EasyProcure Program Royalties Top $1.8 Million

EasyProcure, the Education Procurement Card and a joint venture between PASA, the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials (PASBO), Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) and the Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF), is pleased to announce that royalties from the program have totaled over $1.8 million as the program year came to a close as of May 31, 2018.

These record-high royalties will translate into increased rebate dollars for participating school districts throughout Pennsylvania which will be distributed during July.

Rebates to participating school districts will be greater than they have been throughout the 14-year history of the EasyProcure program.

The 230 Pennsylvania LEAs participating in the EasyProcure program will bring in a cool $1.3 million this year, while 77 participating schools and other local education agencies in Ohio will add $471,328 to their pocket books for the coming school year. This year the EasyProcure program’s remarkable success was demonstrated by the fact that 15 participating LEAs will be presented with a rebate check of more than $25,000.

“As school leaders continue to face difficult budget decisions, the decision to join EasyProcure is not one of those that should make the list,” said Jay Himes, CAE, PASBO’s Executive Director. “Where else can you get a return on expenditure to provide additional resources for student achievement?”

PASA Professional Development Program
Don’t Miss Out!

Registration is now *OPEN* for many of these upcoming programs.

Fall 2018 Webinar Series
(REGISTRATION OPEN)

Beginning with the first webinar on September 24, this fall’s webinar series is focused on helping you “Avoid the Pitfalls” in your professional career. Topics will include: the PA Educator Discipline Act, PSERS issues, the PA Ethics Act, and the leader’s role in guiding board members about their governance roles concerning the Sunshine Law and use of email/social media.

See p. 13 for more information.

New Superintendents’ Academy
Sept. 26-27: Systems Leadership
(REGISTRATION OPEN)

Jan. 8-9: Professional & Community Leadership - SAVE THE DATE
PASA Office – Harrisburg
For new and aspiring/soon-to-be superintendents, this three-part Academy is designed to provide practical information and tools to assist the superintendent’s entry into his or her new position AND, as a bonus, provides an opportunity to gain a statewide perspective from both participants and Academy session leaders representing the diversity of districts across the commonwealth.

See p. 10 for more information.

PASA/PSBA School Leadership Conference
October 17-19
Hershey Lodge & Convention Center
Join your colleagues, hear from nationally known presenters, take advantage of numerous educational sessions, see the latest educational tools and services showcased in the Exhibit Hall, and celebrate student programs and talents.

See p. 12 for more information.

NEW THIS YEAR!
PA Summit for Assistant Superintendents
(REGISTRATION OPEN)
October 25
PASA Office – Harrisburg
This one-of-a-kind event brings together Assistant Superintendent colleagues from across Pennsylvania and the eastern Ohio counties in a unique opportunity to gain a statewide perspective from both participants and Academy session leaders representing the diversity of districts across the commonwealth.

See Professional Development, page 4
Be a Motivator in Chief

As July slowly fades into August, school leaders across the commonwealth become focused on the beginning of a new school year and the push to prepare for the opening of school begins in earnest.

There are two days that are of critical importance in starting the school year successfully: the opening in-service day for staff and the first day for students. The opening in-service day for staff can set the tone for the entire school year and serves as a prime opportunity for the superintendent to inspire and motivate the staff for the coming year.

While many districts invite a guest speaker to deliver a welcoming message to the staff, it is important that the leader of the district spend time in front of the staff in an effort to excite them about the new school year. Staff members often enjoy guest speakers and other traditions of the opening in-service program, but they want to hear from the superintendent. I highly recommend that school leaders view Simon Sinek’s video on YouTube entitled “Why Good Leaders Make You Feel Safe.” It will provide you with great insight on what staff members want from their leaders.

The opening in-service also provides an opportunity for the superintendent to show his/her appreciation for the staff by thanking them for all they have done in the past and letting them know that they will be supported in the coming year. It is also essential that the superintendent articulate the vision of the district and provide an inspiring message that will motivate the staff as to the importance of their work and why education is so critical for the success of the children they serve, their community and the nation.

Every staff member wants to be part of something significant and they want to know that their leader has their back and is working hard on their behalf to attain a preferred future for everyone. If staff members leave the opening in-service with a positive buzz, the school year is more likely to have a good start.

