ms. Hugo has taught in the Boston and Brookline Public Schools. She is married to her best friend and ardent supporter, Michael, an environmental attorney, and is the proud mother of three amazing children – Carly, Mark and Matt.



DEVIN SHEEHAN

Secretary-Treasurer

Devin M. Sheehan has entered his sixth year serving as a member of the Holyoke School Committee and has served with passion and integrity since first being elected in 2009. He has been a member of the MASC Board of

Directors for two and a half years proudly representing Division V (Connecticut Valley Division). Prior to assuming that leadership role, Mr. Sheehan served as the Division Vice Chair and as a member of the Special Education Committee.

Mr. Sheehan has attended and presented at numerous conferences, served as Holyoke's representative in the MASC Delegate Assembly, and presented on Roles and Responsibilities for Charting the Course. He has attended and participated in Day on the Hill, multiple NSBA Annual Conferences, and the NSBA Advocacy Institute. Mr. Sheehan also represented Massachusetts on the Regional Nominating Committee for the NSBA Board of Directors in October 2014 and January 2015.

On the School Committee, Mr. Sheehan has been elected by his peers for the past four consecutive years to serve as the Vice Chair. In this role he is responsible for developing meeting agendas, leading the committee and working with the Superintendent to set the mission and goals of the Holyoke Public Schools. Prior to his serving on the board, the School Committee had not approved a balanced budget. However, as a result of Mr. Sheehan's leadership, they have had a balanced budget for the past five years. A major goal of Mr. Sheehan's is to continually improve the graduation rate of the Holyoke Public School. With the administration and fellow Committee members he worked to set goals and created a plan that would encompass the entire community to increase the graduation rate of 49.6% to 60.2% in just four years.

Beyond serving on the Holyoke School Committee, Mr. Sheehan works in an urban school district as an Operations Specialist. In this role, he works with the Chief Instructional Officer and multiple academic directors in managing budgets, working with vendors and procuring supplies and curriculum for the district. He has been designated by the Inspector General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as an Associate Massachusetts Certified Public Purchasing Official.

Mr. Sheehan is deeply involved in his community serving as a member of the Board of Directors for the Children's Museum at Holyoke and the St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke. He is also a member of the Friends of the Holyoke Public Schools and the Holyoke Democratic Committee. In January 2013, Mr. Sheehan was recognized by the Republican/MassLive as the "Best Local Politician." He is a member of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development and the American Society for Public Administration.

Mr. Sheehan is a graduate of Franklin Pierce University and has a graduate certificate in Educational Policy from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth where he is currently finishing his work as a graduate student in the Public Policy Master's program. He is a life-long Holyoke resident and resides with his partner, Dr. Michael Dodge.

MASC officers continued



PATRICK FRANCOMANO **Immediate Past President**

Currently serving his 22nd year as a Massachusetts school committee member (Plainville: 1992-2006 and King Philip Regional: 2005-present), Patrick Francomano has been an eloquent and effective advocate on public education issues at the local, state and national levels. Mr. Francomano joined the MASC Board of Directors in 2011 as Chair of Division III. In 2012 he was elected to serve as Vice President and became President-Elect in 2013. He has served on numerous MASC committees including Regional Schools, Technology, and Student Assessment. As a member of the National School Boards Association's Federal Relations Network he has been a strong proponent of increased federal funding for education. He also currently represents MASC on the Massachusetts Local Government Advisory Commission. Mr. Francomano has participated as a presenter on several MASC/MASS Joint Conference panels on "Roles and Responsibilities," "Role of the Chair," and "Charter School Reform Update." He has also facilitated several division meetings that focused on the new educator and administrator evaluation regulations. Mr. Francomano was one of the founding members of the Center for Public School Leadership, a collaborative initiative between MASC, MASS and Bridgewater

State College. In 2003, he was presented with MASC's Lifetime Achievement Award.

A resident of Plainville, Mr. Francomano served on its School Committee from 1992-2006, including several terms as Chair and Vice Chair, and as a member of the Committee's Budget and Finance Subcommittee. In 2005, he was elected to the King Philip Regional School Committee. He has served as the Committee's Chair on several occasions and is currently the Committee's Legislative Liaison and a member of its Budget and Finance Subcommittee. He has also participated in many collective bargaining negotiations and on several superintendent searches.

A practicing trial attorney for over 25 years, Mr. Francomano was an adjunct faculty member at Southern New England School of Law and is currently teaching at the UMass-Dartmouth School of Law. He has also served previously as an attorney partner in law-related education programs designed to teach young people about the law in both the Franklin and Mansfield Public Schools. Mr. Francomano is a long-standing member of the Massachusetts Bar Association and serves on its Audit & Budget Committee. He is also a member of NSBA's Council of School Attorneys.

He is eternally grateful for Christine, his extraordinary and extremely patient wife of over 30 years, as well as his son Dante, who is pursuing graduate studies in Ecological Sciences & Engineering at Purdue University.

