



## Broome-Tioga School Boards Association

The Broome Tioga School Boards Association (BTSBA) was established more than 40 years ago to serve the needs of school board members who serve on any school board which operates within the Broome-Tioga BOCES. Association membership currently consists of the 15 component public school districts in the Broome-Tioga BOCES, as well as the Broome-Tioga BOCES and the Catholic Schools of Broome County boards of education.

The purpose of the Association is to identify major contemporary issues affecting public education in our area. The association provides a forum for the discussion and exchange of information regarding these issues as well as serving as a resource to assist local school boards as they work to educate children and serve the constituents within their districts. This Association is also charged with assuming an active role to influence New York State and Federal Legislators in all matters that may impact the education of children of our community.

In fulfillment of its responsibilities the association offers a variety of direct services and programs to the school board members within the Broome-Tioga BOCES. Additionally, the Association collaborates with the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) to help insure that member districts needs are addressed.

Toward this end the Association annually conducts a series of programs and workshops for membership. These Activities include:

- Legislative Committee: The association maintains a sitting committee responsible for all legislative matters that may affect member school districts. It is composed of representation from all component Boards of Education within the BOCES. It meets a minimum of twice each year.
- Annual Business Dinner Meeting: Held in October this meeting allows for the election of officers and to conduct the business of the Association. In election years, this meeting also serves as Meet the Candidates event for state assembly and senate candidates.
- Joint Dinner Meeting: Held in the Spring, this is a joint meeting conducted by the School Boards, Superintendents and Principals Associations of the BOCES and features a keynote address from a guest speaker on contemporary education or community topics.
- Presidents and Vice-Presidents Meeting: Held in November and April this meeting is a forum for the officers from each component district. The agenda is generated based upon the issues identified by the participants.
- Prospective School Board Member Workshop: Held in March this session is designed for individuals considering running for office. The session provides an overview of school board service addressing legal issues, roles and responsibilities.
- Legislative Breakfast: Held in February, this meeting provides an opportunity for board members to interact with state legislative leaders during the legislative session. It allows our association to advocate on behalf of desired legislation, and caution our legislators on legislative matters that might be a detriment for our component districts.

- Specialty Workshop Series: While open to everyone, these workshops are targeted for newer board members and are designed to provide individuals with information that compliments the work they are doing on their local school board. They include:
  - Newly Elected Orientation: Held in June this workshop is designed to complement the orientation work done by component districts for any new board member.
  - Career & Technical Education Center (BOCES): Held in September this workshop includes a tour of the Career and Technical education Center with a focus on the programs and services provided for students.
  - Budget Development Primer: Held in February this workshop provides information and context for the development of individual school district budgets.
  - State Assessments: Held in April this workshop provides an overview of the state assessment system. It is designed to provide participants with an understanding of test design, student assessment and data reporting embedded in the State Assessment system.