

Commack UFSD:  
Board of Education  
Public Meeting

November 8, 2018



## Completed and Upcoming Meetings

October 18, 2018

- Policy Workshop

November 8, 2018

- BOE Meeting
- State of the District: Summary of Related Actions for All BOE Goals; Plant & Facilities State of the District Presentation (incl. Security)

November 15, 2018

- Policy Workshop

December 13, 2018

- BOE Meeting
- State of the District: Elementary Instruction State of the District Presentation

January 10, 2019

- BOE Meeting
- State of the District: Secondary Education State of the District Presentation; Communications Steering Committee Presentation

January 24, 2019

- Policy Workshop

January 31, 2019

- BOE Retreat

February 28, 2019

- BOE Meeting
- State of the District: Technology, Athletics, Other



# November 8, 2018: Tonight's Agenda

Related Actions  
Associated  
with Goals

Fiscal  
State-of-the-District

Facilities & Security  
State-of-the-District

Various  
Committee  
Updates

# Board of Education Goals and Related Superintendent Goals, in the Areas of:

## Balance-Driven Schools

### ***Commack's WHY!***

Developing Balanced, Student-Centered Schools Focused on Access & Opportunity, Healthy & Safe Students, and Academic Success, as Commack defines it.



## **Board of Education Goals**

- Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
- Finance and Operations
- Communications
- Board Policy
- Advocacy

## **Superintendent Goals**

- Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
- Finance and Operations
- Communications
- Board Policy
- Advocacy

# Balance-Driven Schools:

## Redefining Academics and Play

A Framework for Developing Student-Centered Schools through Stakeholder Engagement and Research



Dr. James presented at the 2018 NYSSBA Convention and Educational Expo: ***New Ideas, New Solutions***

*Dr. James presented how Commack re-developed our K to 12 academically and social-emotionally balanced programs for all students by engaging staff strengths, student interest and current research. This was done while simultaneously aligning with staff and community expectations as determined through various outreach programs and engagement opportunities.*


*All of this was done while increasing participation in pre-college and college-level learning opportunities for all students:*

- *92% of ALL students take at least one college-level course, approximately an increase of 25% over a half-decade.*


### Program Examples:

- Movement in the Arts
- Lunch and Learn
- Enrichment for All
- Project-Based Learning
- Redefining Homework
- Etc.

Commack Schools Retweeted

 **Ken Miller**  
@kennon\_miller

Insightful session led by  
[@CommackSchools](#) Supt Dr Don James [@nyschoolboards](#) in NYC  
[#NYSSBA18](#). Engage by Listening for Understanding!!



# Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

## BOE Goals

Support the development and on-going enhancement of a well-balanced, developmentally-appropriate curriculum that allows all students to be prepared to accomplish their individual goals.

Provide for an education in which all students can learn the social, emotional, academic, and physical competencies in an environment that is as safe and healthy as possible.

Continue to ensure that all students have access and opportunity to engage in a diverse curricular and a multitude of extracurricular activities.

Provide opportunities for the staff to engage in continuous and diverse professional development activities that translate to enhanced teaching and learning for all students.

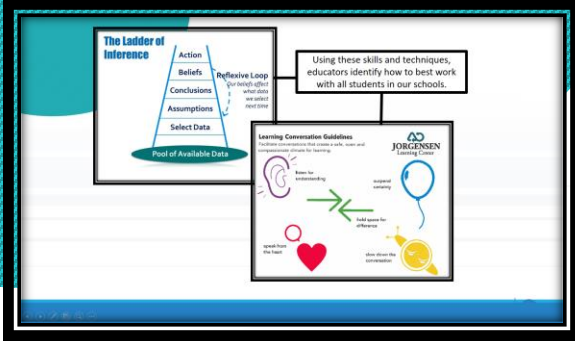
### Tonight's **Highlighted** Related Actions

- Balanced Educational Programming
- Ongoing Professional Growth

### Reminder

The December and January State-of-the-District reports will go into greater detail about the elementary and secondary education program

# Balanced Educational Programming: Related Actions



- Various Meetings with Teachers
- Staff Conference Day
- New/Enhanced Course Proposals
- Curriculum Writing and Revising
- **Researching Enhancements to Project-Based Learning**
- Curriculum Review and
- Updates
- **PREPaRE Training for** Mental Health Staff
- Dignity Act Coordinator Training
- Staff-Wide
- DASA Training
- Mental Health/SEL Training for Teachers
- Various Student Programs Related to
- SEL/Mental Health/Well-Being
- Various School and District Committees
- Community Outreach
- Student Focus
- Groups
- Parent Focus Groups
- **Connector Groups**
- Monitor and Review of Program
- And, More!

