

# Broome Tioga School Boards Association



## DOT-DASH Newsletter

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### Joint Dinner Meeting

JANUARY 2009

Broome-Tioga Association of Chief School Administrators  
Broome-Tioga Area Principals' Center  
Broome-Tioga School Boards Association  
The Organization of Instructional Representatives

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Cordially Invites you to a dinner meeting and program:

**Speaker: Sean Covey**

Sean Covey is Sr. Vice President of Innovations and Products at Franklin Covey, a world renowned organization devoted to helping individuals and organizations achieve greatness. Sean graduated from BYU with a degree in English and later earned his M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. As the starting quarterback for BYU, he led his team to two bowl games and received numerous honors. He is the author of *Fourth Down and Life to Go*, and the international bestseller, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* which has sold over three million copies and is translated in over 15 languages.

He is a popular speaker to youth and adult groups. Sean and his wife Rebecca live with their children in the Rocky Mountains.

**Wednesday evening, January 14, 2009**

6:00 Registration  
6:30 Buffet Dinner  
7:15 BTSBA Meeting  
7:25 Program

Binghamton Regency Hotel  
South Ballroom  
225 Water Street, Binghamton

***RSVP with your Superintendent's Office by 01/05/2009***



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## Prospective Board Member Workshop

**March 11, 7:30 p.m.**

**BOCES ISC room A**

A free workshop is offered to the public to assist prospective board members in gaining information regarding the roles and responsibilities of a school board member. Topics of discussion include:

- Expectations of colleagues and administrators.
- Challenges in dealing with special interest groups.
- Legal responsibilities and

Election procedures.

- A new school board member's perspective.
- Question and Answer session.

If you are aware of any interested potential board members, please let them know of this workshop. No registration is required.

For further information contact John Paske at 766-3807 or check the website at:

[www.btboces.org/sba](http://www.btboces.org/sba)



## Calendar of Events

**Jan 28, 2009**

Legislative Committee meeting

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**Mar 11, 2009**

Prospective Board member workshop

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**Mar 25, 2009**

President/VP workshop

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**June 10, 2009**

Scholastic Recognition Dinner



If you would like to receive these newsletters electronically only, please contact our office:

**Email: [msavory@btboces.org](mailto:msavory@btboces.org)**



## From Your Area IV Director

This year, NYSSBA has really tried to focus on being responsive to our membership. As you have no doubt observed, there is an incredible amount of information out there on education and the future of education in New York State. In an attempt to both keep us informed and thinking about the issues, NYSSBA's pulse polls have been a helpful addition to our normal advocacy efforts. I hope you have had the opportunity to respond to a few and had occasion to consider the results of the polls. We also conducted a membership survey between August 5 and October 23 to ascertain member's opinions on the effectiveness of NYSSBA's current offerings and to gather information on how we might better respond to the needs of school board members and administrators. Area 4 had a great response rate! Thank you – results of the survey will be published shortly. For those of you interested in the resumption of an upstate NYSSBA Convention rotation, there is some good news. Plans for 2011 – 2013 are being made for the Buffalo (2011) and Rochester Convention Centers (2012- 2013). Contracts are not yet signed. Both Convention sites are planning upgrades before our arrival as are the surrounding hotels.

Currently, we are offering a one day workshop on Fiscal Management In Hard Financial Times. The closest offering to Broome Tioga is Rochester on Thursday, Dec. 11, at the Rochester Marriott Airport Hotel. Topics covered will be Monitoring Finances, Fund Balances, Alternate Sources of Revenue, Borrowing, and Staff Reductions. We also have made some substantial changes to our annual SLN Conference this year. The event will be held from Sunday, March 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> in downtown Albany. All NYSSBA members are welcome at the conference free of registration charge. Area Directors will no longer be appointing members –all are welcome! We will be housed (you are responsible for housing charges!) in 3 hotels downtown with a shuttle going between the hotels and the Egg on the Empire State Plaza where all events will be taking place. A Monday night candle light vigil is planned on the capital grounds to draw attention to the funding shortages planned for education this year. Registration for both SLN and the Fiscal Management Workshop can be done online by accessing the calendar and selecting and submitting the appropriate registration form.

We have outlined a proposed advocacy agenda for 2009 which focuses on emphasizing that public schools are a sound investment in an uncertain economy, that public education and local democracy are inseparable, that local school districts are best positioned to make resource decisions , and that more high school graduates mean greater economic prosperity for New York State. In addition, in response to the release of the Governor's Tax Cap Report on Dec. 1, Executive Director Tim Kremer highlighted several positive recommendations for which NYSSBA has long advocated. 1) Rather than handcuffing schools and forcing significant program cuts and layoffs, state lawmakers should focus on those recommendations in the report that would immediately help districts control rising health insurance, pension, personnel and special education costs. 2) Promising mandate relief and pledging to address the root causes of high property taxes is not enough. The economic situation we face is too dire. Lawmakers must realize that these mandate relief proposals will save money, drive down local property taxes and, help reduce the negative impact of state aid reductions. 3) If Gov. Paterson and the Legislature look only at capping property tax increases while at the same time warning local officials about a potential decrease in state aid, there will be serious concerns about how our school districts will operate in the coming year.

As always, if you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me – I welcome your input! Oops! I almost forgot to mention the Report of the NYSSBA Task Force on Maximizing School District Resources – available at the bottom left of NYSSBA's Home Web page – another great resource!

Wishing you and yours a wonderful and peaceful holiday season.

Douglas Ann Land Area 4 Director



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