It is also critically important that each building principal have a positive message during the first faculty meeting of the school year, which is typically held before the first day for students.

The building principals should be modeling the same positive message that was delivered at the opening in-service. The first faculty meeting should focus more on the vision, mission and goals for the coming school year instead of a laundry list of building specific requirements and procedures. Every good superintendent knows that excellent building principals are the linchpin to quality school districts. The culture of a building can be influenced greatly by a good building leader.

Finally, the opening day of school should be a positive experience for the students. The day should focus on the exciting things that the students will study in the coming year.

During one of our recent workshops at PASA, a superintendent explained that they do not cover any classroom or school rules on the first day of the school year. Instead, the teachers spend time talking to the students about their passion for teaching and then listen to the students explain their interests. If students go home at the end of the first day excited about what they will learn and understand the background of their teachers, it can lead to a very positive school year. If they go home at the end of the first day with a notebook full of rules and regulations, they won’t be very excited about day two.

Just as the staff needs to be motivated at the opening in-service, the students need to be motivated on the first day of school. Beginning the school year on a positive note will increase everyone’s optimism and improve school climate, which is more important than ever for the safety and well-being of everyone in our schools.

The challenges of public education become more complex each year, and the problems can seem overwhelming at times. School leaders need to be a positive role model for the staff on how to accept these daunting challenges and turn them into opportunities of success for their students.

A superintendent wears many hats and has a multitude of responsibilities, but none is more important than “Motivator in Chief” as we head into a new school year.
NEWS RECAP

Don’t forget to check the PASA website for the weekly Education Update that provides a summary of up-to-date legislative, state and national education news. For more information on the following news briefs, see the PASA Web site at www.pasa-net.org. (Click on “News and Advocacy” to access the current and archived updates.) And follow us on Twitter for the latest updates @PASASupts.

School Safety News

Task Force Findings: The seven-member Pennsylvania School Safety Task Force has released its preliminary findings on the issue based on comments provided during six regional roundtables held throughout the commonwealth from April through June. Among the initial findings and themes from the roundtables were the need to improve communication/information sharing, enhance social/emotional learning, increase access to mental health services and professionals, build community connections, integrate law enforcement and school resource officers, provide guidance on establishing priorities for school and provide more resources for schools. (Click here for more information.) PASA Executive Director Dr. Mark DiRocco serves as one of five vice-chairs on the task force.

School Safety Bill: Legislation passed with the budget (SB 1142) includes provisions for establishing a tip-line for reporting potential threats. The bill also establishes a School Safety and Security Committee within the Commission on Crime and Delinquency to develop best practices for school safety assessments, develop and review a school safety and security survey for school entities, and direct the disbursement of the $60 million allocated in the state budget for school safety and security grants. The law provides that both PASA and PASBO will recommend at least one individual each to serve on the committee to a four-year term.

State Budget News

State Budget Update: In contrast to recent years, the General Assembly passed and Gov. Wolf signed into law a completed state budget before the July 1 deadline. The $32.7 billion budget, about a 2 percent increase from 2017-18, includes increases for basic education ($100 million), special education ($15 million), career and technical education ($30 million), Ready to Learn Block Grants ($18 million), early intervention ($21 million) and early childhood programs ($25 million). The budget level-funds pupil transportation and provides an increase in Social Security payments to make up for the underfunding in that line-item in 2017-18.

PlanCon: The budget extends state reimbursement under the existing PlanCon program to districts that submitted initial PlanCon applications between July 1, 2017 and November 6, 2017 and provides $10 million for PlanCon in the budget. However, because districts are being funded by bonds, the small funding number should not impact reimbursement. The final budget bills did not establish a new PlanCon system.

School Funding Lawsuit: Plaintiffs in the school funding lawsuit advancing through state courts filed a brief and affidavits in the case to dispute claims by Senate President Pro Tempore Joseph Scarnati that the new state funding formula renders the lawsuit moot. The documents point to a growing spending gap between wealthy and poor school districts.

