New York State School Boards Association

2021 PROPOSED *Resolutions*

Please Note:

The proposals contained within this booklet are not the official positions of the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA). Rather, these proposals represent items introduced by individual NYSSBA member boards or the NYSSBA Board of Directors for consideration at the 2021 Annual Business Meeting.

Moreover, proposals advanced by the NYSSBA Board of Directors are not the positions of the Board, nor should their advancement be considered endorsement by the NYSSBA Board. Proposals advanced by the Board of Directors are done so because the Board of Directors has identified an issue, by way of a resolutions survey sent to all members, on which they seek the membership's input.

No individual board, including the NYSSBA Board of Directors, can adopt a formal position statement or change to the Association bylaws. Only a vote of the delegates at the Annual Business Meeting can adopt a formal position statement or change to the bylaws of the Association.

To view NYSSBA's current bylaws and position statements, please see the links below.

NYSSBA Bylaws
NYSSBA 2021 Position Statements

New York State School Boards Association
Better School Boards Lead to Better Student Performance

24 Century Hill Drive, Suite 200
Latham, New York 12110-2125
Tel: 518.783.0200 | Fax: 518.783.0211
www.nyssba.org

TO: School Board Members and Chief School Administrators

FROM: Anne Savage, Resolutions Committee Chair

DATE: August 30, 2021

On Monday, August 9, the Resolutions Committee met to discuss the resolutions you will find in this book. The Resolutions Committee voted to recommend or not recommend the resolutions proposed by member school districts and the NYSSBA Board of Directors. On **Monday, October 18, 2021 at 4:00pm,** district delegates will meet for the New York State School Boards Association's virtual Annual Business Meeting, and consider these resolutions.

Within this booklet you will find the following information:

- NYSSBA Board of Directors
- Resolutions Committee Members
- Listing of Proposed Resolutions
- Proposed Resolutions Recommended for Adoption
- Proposed Resolutions Not Recommended for Adoption
- Information on Amendments, Rebuttals, Statements of Support and Late Resolutions
- Information for the Voting Delegates

All districts will have the opportunity to suggest amendments to the submitted resolutions and rebuttals to not recommended resolutions for inclusion in the Voting Delegates' Guide by **September 17, 2021.** Amendments cannot be submitted "from the floor", and need to be submitted by ***Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 5pm*** for inclusion in the Business Meeting.

NYSSBA Board of Directors

President ..... Fred J. Langstaff

1st Vice President/Area 10 ..... Peggy Zugibe

2nd Vice President/Area 4 ..... Sandra Ruffo

Treasurer ..... Thomas Nespeca

Immediate Past President/Area 5 ..... William Miller

Area 1 ..... Linda R. Hoffman

Area 2 ..... Rodney George

Area 3 ..... Christine Schnars

Area 6 ..... Wayne Rogers

Area 7 ..... Catherine Lewis

Area 8 ..... Brian LaTourette

Area 9 ..... John Redman

Area 11 ..... Robert "B.A." Shoen

Area 12 ..... Catherine Romano

Area 13 ..... Sharon Rencher

Director, Big 5 School Districts ..... Willa Powell

Director, Caucus of Black School Board Members ..... Sylvester Cleary

Resolution Committee Members

Area	Name	School District/Organization Name
1	Scott Johnson	Sweet Home Central School District
2	Maureen M. Nupp	Monroe 1 BOCES
3	Mary Weimer	Scio Central School District
4	Jeanne E. Shields	Bainbridge-Guilford Central School District
5	Russell E. Wehner	Chittenango Central School District
6	Catherine Hollinshead	Malone Central School District
7	Anne C. Savage	Albany City School District
8	Kerri G. Green	Sidney Central School District
9	William M. Boss	Orange-Ulster BOCES
10	Marjorie Schiff	Katonah-Lewisboro Union Free School District
11	Charmise Desire	Uniondale Union Free School District
12	Matthew Clareen	East Islip Union Free School District
13	Roseann Napolitano	NYCDOE
Big 5	Louis J. Petrucci	Buffalo City School District
Caucus of Black School Board Members	Robin L. Bolling	Westbury Union Free School District
Board Liaison:	Fred Langstaff	Eastern Suffolk BOCES

NYSSBA Staff

Name	Title	Email
Robert Schneider	Executive Director	bob.schneider@nyssba.org
Jay Worona	Deputy Executive Director & General Counsel	jay.worona@nyssba.org
Brian C. Fessler	Director of Governmental Relations and Staff Liaison	brian.fessler@nyssba.org
Caroline L. Bobick	Senior Governmental Relations Representative	caroline.bobick@nyssba.org
Alicia Artessa	Governmental Relations Representative	alicia.artessa@nyssba.org
John S. Daley	Governmental Relations Representative	john.daley@nyssba.org
Danielle E. Grasso	Grassroots Advocacy Manager and Governmental Relations Coordinator	danielle.grasso@nyssba.org

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION

Proposed Resolution 1
(NYSSBA Board of Directors) 7

Proposed Resolution 2
(NYSSBA Board of Directors) 8

Proposed Resolution 3
(NYSSBA Board of Directors) 8

Proposed Resolution 4
(NYSSBA Board of Directors) 9

Proposed Resolution 5
(NYSSBA Board of Directors) 10

Proposed Resolution 6
(Nassau BOCES) 10

Proposed Resolution 7
(Newark School Board) 10

Proposed Resolution 8
(Hendrick Hudson School Board) 11

Proposed Resolution 9
(Croton Harmon and Albany) 11

Proposed Resolution 10
(Croton Harmon School Board) 13

Proposed Resolution 11
(Voorheesville School Board) 14

Proposed Resolution 12
(Washingtonville School Board) 15

Proposed Resolution 13
(Shenendehowa School Board) 15

Proposed Resolution 14
(Ulster BOCES Board) 16

Proposed Resolution 15
(Shenendehowa School Board) 17

Proposed Resolution 16
(Washingtonville School Board) 17

Proposed Resolution 17
(Freeport School Board) 18

PROPOSED BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION

Proposed By-Law Amendment Article 4
(Nassau BOCES) 19

Proposed Resolution 18
(Newark School Board) 20

Proposed Resolution 19
(Newark School Board) 20

Proposed Resolution 20
(Onteora School Board) 21

Proposed Resolution 21
(Onteora School Board) 21

Proposed Resolution 22
(Onteora School Board) 22

Proposed Resolution 23
(Onteora School Board) 22

Proposed Resolution 24
(Ardsley School Board) 23

Proposed Resolution 25
(Washingtonville School Board) 24

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS
RECOMMENDED BY THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 1 - SUNSETTING
Submitted by: The NYSSBA Board of Directors (6/7/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association calls upon the state Legislature and the Governor to reform New York State education funding in accordance with the following tenets to ensure adequate resources to public schools in the State of New York by providing for:

- Adequacy that provides sufficient resources to assure the opportunity for a sound basic education for all students; and
- Equity to distribute a foundation level of state aid for every student that is based on the actual cost of providing a sound basic education that fairly compensates for differences in community costs, needs and resources while precluding municipalities from using state aid to replace local education resources; and
- Flexibility to increase the percentage of operating aid so that boards of education retain the discretion to determine what educational programs best address local needs while local communities should not be restrained from determining the level of funding they will expend to support educational programs; and
- Predictability based on timely passage of the state budget and stable funding distributed through a consistent, uniformly applied formula that would not require annual manipulation by the Legislature and that would facilitate long-term planning by school districts; and
- Clarity by establishing a funding formula that is easily explained and understood.

RATIONALE

Education funding is one of the most critical components of a successful educational system. Because financial support for schools is a significant part of the state budget, such funding should be clearly thought out and rooted in sound policy.

The provision of a sound basic education understandably comes with many costs. Funding should be provided in a way that allows school districts to adequately and equitably educate their students and operate their schools.

Communities have different resources and students have different needs. Funding should be provided in a way that meets those needs, while allowing local school district leadership the flexibility to allocate those resources in the most appropriate way.

These funds must also be delivered with predictability, to allow school districts to develop their budgets and help prevent volatility that can then be transferred to taxpayers. Informed discussions are the best way to improve our education funding system, so clarity is necessary to permit all parties involved to play an effective role in that conversation.

These principles serve as a guide and framework for what and how NYSSBA should advocate for, and react to, proposals that affect state aid and school funding for years to come.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2 - SUNSETTING
Submitted by: The NYSSBA Board of Directors (6/7/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association supports state proposals affecting public education that:

- Provide access to programs that prepare students to be college-and-career-ready;
- Achieve equity and adequacy in funding;
- Promote efficiency and cost-effectiveness;
- Advance high expectations for all students;
- Embrace innovative approaches and assessments;
- Foster community engagement and regional cooperation.

RATIONALE

Several of NYSSBA's positions have been adopted over the years to provide principles intended to guide NYSSBA's advocacy efforts. This proposed resolution, up for renewed adoption, would instill in NYSSBA's advocacy compass values for the Governmental Relations department to uphold as they weigh in on dozens, or even hundreds, of state and federal proposals each year.

NYSSBA has a number of positions regarding adequate funding for certain vulnerable populations, services and programs, and other areas of local control to determine the most appropriate and efficient way to educate and support students. NYSSBA has a long track record of effectively advocating for and educating legislators on equitable and adequate funding.

Finally, NYSSBA is further guided by proposals to foster community engagement to address disproportionality and encourage respect for differences. NYSSBA recognizes that communication and outreach are key components to help bridge the equity divide and provide opportunities for all students to succeed.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 3 - SUNSETTING
Submitted by: The NYSSBA Board of Directors (6/7/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support proposals that would allow students with disabilities to be tested at their developmental age.

RATIONALE

Differently-abled students should be allowed to take exams at their "developmental age" rather than their "chronological age." Schools should test children at their developmental age, which bases their capacity on their emotional, physical, cognitive, and social functions.

Under current law, students are required to be assessed for accountability purposes at grade level, closely tracking their chronological age. The New State York Alternate Assessment was developed to measure student achievement toward meeting the alternate performance indicators for each standard. This option is available for students with severe cognitive disabilities.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act) continues to allow 1% of the most severely disabled students to take alternative state assessments, as was the case under No Child Left Behind. However, the 1% safe harbor provision does not go far enough.

New York State Education Law § 305(48) directs the State Education Department (NYSED), as allowed by any federal waiver issued by U.S. Department of Education (USDE), to allow "students with disabilities who are not eligible for the New York state alternate assessment and whose cognitive and intellectual disabilities preclude their meaningful participation in chronological grade level instruction to be assessed based on instructional level rather than chronological age."

NYSED applied for the federal waiver to assess children with disabilities who are enrolled in grades 4-8 using reading/language arts and mathematics assessments not more than two grade-levels below chronological grade level. However, in January 2018, USDE denied the waiver request.

Currently, students with significant cognitive disabilities who do not qualify for the NYS Alternate Assessment must take a grade level exam, even if those students are unable to correctly answer any of the questions on the exam. The use of below-grade-level assessments would better inform teachers about a student's level of understanding and performance. In order to help accomplish this goal, increased flexibility is needed. The federal government should authorize states to test students with disabilities at their developmental age rather than their chronological age.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 4 - SUNSETTING
Submitted by: The NYSSBA Board of Directors (6/7/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support proposals that would increase state and federal reimbursements for school meals.

RATIONALE

During the COVID-19 pandemic, school districts continued to ensure students across the state had access to nutritious breakfasts, lunches, and sometimes even dinners during a time of transition from cafeteria service to grab-and-go meal pick-up and delivery models.

School food authorities experienced budget shortfalls for a number of reasons, including transportation costs of delivery services, increased costs due to packaging, provision of hazard pay for food service employees and loss of anticipated revenue from a la carte food items. NYSSBA should support increased investments in school nutrition programs at both the state and federal levels.

In 2018, the enacted state budget included a number of school meal related provisions; one such provision provided an increased state reimbursement per lunch for K-12 schools that spent at least 30% of their lunch budget on New York grown food. Since it began, the program grew from 7 to 57 schools, and with continued commitment it can contribute to the state's economic recovery while improving public health. Amendments to the program could open the door to more districts seeking higher state lunch reimbursements.

In order to continue to be able to deliver healthy meals in the most flexible manner and ensure students are well-fed and ready to learn, school meal reimbursements must increase to account for higher costs of delivery, packaging, and even the ability to source more food products locally.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 5
Submitted by: The NYSSBA Board of Directors (6/7/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support proposals that would generate new state revenues with the dedicated purpose of funding education.