# Math Curriculum Update

## Math Curriculum “Rewind”

2016-2017

- June 2016
  - Identified Math in Focus (MIF) program
  - Professional development
- 2016-17 School Year
  - Implementation of K-5 MIF program
  - Ongoing MIF professional development
  - Math MIF Parent Workshop
  - Think Central ‘Help Desk’

2017-2018

- June/Summer 2017
  - Identification of developmentally-appropriate concepts for Kindergarten
  - Creation of Kindergarten Math hands-on activities
- 2017-2018 School Year
  - Implementation of Kindergarten Math hands-on activities
  - Teacher-level, ongoing support & PD
  - K-5 Math Parent Workshop
  - Began to identify developmentally appropriate concepts for Grades 1 and 2
  - Creation of Grades 1 and 2 Math hands-on activities
  - Administration of TerraNova math subtest to Grades 3, 4 and 5

## What’s Next for Math?

Implementation of Grades 1 and 2 hands-on activities

Ongoing support and professional development

Review and monitor year two of Kindergarten Math revisions. Provide support and professional development as needed

Begin to identify developmentally appropriate concepts for Grade 3

In depth TerraNova data review with Grade 3-5 staff





## Professional Growth: What's Guiding the Year?

Professional growth is essential to enhance teaching and student learning.

Teachers engage in professional growth to remain current in the research and best-practices for teaching and student learning.

Effective professional growth activities are those in which teachers have determined as relevant to student needs, continuous throughout the year, and engaging.

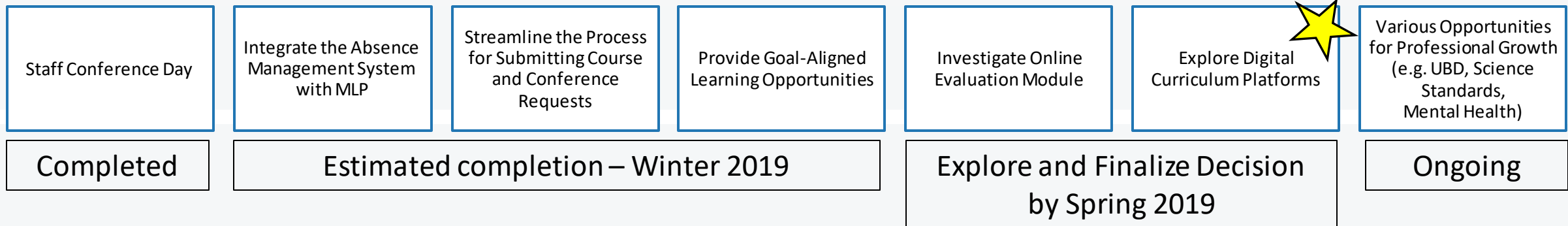


# Professional Growth in the Commack Schools

## Related Actions:

- Conduct an analysis of the professional growth tool My Learning Plan in order to meet each staff member's needs with individual PD plans and relevant targeted learning opportunities.
- After a careful analysis of current curriculum writing practices, the curriculum team will begin to investigate digital curriculum mapping solutions.
- Staff Conference Day, various workshops (in-district), out-of-district conferences, etc.

## Deliverables:



# District Business and Operations

Continue to support the District's multi-year plan for the maintenance and the improvement of District facilities in order to provide students and staff with a healthy and safe learning and working environment

Continue to develop a fiscally conservative budget that helps maintain the integrity of Commack's programs and aligns with the community's expectations

## Tonight's **Highlighted** Related Actions

- Financial State-of-the-District
- Facilities
- Security
- Smart Schools

# Results of Operations 2017-2018

	2017-2018 Audited
Revenues	\$181,106,613
Expenditures	183,355,535
Operating Deficit	(2,248,922)
Opening, Fund Balance (7/1/2017)	24,299,645
Ending, Fund Balance (6/30/2018)	\$22,050,723