Revenue Update: Pennsylvania ended the 2017-18 fiscal year with $34.6 billion in General Fund collections, short of estimates, but by only $137.2 million (0.4 percent). Total 2017-18 fiscal year revenue collections, combined with reductions in budgeted expenditures, enabled the commonwealth to end the fiscal year with a budget surplus and will allow for a $22 million deposit into the Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund.

Gaming Revenue: Slot machine revenue in 2017-18 increased from the previous year by 0.7 percent, or approximately $16 million.

In Legislative News

Session Schedule: Both the House and Senate are in recess until later in September and are scheduled for only 10 voting sessions days before the November election.

School Code Bill: The School Code bill passed with the state budget, includes some changes to Act 55’s lunch-shaming provisions, extends the PlanCon and Keystone Exam/graduation requirement moratoriums through 2018-19, provides for discussion of school safety and security issues in executive session, and provides a $25 million increase for the EITC program (and increases the maximum annual household income to $85,000).

Civics Test: Gov. Wolf signed into law HB 564, which requires local school districts to administer at least once to students in grades 7-12 a locally developed civics test, require districts to provide students who pass with an official certificate, and require the PDE to survey LEAs concerning compliance with the requirement.

State News

Teacher, Principal Residency Grants: The PDE has awarded about $2 million in grants to eight universities to develop and implement year-long residency programs for teachers and principals in an effort to address the decline in the number of certifications awarded in those areas.

High School Athletics: The PIAA this month passed several policy proposals to address what is perceived as a competitive balance in Pennsylvania high school sports between traditional public schools and charter/private schools. Among the changes are certain restrictions on eligibility for post-season playoffs. Changes would be in effect beginning with the 2020-21 school year.

National News

Janus Decision and Union Fees: The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5-4 in late June that public employees cannot be forced to contribute to labor unions representing them in collective bargaining, overturning a 41-year old “fair-share” decision. The Janus decision also means that school districts can no longer collect union dues. The PDE has issued guidance on the decision.

Compliance with IDEA: According to a recent report from the U.S. Department of Education, Pennsylvania is one of 21 states found to be in compliance with all requirements under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act., based on data collected in the 2015-16 school year for students ages 6-21. States are evaluated based on how they following IDEA rules and regulations and on how students with disabilities are actually performing academically.

Teacher Quality Initiative: According to a recent Rand Corporation analysis of the Gates Teacher Quality Initiative, the $575 million project that used student test scores to evaluate teachers and utilize...
At the Capitol
Continued from page 3

that information to target intervention and improve instruction failed to achieve its goals and resulted in student results no better than those in schools not utilizing those funds.

Special Education Rules: The U.S. Department of Education has announced it is imposing a two-year delay on the implementation of a rule that would require states to take a closer look at how school districts identify and serve minority students with disabilities. The “Equity in IDEA” rule, set to take effect in 2018-19, creates a process for states to monitor how districts identify, discipline and place minority students.

COMING UP

The state budget was finalized before the July 1 deadline and included some increases for education. That’s the good news. The bad news? Many issues remain unaddressed, including changes to the Keystone Exam/graduation requirement and charter school reform. Also still waiting in the wings? Voucher proposals and property tax “reform.” Lawmakers return to session in late September for about 10 voting days before the November election, and possibly a few days after that, in a “lame duck” session. What remains to be seen is what issues they have the time to consider and finalize before session ends on November 30. Any bill not passed and signed into law by the end of the year will need to be reintroduced in the next two-year session. And, as always, stay tuned for the latest information by following us on Twitter @PASASupty.

PASA Flyer 4 July 2018

Professional Development
Continued from page 1

the Commonwealth to focus on research theory and the practical application of the Assistant Superintendent’s critical leadership behaviors that most favorably impact student outcomes. Featured Presenter: Dr. Tracey Severns

See more online at www.pasa-net.org/asstsummit.

Aspiring to Leadership Workshops

Aspiring to Central Office/District Cabinet
Nov. 1 (I.U. 3)* and Jan. 31 (PASA)
Aspiring to the Superintendency
Nov. 2 (I.U. 3)* and Feb. 1 (PASA)
(REGISTRATION FOR THE I.U. 3 SITE IS OPEN.)