RATIONALE

State funding is one of the key backbones of delivering a quality education to students. State funding must not only be sufficient, it must be reliable. As the cost of education increases, school districts must have the ability to rely on a steady and sustainable flow of state funding to meet the needs of students. Revenue that is prescribed for use as dedicated education funding streams currently exist at the state level. Among these are the New York State Lottery and Video Lottery Terminal gaming education funds, which combined will direct more than $3 billion in support of education under the 2021-22 enacted budget.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 6
Submitted by: The Nassau BOCES Board (6/25/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislation to amend the education law to permit voters to obtain absentee ballots for school district elections and budget votes when such elections and budget votes are scheduled on a day which coincides with a religious holiday for such voters and to continue to permit districts to utilize the already existing option to alter the date of the election and budget vote if the uniform budget date falls on a religious holiday.

RATIONALE

NYS enacted legislation over 20 years ago requiring that the state-wide day for conducting school district budget votes and annual school board elections shall be the 3rd Tuesday in May. In 2020 the law was updated to add a provision allowing a local school board by resolution, accompanied by supporting documentation, to request that the NYS Commissioner of Education change the date for: their annual meeting and election to the 2nd Tuesday in May due to religious observances. Districts that have availed themselves of this-option have done so because they recognized that this conflict had the potential to disenfranchise a significant segment of their registered voters.

However, as demographics shift across-the-state, there are any number of districts where voters affected by this conflict may now represent a growing minority of the population. For those districts, while there is insufficient need to request a change of date from the commissioner, the impact on the affected residents can result in a choice between their ability to freely practice their religion and their ability to freely exercise their voting rights. Therefore, NYSSBA should support equal access to school district elections and budget votes by advocating for the use of absentee voting when the mandated date of such elections conflicts with a day of religious observance.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 7
Submitted by: The Newark School Board (7/1/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association work with the Office of the State Comptroller and other necessary policymakers to ensure that Comptroller audits are based on statutory guidelines or provisions of state law, rather than subjective standards and preferences.

RATIONALE

There are many times when findings of the Comptroller's Office are not supported by industry best practices or recommendations of Districts' auditors. The Comptroller's Office has been known to audit practices not outlined in any document or training available to districts. Districts employ attorneys, auditors and financial advisors who guide the district in best practices. Many audits by the Comptroller's Office are lengthy and costly to the district, in the time spent by the district staff with the auditors, without the benefit of their expertise. The Comptroller's auditors should assist districts with creating the corrective plan after the completion of the audit as well as inform district officials and boards of what will be audited before any district is audited.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 8
Submitted by: The Hendrick Hudson School Board (7/8/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association supports updates to the Open Meetings Law to allow for School Board Trustees to attend meetings remotely via video conferencing without disclosing their location and without permitting public in-person access to an individual trustee's remote location.

RATIONALE

Current Open Meetings Law requires a trustee to disclose and open their remote location to the public to observe a trustee participating in a public meeting. This seems completely unintuitive and archaic given current technology capabilities. Trustees should be able to participate remotely when issues preclude their attendance at an in-person meeting. Through the suspension of certain provisions of the Open Meetings Law during the pandemic, Trustees and the public have been able to attend Board meetings via remote audio and video attendance, resulting in much greater participation in our meetings. These revisions to the Open Meetings Law would provide flexibility for trustees to attend meetings when they cannot be at a meeting in person and would not compromise the public's ability to observe the meeting. The public would have the ability to listen to and view both remote and in-person participants via: the live stream, the main public meeting location, or the recording of the meeting.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 9
Submitted by: The Croton-Harmon School Board and Albany City School Board (7/13/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association supports legislation to amend the Open Meetings Law (the "OML") to (a) provide enhanced opportunities for the conducting of business at a meeting of a public body through the use of remote meeting technology; (b) authorize committees of a public body to meet through the use of videoconferencing without a fixed location for the meeting, and (c) eliminate the requirement that a public body subject to the OML identify the location(s) from which a member of the public body will be attending the meeting remotely and eliminate the requirement that members of the public be accorded the right to attend such meetings at those remote locations.

RATIONALE

School boards strongly support the purpose and intent of the OML (Article 7 of the Public Officers Law) because it is essential that the public have an opportunity to observe discussions and deliberations of school boards and other public bodies. Further, school boards desire to conduct their business meetings in person. However, as recognized by the OML, circumstances may arise in which a member of a public body is unable to attend a meeting in person. Current law states: "A public body that uses videoconferencing to conduct its

meetings shall provide an opportunity for the public to attend, listen and observe at any site at which a member participates." Public Officers Law, $103(c)] Current law also states: "If videoconferencing is used to conduct a meeting, the public notice for the meeting shall inform the public that videoconferencing will be used, identify the locations for the meeting, and state that the public has the right to attend the meeting at any of the locations." [Public Officers Law, $104(4)]

On March 7, 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic, Governor Andrew Cuomo issued Executive Order 2l2, which among other emergency measures suspended the OML requirements that public bodies conduct in-person meetings and that they provide notice of the locations from which members of the public body were attending such meetings. For more than one year after the issuance of the Executive Order and its extension by successive orders of the Governor, until the Governor's order of June 25, 2021, cancelling the suspension of the OML requirements of in person meetings, public bodies conducted business remotely, with full opportunity for the public to attend, listen and observe, using videoconferencing technology such as Zoom, Google Meets, and Microsoft Teams. Public bodies, including school boards, have gained valuable knowledge and experience in utilizing videoconferencing technology to make meetings more accessible to the public and more efficient for members of those public bodies.

Upon the expiration of the suspension of these OML provisions, public bodies (including school boards) are no longer able to utilize videoconferencing technology as they did during the period of the pandemic emergency. The OML should be amended to enable public bodies to utilize this technology in the conduct of meetings in a manner that ensures that the public has appropriate opportunity to observe, attend, and participate. The use of videoconferencing technology was particularly useful to enable school boards committees and subcommittees to engage in their work. The OML defines "public body" to include a committee or subcommittee or other similar body of such public body." [Public Officers Law, $102(2)] Thus, board committees and subcommittees (other than advisory committees and task forces that include non-members) are subject to the OML's location and notice provisions. [See OML-AO-5331 (Committee on Open Government, Dec. 11. 2012) ("the legislative history of [the OML] clearly indicates that committee or subcommittee consisting solely of members of a governing body is itself a public body.")] During the suspension of the OML, school board committees functioned effectively through the use of videoconferencing technology, since board members were able to participate remotely without needing to travel to a designated meeting location and without disruption to work or family obligations. Similarly, school administrators were able to participate in committee discussions from their respective offices or other locations (including from home if the administrator was working remotely). Members of the public were accorded full opportunity to attend, listen to and observe committee meetings remotely through the use of videoconferencing technology. The OML should be amended to enable public bodies to conduct committee meetings entirely by videoconferencing, with appropriate opportunity for members of the public to attend the remote meetings in the manner that worked so effectively for school board committees and those of other municipalities for well over a year.

