

NASSAU-SUFFOLK SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION, INC.

**219 BEDFORD AVENUE – P.O. BOX 385
BELLMORE, NEW YORK 11710**

**PHONE: 516-781-2053
FAX: 516-679-0401
E-MAIL: info@nssba.org**



ORGANIZATION

2023-2024 – OFFICERS

President – Susan Lipman
Suffolk Vice President – Matthew Clareen
Nassau Vice President – Lawrence Greenstein
Secretary/Treasurer – Charmise Desiré

Immediate Past-President – Michael Kelly

2023-2024 – STANDING COMMITTEES

Board In-Service – Brian Sales, Chairperson
Budget – Charmise Desiré, Chairperson
Finance – Steve Gellar, Chairperson
Legislation – Dawn Sharrock, Chairperson
 Stuart Kaplan, Vice Chairperson
Nominating – Jeanne D'Esposito, Esq., Chairperson
President's Advisory – Michael Kelly, Chairperson

Robert Vecchio, Executive Director
Lorraine Mentz, Administrative Director

N-SSBA OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2023-2024

OFFICERS

President
Suffolk Vice President
Nassau Vice President
Secretary/Treasurer

Susan Lipman
Matthew Clareen
Lawrence Greenstein
Charmise Desiré

Eastern Suffolk BOCES
Islip
Nassau BOCES
Uniondale

NASSAU COUNTY

Karen Brohm
Jeanne D'Esposito
Michael Jaime
Stuart Kaplan
Michael Pappas
Patricia Rudd
Maria Venuto
Michael Kelly

West Hempstead
Malverne
Elmont
Oceanside
Levittown
New Hyde Park-Garden City Park
Glen Cove
Bethpage – Immediate Past-President

SUFFOLK COUNTY

Nicholas Ciappetta
Steve Gellar
Kelli Anne Jennings
Michele Kustera
Chris Picini
Dawn Sharrock
Kenneth Urban

South Huntington
Little Flower
Patchogue-Medford
Huntington
South Country
Middle Country
Copiague

STAFF

Robert Vecchio
Lorraine Mentz

Executive Director
Administrative Director

OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To provide an organization which will voice the opinions of its members on legislative and other pertinent matters
- ❖ To work jointly with other associations in the Long Island educational community
- ❖ To encourage cooperation among member boards in the interest of better education
- ❖ To provide for the exchange of information of “best practices” and successful strategies and programs
- ❖ To provide for the exchange of information on school programs
- ❖ To assist its members in every possible way with their school board issues
- ❖ To further the mutual objectives of this Association and the New York State School Boards Association

N-SSBA AT WORK

The Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association is a service organization with a membership of 108 Long Island school boards. Founded on November 24, 1959, it was incorporated by the Board of Regents on March 17, 1995. With its primary goals the advancement of education and service to member boards, the Association:

- ❖ **holds a monthly meeting of the Executive Committee**
- ❖ **works through committees such as the Legislation Committee the Finance Committee and the Board In-Service Committee**
- ❖ **publishes informational papers on current educational, legislative and school funding issues**
- ❖ **provides invited testimony at hearings of task forces, commissions and governmental committees**
- ❖ **keeps members informed on legislation (state-federal-local) and publishes an annual legislative brochure**
- ❖ **communicates school board concerns and legislative positions to legislators (state-federal-local)**
- ❖ **co-chairs Long Island Education Coalition (LIEC)**
- ❖ **maintains cooperative relationships with other education organizations such as NYSSBA, PTA, Superintendents Associations, NYSUT, ASBO, REFIT, etc.**
- ❖ **represents school boards on several coalitions such as the Long Island Education Coalition, Council of Local School Boards Associations, Long Island Regional Planning Council, etc.**
- ❖ **represents school board interests with local media, newspapers, television, radio**
- ❖ **provides conferences/seminars/workshops for member boards on educational issues**
- ❖ **responds to inquiries from member boards relating to board service and responsibilities**

CURRENT ISSUES

- ❖ Preserve and promote support for public education and school budgets
- ❖ Protect governance authority of locally elected Boards of Education
- ❖ Maintain that public funds should support core public education and not be diverted for private school vouchers, education or tuition tax credits or towards the expansion of services and financial assistance to private, parochial and charter schools
- ❖ Press for relief from the costs of state and federal mandates
- ❖ Support reform of NYS foundation formula for state aid to adequately account for Long Island's higher regional costs; retain "High Tax Aid"
- ❖ Defend schools against County efforts to hold schools responsible for back payments of tax certioraris
- ❖ Call for changes in NYS property tax levy cap
- ❖ Oppose efforts to shift financial responsibilities of other levels of government on to the local school property tax
- ❖ Continue efforts to exempt public schools from the costly Wicks Law

WORKING WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

N-SSBA's involvement with educational coalitions and other organizations is vital to promote a united voice in support of Long Island's public schools

- ❖ New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA)
- ❖ New York State School Boards Association – Legislative Advocacy Capital Conference (CapCon)
- ❖ National School Boards Association – National Advocacy Institute (NAI)
- ❖ New York State School Boards Association – Areas 11 and 12 Directors
- ❖ Eastern Suffolk BOCES, Nassau BOCES, Western Suffolk BOCES
- ❖ New York State Council of School Superintendents (NYSCOSS)
- ❖ Nassau County Council of School Superintendents (NCCSS)
- ❖ Suffolk County School Superintendents Association (SCCSA)
- ❖ New York State Association of School Business Officials (NYSASBO)
- ❖ New York State Association of School Business Officials –
Nassau and Suffolk Chapters
- ❖ Nassau Region PTA
- ❖ Suffolk Region PTA
- ❖ New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) - Nassau and Suffolk Regional Directors
- ❖ Long Island Education Coalition (LIEC)
- ❖ Long Island STEM Hub
- ❖ Long Island Association (LIA)
LIA Health, Education and Not-For-Profit Committee
- ❖ Long Island Regional Planning Council (LIRPC)
- ❖ REFIT (Reform Educational Financing Inequities Today))
- ❖ I.T.S.B.A. (Islip Town School Boards Association)
- ❖ SAJES Council for Prejudice Reduction
- ❖ SCOPE
- ❖ WLIW/ETSC Board
- ❖ Council of Local School Boards Associations (COLSBA)
- ❖ State Aid Data Analysis Group (SADA)
- ❖ Nassau County District Attorney – School Safety Task Force