These workshops are designed to provide practical information and tools to assist those considering a future career as a district cabinet-level leader and/or superintendent. Help grow strong leaders for Pennsylvania Schools – encourage aspiring leaders in your district to attend! See more online at www.pasa-net.org/aspiring.

“PASA Leadership Forum” (formerly the Education Congress)
March 17-18 – SAVE THE DATE!
Hilton Harrisburg
Watch for details about this annual event that brings school system leaders together to focus on key education issues through keynote presentations, sessions and discussion.

Women’s Caucus Conference
May 13-15 – SAVE THE DATE!
Hotel Hershey
This three-day program provides women in school administration an opportunity to network, learn strategies to improve student learning, support each other and encourage women to aspire to higher levels of school administration.

Nominations Due July 27 Online

PASA Seeking Nominations for 2019 PA Superintendent of the Year

PASA and the American Association of School Administrators are now seeking nominations for 2019 Pennsylvania Superintendent of the Year.

The Superintendent of the Year program, sponsored by VALIC and AASA, pays tribute to the talent and vision of the men and women who lead the nation’s public schools. This is the 31th year for the award program.

Each candidate for Superintendent of the Year will be judged on the following criteria:

Leadership for Learning – creativity in successfully meeting the needs of students in his or her school system.
Communication – strength in both personal and organizational communication.
Professionalism – constant improvement of administrative knowledge and skills, while providing professional development opportunities and motivation to others on the education team.
Community Involvement – active participation in local community activities and an understanding of regional, national, and international issues.

To be considered for National Superintendent of the Year, a Pennsylvania applicant must first be selected as Pennsylvania Superintendent of the Year by the PA Association of School Administrators (PASA).

Online nominations are due July 27.

See the PASA website for details on the nomination, application and selection process at https://www.pasa-net.org/soy.
FROM THE PRESIDENT’S PEN
So...Do You Work in the Summer?

BY DR. EMILIE LONARDI, 2017-18 PASA PRESIDENT

If we each had a dollar for every time someone asked us that question, we could resolve all the school funding issues.

What the average person doesn’t realize is just how much superintendents do in the summer. On the top of the list are such areas as recommending new staff for hire, completing facilities upgrades, facilitating leadership team retreats, and most importantly planning, planning, and more planning for the upcoming academic year.

Amid this brief but precious time called summer, we must be sure to take time to reflect on our role as the district CEO. John Dewey once said, “We do not learn from doing, we learn from reflecting on experience.” It is imperative to our own growth that we take this quote to heart.

My advice? Block out some time this summer when you are not planning or taking your well-deserved vacation to reflect on the leader you were this past year. Mark these blocks of time on your calendar as “evaluation of self.”

Ask yourself, “What did I do well, and on what do I need to improve this coming year?” Then go through each member of your leadership team and evaluate your relationship with each one. Ask yourself, “Did these leaders improve their craft by working with me this year? Did I create a synergy among us?”

Think about the initiatives you have begun, and the way you cultivate those who are carrying them out. Review the amount of energy you give to certain things or people and the specific words you choose to communicate your message. Repeat this reflection regarding your role as the district CEO.

The Fellowship Program is a professional development program for individuals whose work record reflects strong leadership abilities and a concern for issues important to children and education. The program is supported by a national and state network of resource people and peers who have a track record of accomplishment in research, policy development, and effective practice in education, child development and human services, and is hosted by the Education Policy and Leadership Center* in Pennsylvania.

With more than 500 graduates in its first 19 years, this Program is a premier professional development opportunity for educators, state and local policymakers, advocates, and community leaders.

Past participants include state policymakers, district superintendents and principals, school business officials, school board members, education deans/chairs, statewide association leaders, parent leaders, education advocates, and other education and community leaders.

The 2018-19 program begins in September and continues to graduation in June 2019.

See the EPLC website for details on how you can join the 2018-19 cohort!

*The Education Policy and Leadership Center (EPLC) is a Pennsylvania-based, not-for-profit corporation established in 1998 and governed by a board of directors that includes members who have significant experience with education policy, government and not-for-profit organizations. The Center conducts its policy and leadership programs in cooperation with numerous local, statewide and national organizations. PASA is a founder and supporter of EPLC.

Enjoy the summer, my friends.