Additionally, during the suspension of the OML, members of public bodies participated in meetings from remote locations without identifying their location. Members of the public have attended numerous meetings remotely in the more than one year that the OML notice and location provisions were suspended-and with only a very few exceptions such meetings have been conducted efficiently and with full opportunity for the public to observe the conduct of public business. Almost all school districts and other public bodies have long provided live stream access to their meetings through videoconferencing and/or social media platforms, even as members of the public attend meetings in person at their noticed location. The past year and a half has demonstrated how remote participation in meetings of public bodies has enhanced the conducting of public business without limiting the access of members of the public to such meetings.

Revealing the location of members participating remotely is not necessary to ensure that the public can attend and observe a meeting. Since meetings of a public body are noticed and conducted at a designated location,

members of the public can attend the meeting at the designated location, in the same manner as they would if every member of the public body is present-and the member or members participating remotely will be seen by everyone attending at the meeting location (as well as those who are watching the proceedings through live streaming). Thus, requiring members of public bodies to open their homes, offices, or other remote location is unnecessary to ensure the public has full opportunity to attend. Further, and of major concern, revealing remote locations of participating members of a school board or other public body creates a safety or security risk to those members who are participating from their residences or other unprotected locations, and public notice of a member's participation from a location outside the community signals that their residence is likely unoccupied, thereby inviting unlawful entry of their homes. Members of public bodies should not be forced to place their (and their families') personal safety or properly in jeopardy when they engage in their civic duty through videoconferencing. For this additional reason, the OML should be amended to remove the requirement that a participating member's remote location be publicized and that the public be permitted to attend the meeting at this remote location

---

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 10
Submitted by: The Croton Harmon School Board (7/13/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association supports revision of the Child Safety Zone statute [Education Law §3635-b] and implementing regulations of the State Education Department to establish a more flexible and meaningful set of criteria for the determination of a Child Safety Zone for which a school district may provide student transportation as an ordinary contingent expense.

RATIONALE

The Education Law establishes statutory mileage limits for transportation of students (a distance of 2 miles from school for elementary school students, and 3 miles from school for middle and high school students), and authorizes school districts, upon voter approval in a referendum, to establish mileage limits that are lower than the statutory limits. These mileage limits are administered and interpreted solely by measuring the distance from the student's home to a designated place on the grounds of the school by the most direct vehicle route, without regard to the route a child would need to traverse as a pedestrian or bicyclist to travel to and from school. School district provided transportation that does not fall within the mileage limits is not eligible for State transportation aid unless a Child Safety Zone is created.

Education Law §3635-b(1) authorizes boards of education, as an exception to the stated mileage limits, to adopt a resolution establishing a Child Safety Zone-an area that would be too close to the school to be eligible for transportation but for which students' most direct walking route to school will traverse a hazardous zone. However, the State Education Department regulations implementing this statute [17 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 191], unchanged since 1993, mandate that a school district can only establish a Child Safety Zone using a complex and inflexible "point system" to determine whether student pedestrians are placed in sufficient danger that a Child Safety Zone can be established. Application of this "point system" requires school districts in each instance in which a district desires to establish a Child Safety Zone, to conduct an extensive traffic study, analyzing numerous variables and assigning points to them. Only if the number of points meet or exceed a numerical threshold may a school district choose to create a Child Safety Zone.

These inflexible statute and regulations fail to take into account the assessment by a school district of local conditions that are unsafe for its students, particularly at the earlier grades, and leads to the perverse result that school districts establish lower mileage limits than necessary or desired to ensure that those students who face significant danger in walking to school will be provided transportation. As one example, in the Croton-Harmon school district, a state route, used by commuters and commercial vehicles, is located 3/10 miles from

the K-4 elementary school. Traffic control measures that are referenced in the regulations are unavailable or would be inadequate to enable small children to cross the state route safely, particularly in the morning when commuters and operators of commercial vehicles are rushing to their destinations. Applying the "point system", the portion of the community across the state route from the elementary school would not accrue enough points to meet the criteria of a hazardous zone. To ensure student safety, the school district has established the mileage limit for transport of all elementary school students at 3/10 miles. Consequently, the school district incurs significant expenses for providing transportation to elementary students who do not require busing for safety reasons and discourages students from the healthy exercise of walking or biking to and from school each day.

Many school districts throughout the State face similar perverse consequences because of the inflexible "point system" set forth in SED regulations. In 2019, NYSSBA recognized the illogic of the current Child Safety Zone provisions when the delegates adopted a resolution supporting legislation to expand the definition of Child Safety Zones to include neighborhoods with high crime rates or with deteriorating vacant buildings that create safety hazards. (As of June 2021, the Legislature has approved such legislation [S.5719/A.7242] that, if signed by the Governor, would add violent crime rates and the density of vacant properties as conditions that can be used to justify the creation of a Child Safety Zone.)

Rather than a piecemeal approach to revision of availability of Child Safety Zones, NYSSBA should support a comprehensive review and revision of the Child Safety Zone statute and regulations to empower school districts to make their own reasonable determinations as to when deviations from mileage limits are necessary for safety of their students, without jeopardizing a district's State transportation aid.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 11
Submitted by: The Voorheesville School Board (7/13/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association calls upon the state Legislature and the Governor to provide funding for assistance to school districts to allow them to make and implement decisions in the best interest of the global environment, including and especially in the areas of facilities improvements, transportation, and upkeep.

RATIONALE

School districts regularly make decisions regarding facilities and management that may have significant environmental implications, an issue that is especially crucial in the face of climate change. Some options that are more environmentally protective and may reduce a district's greenhouse gas footprint are not always fiscally competitive. In order for districts to choose a practice or materials that may be better environmentally, they may need funding to alleviate the additional cost of that choice. Therefore, a directed source of funds for school districts choosing “green” facilities and management options would support districts’ ability to make choices that reduce schools' greenhouse gas footprint and associated negative environmental implications. Some examples of funding use may be for the installation of solar panels, conversion to electric school busses, choosing a building design and building materials that are more efficient and have reduced greenhouse gas footprint, and in purchase and installation of more efficient mechanical systems, including HVAC and other equipment. School districts not only have a sizable footprint but also are often a model of behavior, driving possible change within their communities. By having the funding support to make choices that will drive the protection of local and global resources, school districts can demonstrate and participate in environmentally responsible behavior. NYSSBA can and should be a strong voice working toward the support of schools making a difference for our planet.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 12
Submitted By: The Washingtonville School Board (7/15/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislation at the state and federal levels for their appropriate governmental agencies to assume the fiscal responsibility for student nutrition, shifting that financial burden away from public schools and thereby increasing the allocation of resources to enable all districts to provide nutritious meals and snacks for all students without incurring negative impacts upon their annual budgets.