Unassigned Fund Balance is at 2.8%; maximum allowed is 4%

# Planned vs. Unplanned Deficit

Planned Deficit: Assigning Reserves to be Used

Unplanned Deficit:  
Using Unappropriated Fund Balance

Commack's Deficit was fully-planned  
Unassigned Fund Balance was increased by \$130,131 resulting in a total FB of \$5,315,718

Our Unassigned Fund Balance is 2.8%  
(max is 4% by law)

Fully-funded Fund Balance would be \$7,728,912

# Planned vs. Unplanned Deficit

		2017-2018 Audited
Planned Deficit	Repairs Reserve	\$231
	Insurance Reserve	2,533
	Unemployment Insurance	4,290
	Workers' Compensation Reserve	22,515
	Retirement Contributions Reserve	(139,850)
	EBALR Reserve (Leave Pay)	(903,099)
	Encumbrances	(557,316)
	Appropriated Fund Balance	(808,357)
	Unassigned Fund Balance	130,131
	<b>Deficit June 30, 2018</b>	<b>\$(2,248,922)</b>

# Overall Fiscal Health

Multi-Year Planning and Sound Fiscal Practices Including:

Planned Use of Reserves

Reserves/Fund Balance are Being Used to Manage Tax Stability and Continuation of Educational Programs and Services

Maintaining Costs

Identifying Efficiencies

Good Credit Rating (Moody's, Aa2)

Translates to Favorable Borrowing Rates (i.e. TANS)

# State-of-the-District: Facilities and Security

Capital  
Projects

Facilities  
Projects

Equipment

Security

Smart  
Schools



# Capital Projects

2001 Bond Fund		
<b>\$3,875,190</b>		
CHS Visitor Bleachers	\$108,872	Complete
District-Wide Elevator Upgrades	\$700,000 (approx.)	In Design
CMS D-House Roof	\$1.3M (approx.)	In-Design
Transfer to General Fund 19-20	\$300,000	
<b>Remaining Bond Funds</b>		
<b>Approximately \$1,466,318</b>		
CHS Site		
Security Upgrades		
Energy Performance Contract		
\$14.5M		
LED Lighting Upgrades	Co-Gen Installations	
PV Installations	Mechanical Upgrades	
Roof Replacements	Electrical Upgrades	
Third-Party Review Complete		
Awaiting Final SED Approval		

# Capital Projects

General Fund			
\$3,752,917			
Fire Alarm Replacements		\$301,888	Complete
	Hubbs, Old Farms, Cedar Road, Long Acres, Smith's Lane		
North Ridge Portables		\$163,064	Complete
	Demo		
	Site Restoration		
Turf Field Funds		\$400,000	
District-Wide Site, Masonry & Fire Alarm Improvements		\$2.2M (approx.)	Pending SED approval
<b>Remaining Capital Funds through 6/30/19</b>			
<b>Approximately \$687,965</b>			
Additional Construction Costs			
Security Upgrades			

# Capital Improvements: Progress

Continue to focus on addressing Health & Safety concerns listed in the 5-year plan and instructional needs of the District	Upgrade/Replacement/Etc.	Local Priorities (1-High, 5-Low)	Percent Complete (2017-18)	Percent Complete (2018-19)	TOTAL	\$57,938,790
	Safety Systems Upgrades	1	54%	100%	REMAINING (2017-18)	\$48,138,790
	Masonry Repairs	1	29%	75%	REMAINING (2018-19)	\$44,216,790
	Door/Hardware Upgrades	1	98%	98%		
	Elevator Upgrades	1	100%	100%		
Focus on Mechanical upgrades in educational buildings	Site Improvements	1	43%	75%		
	Mechanical Upgrades	2	3%	8%		
	Roof Replacements	3	23%	35%		
	Plumbing/Electrical Upgrades	3	4%	50%		
Continue Building Envelope Improvements at Rental Buildings	Window Replacements	4	0%	0%		
	Classroom Renovations	4	3%	3%		
	Floor/Ceiling Upgrades	5	2%	2%		

# General Fund Facilities Maintenance and Repairs

## Primary Schools

- Playground equipment replacement (IH & RH)
- Flooring replacements (RH, NR, & WP)
- Replaced Main Office A/C RTU (WP)
- Replaced garage door (RH)
- Replaced window treatments (WP & NR)
- Exterior door replacement (WP)
- Replace classroom sink bases (IH)
- Switchgear Replacement (WP)