MASS officers



MARY MARGARET BOURQUE **President**

Mary Margaret Bourque is the Superintendent of the Chelsea Public Schools in Chelsea, Massachusetts. A life-long educator committed to improving urban education, Ms. Bourque is a proud graduate of Chelsea High School. Ms. Bourque graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Salem State College. She received her Masters in Education from Boston University School of Education in Administration, Training, and Policy. She holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership and Administration from Boston University's School of Education. Her doctoral research centered upon the impact of student mobility in urban districts within Massachusetts and upon the consequences mobility has upon school's and district's performance accountability un-

der the federal Title I Act, commonly known as No Child Left Behind. Her doctoral research has been the basis for reform to both State and Federal policy.

Ms. Bourque began her teaching career as a middle school teacher in St. Peter's Elementary School, South Boston, MA. She returned to Chelsea teaching at the high school and later Chelsea's elementary schools. In 1998 Ms. Bourque was offered the opportunity to help open a start-up school, the Clark Avenue Middle School, for approximately 750 grade five and grade six students. She served as assistant principal and principal of the Clark Avenue Middle School. While serving in both positions she also led the district-wide curriculum alignment and formative assessment design work. Ms. Bourque accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent of the Chelsea Public Schools in 2004 and was moved to Deputy Superintendent in 2008. On July 1, 2011 she became Superintendent of the Chelsea Public Schools.



JULIE HACKETT
President-Elect

Dr. Julie Hackett has been a public educator since 1992. Her background includes experience at the elementary, middle, high school, and post-secondary levels. Over her twenty-three year career in education, Julie has demonstrated a consistent commitment

to innovation, collaboration, and the belief that all children can and should attain the highest levels of achievement.

In 2009, Dr. Hackett was the first female in the history of the city to be named superintendent of the Taunton Public Schools. Under her leadership, the district's dropout and graduation rates have continued to improve each year. Today, the district dropout rate is at a record low of 1.7% (from a high of over 7%), with Taunton High School achieving a dropout rate of less than 1%. The graduation rate is at a record high of 90% (from a low of 72%).

With a strong belief that inclusion benefits everyone and all children have a right to learn with their peers, Dr. Hackett worked closely with the Taunton school community to put new inclusion practices in place. Together, they created one of the first district-wide models of inclusion in the Commonwealth. During her tenure, Taunton has also been recognized for its efforts to close the achievement gap between African American and white students at a rate "two to three times faster than the State average" (Beyond Demographic Destiny, 2010).

In recent years, Dr. Hackett has become a frequent presenter at state and national conferences on the topic of how to establish positive and productive working relationships between superintendents and school boards. Her second book, *Building Relationships, Yielding Results: How Superintendents Can Work with School Boards to Create Productive Teams*, was published last year by Harvard Education Press.



ERIC CONTI
Secretary-Treasurer

After graduating from Brown University, Eric worked for AT&T for five years. From the corporate world Eric went back to Brown for his Masters in teaching science. As a seventh grade science teacher in East Greenwich, RI, Eric was nominated for the

Sallie Mae first year teacher's award. Eric attended the University of Wisconsin in Madison and worked for the Consortium for Policy Research in Education while earning his doctorate. Wisconsin led to an Assistant Superintendent's position for the Manchester Essex Regional School District in Massachusetts. From Massachusetts, Eric took a job as Assistant Superintendent in Culpeper County, Virginia. Eric's current position as Superintendent of the Burlington Public School district in Burlington, MA is where all that he has learned along his many stops is being put to good use.



ANDRE RAVENELLE
Past President

André R. Ravenelle is in his 11th year as Superintendent of the Fitchburg Public Schools and has been an innovative educator for closer to three decades. His eclectic educational background includes several years of historical interpretation and craftsmanship at Old Sturbridge Village, teaching French, Spanish and art at Roxbury's Mission High School, assistant principal of Chelsea High School, and administration of Barnstable and Lexington Public Schools.

He holds a B.A. from Assumption College, Masters in Theology from Weston School of Theology, and a Masters in Education from Boston College. Andre is this year's president of the Mass Association of School Superintendents, serves on numerous education-related boards and collaboratives including the Governor's After School and Out of School Coordinating Council; Fitchburg State University Professional Development Center; Fitchburg Art Museum; FLLAC Collaborative. He was the 2014 recipient of the Fitchburg State University President's Award, the 2016 AASA Superintendent of the Year; and the 2016 MassInsight Partners in Excellence Leadership Award recipient.

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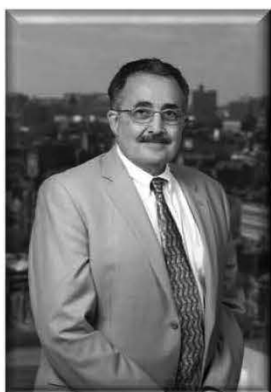
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