RATIONALE

The increased incidence of food insecurity throughout our state and specifically among school aged children is an epidemic that is proven to have a detrimental effect upon every aspect of a child's education as well as their physical, emotional and psychological health.

The educational well-being of all students is the responsibility of each individual district and ultimately, the State of New York. Many districts have policies and/or practices in place intending to ensure that no student goes hungry. It is often an imperfect approach that has negative consequences, such as students falling between the bureaucratic cracks and going without meals and/or schools incurring additional unreimbursed expenses to provide meals for all regardless of ability to pay.

Whereas schools have long been seen as the solution for many societal issues, the entire financial burden of providing meals should be shifted to more appropriate agencies. Our primary function is the free and appropriate education of all students, and the funds needed to provide nutritional sustenance are diverted from budgets that are built and intended for meeting the instructional, social, emotional, transportation, security, and other mandated aspects of a traditional public education. The fiscal responsibility of meeting the nutritional needs of students would be more appropriately placed under the auspices of federal agencies such as the Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, or the NYS Department of Health Division of Nutrition. While public schools should remain the primary source for meeting all the needs of each and every student, we must seek substantive change in the form of more creative fiscal allocations and equitable funding from state and federal agencies.

NYSSBA must advocate for the appropriate state and federal agencies to assume the fiscal responsibility of our students' nutritional health and shift the financial burden from our educational institutions.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 13
Submitted By: The Shenendehowa School Board (7/15/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association supports state legislation that would evaluate the efficacy of, and require use of accurate, recent data in future implementation of Foundation Aid.

RATIONALE

Strong consensus exists within our state as to why we apply Foundation Aid to ensure students in all districts receive funding that augments funding from local property taxes. This "cross-leveling" from state funds enables districts that carry a large number of disadvantaged students and/or low property tax capacity to provide educational programs that ensure equity for all students. Furthermore, use of yearly Foundation Aid support does not create a massive burden for local taxpayers. Without Foundation Aid, a student's level of educational

support is dependent on where they live, and less advantaged districts face a downward spiral as they attempt to meet the needs of all students with insufficient funding.

This state-wide effort to fairly re-allocate funding originated with a group of New York City parents who sued the state as they believed the prior formula was unconstitutional in 1993. In 2006, the New York State Court of Appeals ruled in their favor and required that states provide funding to provide all students with a "sound basic education".

The Foundation Aid formula is now more than a decade and a half old. In the intervening decade and a half, our State has faced two major economic recessions, which have created significant structural changes to our State's economy and demographics. The last decade and a half has also seen the implementation of the tax cap, which has fundamentally changed the way in which school districts consider their budgets and how to fund the programs.

During this last year's budget agreement, New York state applied a $1.4 billion increase which was the largest increase since enactment, enabling a total aid package of $19.8 billion. This recent agreement also included a statutory plan to enable full funding by the 2023-2024 school year. The above actions demonstrate robust support for this program across all educational stakeholders and districts.

A failure to properly evaluate the sufficiency of the current formula and to ensure the recency of data to calculate the formula would not be fair to tomorrow's students. A failure to not use our best formula and input data would also erode public confidence in a program that enjoys a high level of support today.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 14
Submitted by: The Ulster BOCES Board (7/22/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association have as a legislative imperative, an addition to the current New York State Public Health Law, that all immunizations required of students under the provisions of New York State Public Health Law 2164 be required of all school staff where medically appropriate for adults.

RATIONALE

New York State Public Health Laws are enacted to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of the state. These laws are designed to establish minimum standards of behavior in the many areas of public life. One of these areas clearly involves standards for our schools.

The COVID 19 pandemic has illustrated the importance of vaccinations as a strategy to minimize the disruption in our lives caused by preventable illnesses. The New York Department of Health and the New York State Education Department recognize the importance by mandating vaccination for students through the New York State Public Health Law 2164.

This law has prevented the disruption of every child's education which might have been caused by the illnesses that the vaccinations were designed to prevent. Schools are populated by more than just students. The absence of staff from schools would be disruptive and would potentially deprive students of the consistency that the routine of school provides for them. Therefore, it seems prudent to require the extension of the conditions provided in NYS Public Health Law 2164 to all school staff.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 15
Submitted By: The Shenendehowa School Board (7/16/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association supports state legislation to establish guidelines for school districts for identifying and capturing data and creating metrics for initiatives that mitigate the damaging effects associated with climate change so as to more effectively communicate expectations and monitor outcomes when planning and implementing school budgets.

RATIONALE

As our planet continues to warm because of climate change, we are already seeing the dire consequences of more wildfires, extreme storms, heatwaves, soil erosion, rising sea levels, and more. In July 2019, the New York State legislature passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. This ambitious law sets targets to establish climate resilience statewide through numerous initiatives, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving infrastructure, and providing job training.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) determined that the public and private schools in New York State spend approximately $1 billion on annual energy costs while producing about 5.6 million metric tons of carbon dioxide or other harmful greenhouse gases (https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/P-12-Initiative). NYSERDA subsequently initiated a benchmarking program for eligible schools to help identify, measure, and assess energy costs with the goal of establishing sustainable outcomes. NYSERDA has also proposed green and clean energy solutions and cost-sharing for energy studies.

As school districts move to implement initiatives to mitigate and slow climate change and reduce their carbon footprint, measurable criteria such as the results of NYSERDA's benchmarking program need to be identified so as to more effectively communicate expectations and monitor outcomes when planning school budgets. Examples of initiatives include efforts to reuse, recycle, and reduce the use of limited resources; use of alternative and cleaner energy sources, such as solar, wind, and geothermal energy; and energy-load reducing projects (e.g., lighting, cooling, and heating).

In order for stakeholders to better understand whether initiatives are working and adjustments are needed, criteria must be regularly measurable, reported and monitored. Having this information can further be used to take advantage of funding opportunities, such as incentive programs and grants.