## Intermediate Schools

- Playground equipment replacement (SM)
- Flooring replacements (Burr & MSIS)
- Replaced window treatments (Burr & MSIS)
- Exterior door replacement (MSIS)
- Installed additional bottle filling station (Burr)

## Secondary Schools

- Installed locker room privacy stalls (CMS & CHS)
- Flooring replacements (CHS)
- Replaced ceiling in N. Gym (CHS)
- Replaced window treatments (CHS)
- Removed folding walls and installed draw curtains in N. Gym (CHS)
- Replaced auditorium doors (CHS)
- Replaced sound board (CHS)

# General Fund Equipment Purchased

Two  
Maintenance  
Vehicles

Athletic Storage  
Containers

Scissor Lift

Back-Up AC Unit  
for District-Wide  
Server Room

# District Safety and Security

## Completed or Current Work

### Safety and Security

- Follow-up, comprehensive security review
- Implementation of the RAVE app
- District Security Connector Group updated on security review progress and RAVE app implementation
- Purchase of 2 new security vehicles
- Replacement security radios
- Relocation of repeater



## What's Next?

Security review results provided to Board of Education in Executive Session

Public summary presentation of the security review results

Continue Connector Group Meetings

Analysis and review of recommendations

A large teal circle with a fine grid pattern is centered on the page. Inside the circle, the text "SMART SCHOOLS BOND ACT" is written in a dark teal, sans-serif font. Below it, "COMMACK UFSD" is written in a smaller, lighter teal font. The background features light gray horizontal bars on the left and right sides, and a solid blue bar at the bottom.

# SMART SCHOOLS BOND ACT

COMMACK UFSD

# Commack's SED-Approved Smart Schools Plan #1 Includes:

Commack's Allocation: \$3,504,794

Cost of SSP#1: \$2,089,897\*

Remaining Allocation: \$1,414,897

## School Connectivity

- Primary Data Center Upgrades (Switches/Routers)
- Secondary Data Center Creation
- New Firewall
- Wireless Access Points
- Computer Lab Upgrades (Switches/Routers) Building Upgrades (Switches/Routers)
- Network Redundancy
- Cedar Road Connection

## Classroom Technology

- 130 Interactive Whiteboards (DW)
- 1,500 Netbook Computers (HS)
- Classroom Mounting Systems (HS)
- A/V Equipment (HS)
- Nonpublic School Allocation