To ensure outcomes to reduce the harmful effects of climate change are achieved, actions need to be economical, sustainable, and aligned to goals. When considering whether projects are economical and sustainable, which could incur higher costs in the short term, stakeholders can take into account projected benefits, such as to health and the environment from decreased air pollution and reduced greenhouse emissions.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 16
Submitted by: The Washingtonville School Board (7/16/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association supports legislation that abolishes State School Level expenditure Reporting.

RATIONALE

This extra requirement by the state was supposed to bring more transparency to the budgeting process. However it does just the opposite. It creates more work for our business officials and doesn't improve

transparency. As it doesn't take into account how long the staff has been with the district or what step level they are at, salary and benefits being a huge cost driver for any public school district, it can actually confuse matters further. Also making a cumbersome process more difficult.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 17
Submitted by: The Freeport School Board (7/16/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association supports state aid eligibility for school districts that are obligated to pay tuition reimbursement for unilateral private placements.

RATIONALE

The rising costs for special education services along with the increased number of lawsuits regarding special education services and the costs generated by these lawsuits have put undue financial burdens on many school districts. Districts are put in the position of paying the legal fees for the complainant as well as their own legal fees if the hearing officer finds for the complainant. In the case of unilateral parent placements in private schools, districts end up paying all the legal fees along with being burdened with the tuition reimbursement if the Impartial Hearing Officer (IHO) finds on the side of the parents/guardians. Since the private school placement is not a state approved school, there is no recourse for the districts to claim state aid. Similar to Charter School Aid, there should be a mechanism in place for districts to recoup money.

Under IDEA, districts are not obligated to pay the tuition for unilateral private school placements if they have made a fair offer of FAPE (free and appropriate public education).When a parent makes a unilateral private school placement, they may still try to get tuition reimbursement from districts and will request to impartial due process hearings if the districts do not agree to pay. If the district has made an offer of FAPE to the student, they will follow the impartial hearing protocols to prove their case. The burden of proof is on the district. The private school placement does not have to meet the state or federal standards of IDEA and may not necessarily meet the IEP needs of the student. Given the prohibitive cost, potentially it could be more cost effective to just pay the tuition, but that does not necessarily meet the needs of the students based on CSE recommendations. After all, these private placements are not State Education Department (SED) approved and therefore not aidable.

Only schools approved by the SED are eligible for state aid. Yet, an IHO or State Review Officer (SRO) making a determination in favor of the parents/ guardians regarding tuition reimbursement can deem the unilateral private placement appropriate. Districts are caught between the two systems resulting in payment of tuition without eligibility of state aid. There should be a means in these cases for the district to make a claim of state aid.

Based on the increased parent requests for impartial hearings, along with the prohibitive costs topped by the obligation of tuition reimbursement, it is recommended the New York State School Boards Association supports state aid eligibility for school districts that are obligated to pay tuition reimbursement for unilateral private placements.

PROPOSED BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION

Proposed Bylaw Amendment
Submitted by: The Nassau BOCES Board (6/25/21)

Article 4
There shall be an Annual Meeting of the association to be held not earlier than September 1, nor later than November 30 of each year, at a time and place designated by the board of directors. The Board of Directors shall determine the time and place of each annual meeting and shall notify the membership at least six months prior to that Annual Meeting. The annual business meeting shall be held in person during the annual school board convention, unless the health and or welfare of the participants is in jeopardy. The membership shall be notified of the date, time and location of meeting, as determined by the Board of Directors, at least six (6) months in advance. Said meeting shall be held not earlier than September 1st, nor later than November 30th of each year. Two hundred delegates shall constitute a quorum.

Other meetings may be called by the President, with the concurrence of the Board of Directors, at such times and places as the President and said Board may designate; and shall be called when requested by at least eight (8) member boards from each of at least eight (8) areas of the Association. Written notice of a special meeting of the Association shall be mailed to each member board at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting, together with a statement of the purpose or purposes of the meeting. Such special meeting shall act only with respect to the stated purpose or purposes of the meeting and 200 delegates shall constitute a quorum for doing business.

RATIONALE

In-person, face-to-face dialogue among delegates across the State is vital to having a meaningful dialogue on the resolutions and an understanding of the possible concerns Of Other delegates. Many times, a consensus is built by having an amendment made on the convention floor. This is extremely difficult to do on a virtual meeting. This proposed By-law change should be revisited if and when technology Improves to the point at which hybrid meetings are smooth, seamless and efficient. As of now, it is not.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee acknowledged a number of advantages and disadvantages for both in-person and virtual business meetings. The Committee also noted the challenge with accurately determining what might represent a risk to the health and welfare of participants, in order to remain compliant with the prospective bylaw requirement.

Ultimately, there was consensus that annual business meeting planning is best left to NYSSBA staff, reflective of the needs and interests of the association and its members.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 18
Submitted by: The Newark School Board (7/1/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association shall support laws and procedures that ensure teachers and school employee background checks are thorough, cover out of state incidents, have the ability to continually report incidents throughout an employee's career and also include psychological testing.

RATIONALE

The safety of our students, staff and community is the most important job of a school board. We need the assurance that the staff we employ are who they say they are and not hiding anything in their past that might make them a risk to our students or community. We need the background checks to be expansive enough to ensure that records from other states and government services are checked.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee raised significant concerns surrounding the proposed requirement to impose psychological testing on applicants. In addition, the Committee believes that the current background check process is sufficient and thorough. Finally, the Committee felt that this proposal goes beyond the scope of what a typical background currently entails.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 19
Submitted by: The Newark School Board (7/1/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association seek legislative and/or policy changes to streamline the teacher certification process for teachers from out of state and those with previous teaching experience.

RATIONALE

With the current and pending shortage of teachers now and in the future, it is imperative that districts be allowed to be creative to find and get teachers certified. The certification process is a barrier to some potential quality teachers. The need to make the teaching population more diverse may bring teachers from other states into New York and we need a certification process that allows them the time to get certified and give the time they need to fulfill the requirements.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee believed the current process for certifying out of state teachers is adequate and ensures that New York State maintains high standards for its educators. Meanwhile, the Committee also noted that processes currently exist to allow districts to hire teachers as they are still completing the appropriate teaching certification required of them.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 20
Submitted By: The Onteora School Board (7/13/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support the proposed New York Health Act and any legislation at the state or federal level that provides single payer health care for all New Yorkers.

RATIONALE

The cost of health insurance has more than doubled since 2000, resulting in disproportionate budget increases for districts that take seriously the obligation to insure the healthcare needs of their employees. Likewise, it has been demonstrated that students with poor health have a higher probability of school failure, grade retention, and dropout. As New York State Department of Education seeks resources to improve educational outcomes, the impediment caused by inadequate access to healthcare, especially for our poorest students and students with special health care needs, adds additional financial burden to the cost of public education.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee recognized the importance of the proposed resolution, but ultimately decided this was a national issue more appropriately addressed at the national level. The Committee also noted that this same resolution was submitted last year and not approved by delegates at the 2020 Annual Business Meeting.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 21
Submitted By: The Onteora School Board (7/13/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislation that requires every child in New York State, aged 0-21, be covered for free under the Child Health Plus program.

RATIONALE

Students with poor health have a higher probability of school failure, grade retention, and dropout. As New York State Department of Education seeks resources to improve educational outcomes, the impediment caused by inadequate access to healthcare, especially for our poorest students and students with special health care needs, adds additional financial burden to the cost of public education.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee recognized the importance of this proposed resolution, but ultimately decided that the issue is part of the broader issue of health care and would be more appropriately addressed at the national level. The Committee also noted that this same resolution was submitted last year and not approved by delegates at the 2020 Annual Business Meeting.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 22
Submitted By: The Onteora School Board (7/13/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislation which requires the State of New York to hold school districts harmless for employee and retiree health care increases that exceed the Consumer Price Index.

RATIONALE

The cost of healthcare rose 5% in 2018, compared to a CPI of 1.9%, resulting in disproportionate budget increases for districts that take seriously the obligation to insure the health of their employees and retirees. Profit-motivated health insurance adds an undue burden on public institutions that exist for the common good.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee shares the concern of the sponsor about the rising costs associated with employee and retiree health care. However, the Committee has multiple concerns with the proposed resolution, including that the likelihood of passing legislation to hold school districts harmless of these costs is unlikely and fear that holding districts harmless would decrease funding in other necessary funding areas of public education. Further, the Committee questioned how such action would impact local health care benefit and cost agreements. The Committee also noted that this same resolution was submitted last year and not approved by delegates at the 2020 Annual Business Meeting.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 23
Submitted By: The Onteora School Board (7/13/21)

RESOLVED, that the New York State School Boards Association support legislation that creates a process for tenure review and renewal occurring every five years throughout the career of all tenured public school employees. This process will include student, parent and colleague feedback, will not be driven by test scores, and is intended to be instructive, not punitive.

RATIONALE

Supporting teachers and administrators as lifelong learners who continue to refresh and reinvigorate themselves professionally can only lead to better student outcomes. Conducting tenure reviews at scheduled intervals will encourage growth and reward excellence.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee supports the idea of teacher and administrator accountability. However, the Committee believes that the current tenure process generally works well and already includes options to address educators that might require additional training or need to be removed. Ultimately, the Committee felt that creating a process for tenure review and renewal every 5 years would be unnecessary and administratively burdensome for school districts.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 24
Submitted By: The Ardsley School Board (7/15/21)

RESOLVED, that the Association should encourage laws, regulations and policies that promote alternatives for school districts when purchasing non-instructional services that do not give the BOCES an unfair competitive advantage.

RATIONALE

Under current practice when a BOCES offers a non-instructional service, a component district is required to use that service or obtain a waiver from its BOCES before using the services of another BOCES. Component districts may also use non-BOCES (private providers) but can only do this by foregoing State aid. As a result of these rules, the component districts are, in effect, captive customers of their BOCES with no meaningful way to obtain the best price or service for the benefit of the instructional program or taxpayers. In practice, this has resulted in: (i) substantial delays in obtaining services; and (ii) in districts obtaining services that they view as less desirable at higher cost than available in the market. We could give examples, but there is no need as the collective memory of every school board can provide the examples. We have inquired as to the reason for this policy and been told "It is good for the BOCES and how it is always done." For us that is not a good enough answer. We are compelled to ask the following questions: "Does spending more for a service or being required to use a service provider you do not want to use benefit students or taxpayers?" "Do delays in obtaining services while waiting for a waiver benefit students or districts generally?" We think the answers to those questions is obvious and that those are the relevant questions. What is "good for the BOCES" is not the question that should matter most. Rather the question should be "What is good for the students, the taxpayers and the school district?" We are not questioning the value that BOCES can bring to districts in instructional matters. However, where BOCES compete with private service providers for non-instructional services and are only competitive because their charges to their component districts are "state aidable", a great deal of money is inevitably wasted and at the end of the day less educational service is provided to students. For example, if a private company or another BOCES would offer a service for $100,000 and a district receives 50% State aid, the district would save money by using its own BOCES for the service at $170,000 because its net costs, after aid, would be $85,000. How does spending an extra $70,000 for the same service benefit students? The funds come out of the same available funds for State aid to education.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee expressed the belief that BOCES should promote and enhance cooperation between and amongst school districts and other BOCES, instead of competition. The Committee also noted that a waiver process currently exists, and is commonly used, for school districts to purchase services from other BOCES, when appropriate. Further, school districts currently have the ability to purchase similar goods and services from private third party vendors, if they so choose. The Committee also noted that a nearly identical resolution was submitted last year and not approved by delegates at the 2020 Annual Business Meeting.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION 25
Submitted by: The Washingtonville School Board (7/15/21)

RESOLVED, that NYSSBA oppose proposals to allow school district voters to use non-excuse absentee ballots upon request, for school board elections and budget votes.

RATIONALE

It is very important that the people who vote on school budgets and school board elections are indeed residents of the school district. Non-excuse absentee ballots can leave open the possibility for ballot harvesting and perhaps even fraud, which is very detrimental to the students who are counting on school board and budget votes being fair. It is imperative that our students are assured that our election process is above reproach. Our students' academic success, indeed their very future depends on it.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee noted past, and potential, positives associated with no-excuse absentee ballots and school elections. First, voter turnout increased with the use of absentee ballots during the pandemic, particularly amongst traditionally underrepresented communities. No-excuse absentee ballots can also generally allow for greater accessibility and participation. The Committee also noted that, contrary to initial concern, the increased voter turnout during the pandemic had no negative impact on passage of school district budgets, and instead saw record passage rates. Ultimately, the Committee felt that this issue was of broader statewide relevance, and that action should not be limited to school district votes and elections.

INFORMATION ON AMENDMENTS, REBUTTALS, STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT AND LATE RESOLUTIONS

Proposed resolutions and bylaw amendments were submitted to NYSSBA by July 17th (and reviewed by the Resolutions Committee on August 10th).

No additional bylaw amendments can be proposed at this time. However, a member school board may propose an amendment, rebuttal, or statement of support to any resolution printed in this report. A member school board may also propose a late resolution.