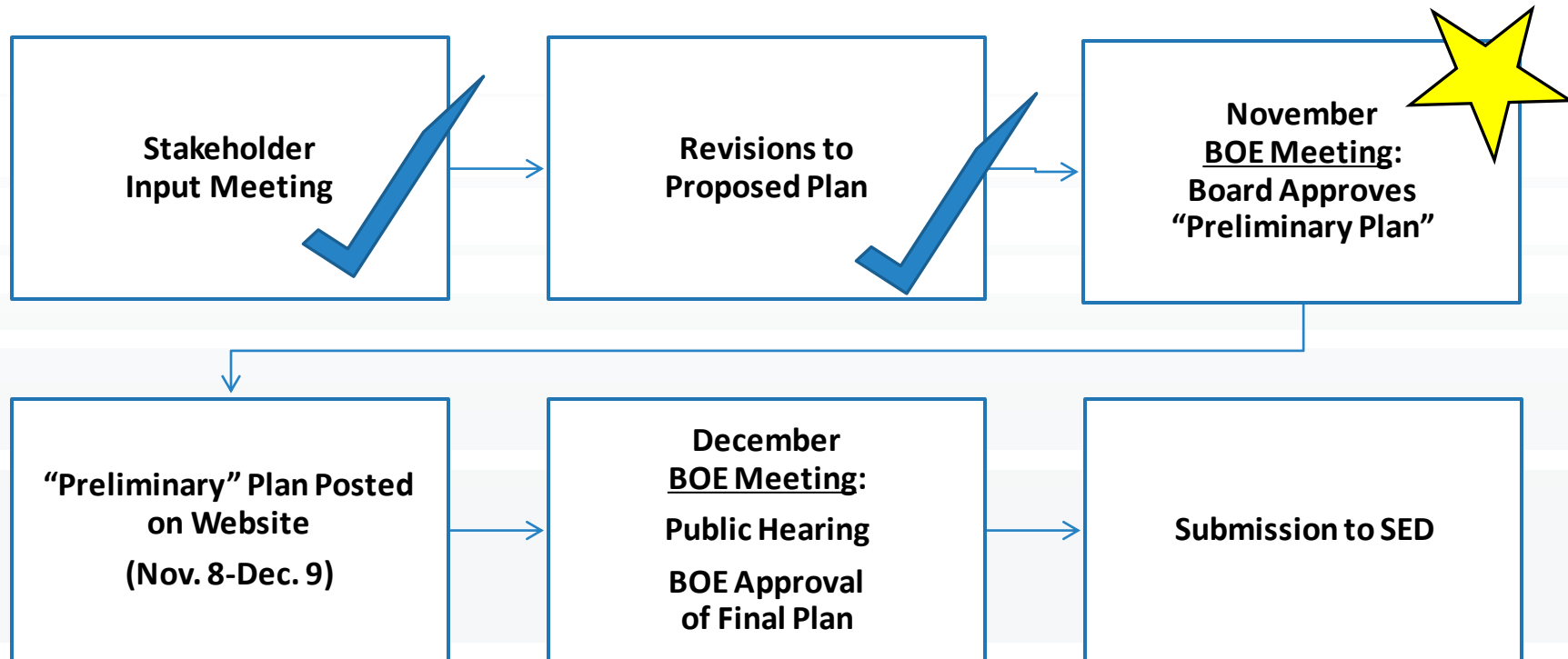
## High-Tech Security Features

- Door Hardening Equipment (Door Locks) for CHS and CMS

***NYSED-APPROVED AND UNDERWAY!***



# Smart Schools: Phase 2 State-Required Process



## Commack's PROPOSED Smart Schools Plan #2 Includes:

Commack's Remaining Allocation After SSP#1: \$1,414,897

Anticipated Cost of SSP#2: \$1,414,509

Anticipated Remaining Allocation: \$388

### School Connectivity

- 61 Wireless Access Points (DW)

### Classroom Technology

- 1,440 Netbook Computers (CMS/DW/Backup)
- 96 Classroom Mounting Systems (CMS/DW/Backup)
- Various A/V Equipment (HS)
- 570 iPads, MacMini's, Cases, Management Tools (DW Sped/ELL)
- Nonpublic School Allocation

# Communication

**BOE Goals** Support a comprehensive evaluation and related enhancement of the District's communication protocols in an effort to ensure effective, consistent, and timely communication with students, staff, parents, and the community-at-large.

Commit to engaging as many stakeholders as possible to gather the voice of the school-community and as a means of further enhancing meaningful relationships through community outreach.

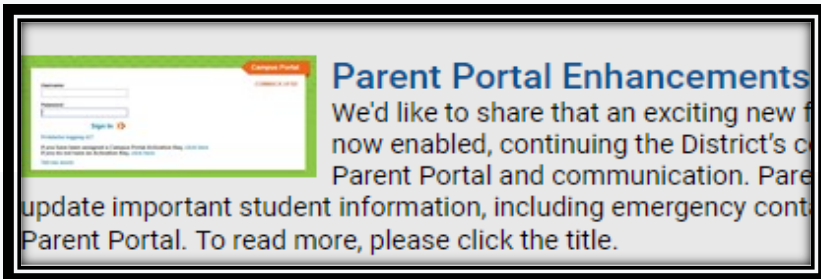
## Tonight's **Highlighted** Related Actions

- Enhancements: Commack Mobile App and Portal Updates
- Update: District Communication Steering Committee

# Recent Communication Enhancements!

## Growing the Parent Portal!

- Moving the CHS and CMS “Summer Mailing” Online
- Enabling Self-Service
- Posting More to the Portal (e.g. ISR’s)



## Commack's New Mobile App

- Push Notifications
- Daily/Weekly Announcements
- One-Click Access to Important Information
- Links to the Website
- And, much, much more!

# District Communication Steering Committee

## Completed or Current Work

### Steering Committee

- Established Purpose
- Created Subcommittees

Next meeting on November 13

### Survey/Focus Group Subcommittee

- Held Parent Focus Group
- Planned Additional Parent Focus Groups
- Held High School Student Focus Group
- Drafted Community Survey

### Plan Development and Research Subcommittee

- Reviewed existing communication plans
- Research various communication frameworks and models
- Surveyed professional organizations for best-practices
- Developed draft Commack Communication plan template

### Means of Communication Subcommittee

- Subcommittee discussion regarding “types” and “modes” of communication
- Subcommittee members engage the community as “connectors”
- Gathered information and data reviewed and themes/patterns identified

## What's Next?

November Steering Committee Meeting

Complete gathering focus group and survey data

Analysis of focus group and survey data

Continue to engage stakeholders

On-track for December 1 completion of plan and January presentation

# Board Policy and Advocacy

**BOE Goals** Complete the comprehensive review of the Commack Board of Education Policies and approve and publish the revised policy book.

Continue with the District's advocacy efforts related to the best interests of students, staff, parents, and the community.

## Tonight's **Highlighted** Related Actions

- Update: Comprehensive Board Policy Review
- Update: Legislative Advocacy Committee

# Board Policy

## **STATUS UPDATE**

### **Review of Completed Policies**

1000 Series – Completed  
2000 Series – Completed  
3000 Series – Completed  
4000 Series – Completed  
5000 Series – Completed  
6000 Series – Completed  
7000 Series – Completed  
8000 Series – Completed

## Next Steps

- November Policy Review Meeting
  - Various Committee Reviewed Policies
- December Policy Review Meeting
  - TBD
- Send Commack BOE-approved policies to BOCES
- BOCES Finalizes Policy Book
- Anticipated Adoption of New Policy Book – July 2019

# Legislative Advocacy Committee

First meeting of the year  
Thursday, 11/1:

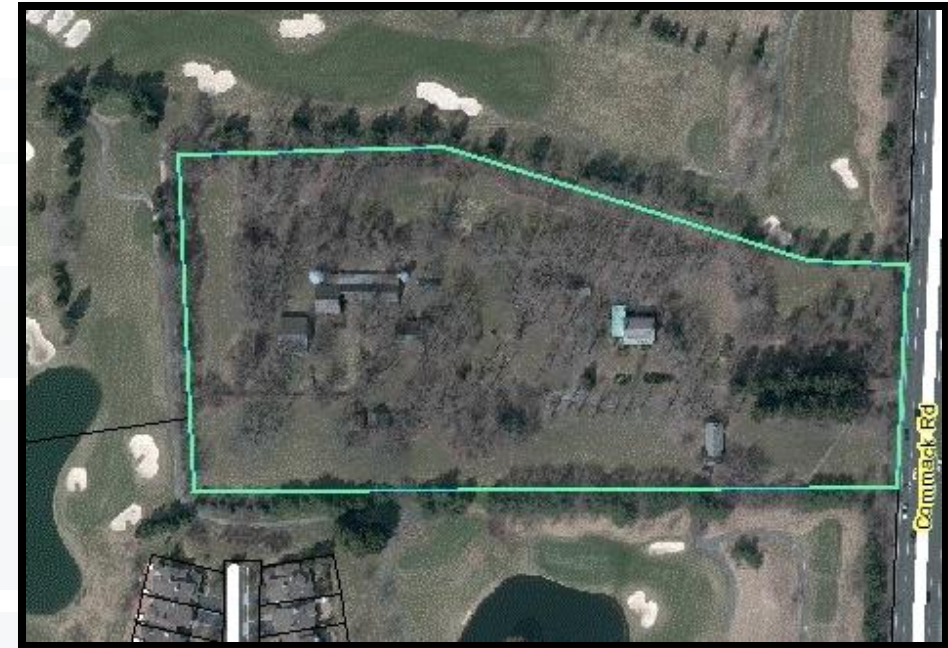
- Welcome new student advocates
- Guest visit from Assemblyman Andrew Raia
  - Student advocates facilitated political conversation with Assemblyman Andrew Raia

Future Actions:

- Upcoming meetings:
  - Student advocates will create platform for upcoming Lobby Day on 3/5/19



# Marion Carll Committee Update





# Questions from the Board of Education?



# NYSSBA 2018 Convention Review



**NYSSBA**  
**99<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
Convention & Education Expo  
OCTOBER 25-27, 2018



**NEW IDEAS** 🍏 **NEW SOLUTIONS** 🍏 **NEW YORK CITY** 🍏 **2018**

# Legal Conference: Day 1

Over 500 school board members attended the first day, where a variety of topics were discussed ranging from:

School Safety

Political Discourse  
in Public Schools

Sexual Harassment

School Law – A  
Year in Review  
(Part 1 and 2)

Employment Law –  
Bargaining and  
Non-Bargaining  
Issues

Special Education  
Disputes

Each of these topics was hosted by a moderator and a panel of well-informed legal attorneys. These attorneys provided members with a variety of details regarding the issues at hand.