Amendments, rebuttals, and statements of support intended to be included in the *Voting Delegate's Guide – Proposed Resolutions*, must be received in NYSSBA's office by **5p.m. on Friday, September 17th .**

Members may also wish to advance resolutions that were not considered by the resolutions committee. These "late" resolutions may be considered at the business meeting under "Other Business." At that time, a motion to suspend the bylaws for the purpose of considering a particular resolution may be offered. A motion to suspend the bylaws is required to be moved, seconded, and adopted by a two-thirds vote for every resolution submitted from the floor. Once the motion to suspend the bylaws is adopted, the new resolution can be moved and seconded, and a simple majority of those present and voting is required to be approved. If the motion to suspend the bylaws fails, the resolution cannot be considered. All late resolutions must be submitted using the NYSSBA form:

- Late Resolution Submission Form

*****Amendments and rebuttal statements to not recommended proposed resolutions must reach NYSSBA's Governmental Relations Department before the 5pm on **September 17th**. Amendments and rebuttal statements must be sent via email to advocacy@nyssba.org using the forms found here:
NYSSBA Resolutions Process forms

INFORMATION FOR THE VOTING DELEGATES

The voting delegates at the Annual Business Meeting vote on a slate of officers for the Association, including a President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, and a Treasurer. They debate and vote on changes to the Association's bylaws, and debate and vote on resolutions that will establish the Association's positions on various legislative and policy matters. Voting delegates are to be registered for the Annual Business meeting by their district clerk using only NYSSBA's voting delegate registration form. Prior to the meeting, the New York State School Boards Association will host a voting delegate orientation that all delegates are encouraged to attend. Below you will find details related to meeting procedures for all voting delegates during the Annual Business meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Order of Business for the Annual Business Meeting is the agenda for the meeting. It sets forth the items of business which are scheduled to be accomplished during the course of the meeting.

The meeting will begin promptly at 4:00 p.m. with several procedural items. First, the Association President, who presides throughout the meeting, announces the presence of a **quorum**. New York State School Boards Association bylaws require 200 members in attendance to achieve quorum.

Following the announcement of a quorum, the President calls for a **motion to adopt the Order of Business.** The President also calls for a **motion to adopt the Proposed Rules of Conduct** for the meeting. These rules are prepared to be consistent with the Association's bylaws. The rules describe how delegates must conduct themselves during the meeting, such as setting out the time allotted for discussion of certain items.

THE BUSINESS MEETING

Next, the President will announce the winners of this year's Area Director Elections, which was conducted locally in each of the designated areas. According to NYSSBA's bylaws, Area Directors serve for two-year terms. Election of Area Directors in Areas 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 occur in odd-numbered years. Election of Area Directors in Areas 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 occur in even-numbered years. This year, election results will be announced for Areas 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12.

ELECTION OF THE NYSSBA OFFICERS

Next item on the Order of Business, each June the Board of Directors, which acts as the nominating committee for the delegates to the Annual Business Meeting, nominates a slate of officers who stand for election at the Annual Business Meeting. These individuals are automatically placed in nomination.

Once this occurs, the President, or his or her designee, calls for other nominations from the floor. If there are no such nominations, the vote is taken by hand at the time. If there is a nomination from the floor, the vote is also taken by ballot after such individual accepts the nomination. The President then announces the winner.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

The next item is the Report of the Resolutions Committee. The Resolutions Committee is a standing committee of the Association created by Article 9 of the Association's bylaws. The Committee chair reports directly to the delegates rather than the Board of Directors. The Resolutions Committee is appointed by the President upon recommendation of the Area Directors. The Committee has one member from each Association area, one representative from the Conference of Big 5 School Districts and one member from the Caucus of Black School Board Members.

The chair is designated by the President from among those appointed to the Committee. In accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, once the chair moves adoption of a bylaw amendment or resolution recommended for adoption by the Resolutions Committee, no second is required.

The Resolutions Committee chair first moves recommended bylaw amendments. Each recommended bylaw amendment will be debated and voted on separately. *Any amendment to the bylaws must have the approval of a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.* In accordance with Article 17 (2) of the bylaws, bylaw amendments may not be proposed or amended from the floor of the Business Meeting. Thus, all proposed bylaw amendments had to be submitted by **July 16, 2021** and all amendments to the bylaws must be sent to each member board by a date that will allow each member board time to review them in advance of the Annual Business Meeting.

The Resolutions Committee chair next moves those existing NYSSBA positions that have been recommended for adoption. This may be done under a consent agenda. These previously approved resolutions are established NYSSBA positions that are scheduled to sunset if they are not renewed. Because these resolutions have been previously approved by voting delegates, these resolutions can be moved on consent (where several resolutions may be voted on en masse). Delegates may remove any resolution from a consent agenda simply by making a request at the time the resolution is called for consideration. No second or vote is required. Resolutions removed from the consent agenda are considered under the "Resolutions Recommended for Adoption" portion of the meeting

After the consent agenda has been considered and voted upon, delegates will next be asked to address newly recommended resolutions individually. The Resolutions Committee chair moves each resolution recommended for adoption by the Committee. Each recommended resolution is presented and voted upon separately. The Resolutions Committee chair will move those resolutions recommended by the Committee for adoption; a second is not needed. Resolutions require approval by a simple majority of those present and voting for passage.

Following consideration of the report of the Resolutions Committee consisting of those bylaw amendments and resolutions recommended for adoption, the President shall provide voting delegates the opportunity to move any of the "not recommended" bylaw amendments and resolutions. (Since the Resolutions Committee chair will not move items that were not recommended, each motion requires a second by a voting delegate).

OTHER BUSINESS

At the end of the Annual Business Meeting, the President will open the floor to **Other Business**. **Other Business** may include a motion to suspend the rules for the purpose of considering a particular resolution that was submitted after the **July 16, 2021,** submission deadline. This motion requires a second and a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates before the resolution may be considered. A two-thirds majority is required because this type of motion calls for suspending the bylaws. A motion to suspend the bylaws is required to be moved, seconded, and adopted for each and every resolution submitted during **Other Business**. Once the motion to suspend the bylaws is adopted, the new resolution can be moved and seconded, and a simple majority of those present and voting is all that is required to adopt a resolution proposed under **Other Business**. If the motion to suspend the bylaws fails, the resolution cannot be considered. In order to be eligible for consideration during **Other Business**, such resolutions must be received by NYSSBA by **Thursday, October 14 at 5 p.m**.