## NYSSBA Seminars: Day 2

---

Mr. Hartman was selected as a Presider, who introduced the speaker for *Missile Launch: Controlling My Amygdala Triggers* seminar

---

The *Missile Launch* seminar discussed how our emotions continually hijack our rationale thinking and, according to the presenter, cause most people not to listen with the intent to understand, but rather with the intent to reply

---

This seminar also provided board members with tools to 1) slow down the discussion, 2) seek information before formulating a final opinion, and 3) appreciate other's points of view

---

Techniques on how to better utilize rationally thinking were also provided

---



# NYSSBA Seminars: Day 2 (Continued)

## The Opioid Crisis and its Effect on Students

- Offered relevant and important details regarding what opioids are and how schools can develop programs to help students that are in need

## Community Communication Strategies and the Budget Process

- Many of the ideas presented in this seminar were ones that Commack is already doing. For example:
  - Budget Workshops
  - Staff Engagement
  - Community Engagement
  - Engagement of PTA Groups

# NYSSBA: Day 3

Attended the Annual Business Meeting where 20 amendments were discussed and voted on

There were over 230 delegates represented in the meeting

95% (19/20) of the proposed amendments were approved

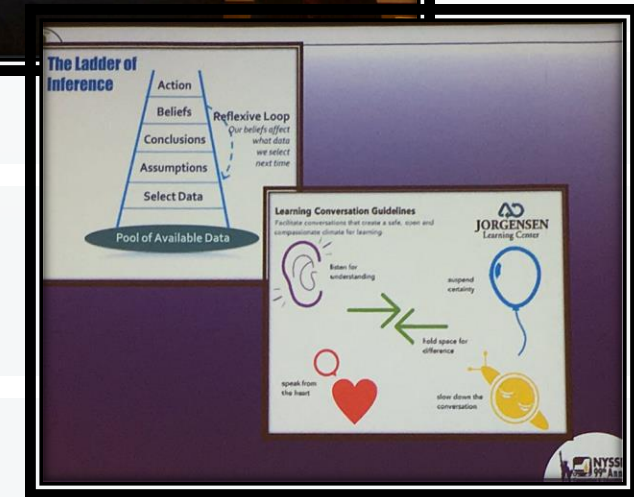
These amendments serve as the basis for the advocacy work that NYSSBA will be focused on for 2019

Some of the amendment included:

- Call for additional funding related to school safety item
- Streamlining the 3020a tenured teacher process to address cost and time issue
- Require Smart School Review board to meet monthly
- Requiring kindergarten attendance (very important for rural districts)
- Continue to require funding for all new mandates passed by Legislature

# NYSSBA - Day 3 Conclusion

- Dr. James presented at the last session of the conference regarding *Balance-Driven Schools: Redefining Academics and Play*
- The focus of the presentation was how to engage your community, understand their needs, engage in the necessary research, and designing programs that fits the needs of the students.
- The presentation was interactive and the feedback from those that attended was extremely positive and well-received.





## Completed and Upcoming Meetings

October 18, 2018

- Policy Workshop



November 8, 2018

- BOE Meeting
- State of the District: Summary of Related Actions for All BOE Goals; Plant & Facilities State of the District Presentation (incl. Security)



November 15, 2018

- Policy Workshop

December 13, 2018

- BOE Meeting
- State of the District: Elementary Instruction State of the District Presentation

January 10, 2019

- BOE Meeting
- State of the District: Secondary Education State of the District Presentation; Communications Steering Committee Presentation

January 24, 2019

- Policy Workshop

January 31, 2019

- BOE Retreat

February 28, 2019

- BOE Meeting
- State of the District: Technology, Athletics, Other