PASA Legal Services

PASA’s legal staff offers a wide range of employment-related legal resources and services to PASA members who are Commissioned Officers. These services include consulting services, employment contract services, non-litigation dispute resolution, and assistance with the negotiation and development of separation agreements. Go to http://www.pasa-net.org/legalservices to read more about it.

REMINDER…
Still Time to Apply for the 2018-19 EPLC Policy Fellowship Program

The Education Policy Leadership Center continues to accept applications for the 2018-19 Pennsylvania Education Policy Fellowship Program.

The Fellowship Program is a professional development program for individuals whose work record reflects strong leadership abilities and a concern for issues important to children and education. The program is supported by a national and state network of resource people and peers who have a track record of accomplishment in research, policy development, and effective practice in education, child development and human services, and is hosted by the Education Policy and Leadership Center* in Pennsylvania.

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No PASA Dues Increase for 2018-19
Renew Your Membership Today!

PASA is working in Harrisburg and throughout the Commonwealth – and AASA is working for you in Washington D.C. – to influence policy, build support for public education, and provide school administrators with both the information and professional development they need. Membership in both PASA, your professional state organization, and in AASA, the only national organization representing the interests of school district superintendents, is vital for you personally, for the profession and for public education.

Membership renewal information was mailed earlier this summer. Start your summer by renewing your membership for 2018-19 – and stay connected to YOUR professional associations!

The PASA membership year runs from October 1 through September 30.

July 2018 5 PASA Flyer
New School Year Check List

BY CONNIE R KINDLER,
PASA CONSULTANT FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

We recently facilitated our New Superintendents Academy Part 1: Strategic and Cultural Leadership for 42 enthusiastic new and aspiring superintendents. Content and discussions focused on the components necessary for a successful start in the new role. Below are key take-aways that are also applicable to beginning a new school year:

Assure safety.

Dr. Mark DiRocco provided information about the legal and practical aspects of the laws and standards for school safety and emergency management.

• Review your safety and security plans. Be the authority on them.
• If your plan is outdated, refer to the PA Department of Education Office of Safe Schools “All Hazards Toolkit.”
• Assemble a district-wide safety and security committee and include required representation.
• Appoint a school administrator as the safety and security coordinator.
• Facilitate table-top exercises for the safe management of a wide range of potential incidents.

Communicate and be visible.

I shared simple actions that will engage stakeholders and build relationships.

• Send a warm “welcome to the new school year” letter to all staff, inviting them to the opening program.
• Personally greet all staff and students by visiting pre-season practices and camps, and walking through buildings, classrooms, transportation facility, cafeterias, and custodial and maintenance quarters.
• Share appreciation at the first PTA and Booster Club meetings.
• Periodically facilitate community “chats” at each building, providing brief updates and opportunities to hear from community members.

Create a “Team of Ten.”

Dr. Emilie Lonardi, PASA President and superintendent of the Downingtown Area SD, who also served as the superintendent of the West York Area SD for 19 years, shared her insights into the importance of communication and school board governance for creating a collaborative “team of ten.”

• Be an effective listener and speaker and be sensitive to intentional and unintentional communication.
• Assure the Board’s understanding of their governance role through training and reminders.
• Overprepare for meetings with the Board by anticipating potential questions and thoroughly familiarizing yourself with relevant information.

Invest in your leadership team.

Dr. Mark Leidy, who is entering his ninth year as superintendent of Mechanicsburg Area SD, provided strategies that he uses to develop and sustain a strong leadership team. Drawing from the works of Lincoln on Leadership, Phillips (1992), The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership, Maxwell (2007), and other sources, he facilitated activities to promote attendees’ understanding of the following leadership behaviors:

• Demonstrate firmness and commitment to gain loyalty and trust.
• Focus on worthwhile goals and support each other’s achievement of them to create team cohesiveness.
• Balance the leadership and work styles on your senior team to create effectiveness.

Open with passion.

Dr. Shane Hotchkiss, superintendent of Bermudian Springs SD, said that he told his teachers to replace the first day rules and syllabus overviews with discussions about their passions. His advice would set an enthusiastic start to all opening kick-offs.

• Share your passions by telling your staff who you are and what you like.
• Recommend that they share their passions with the teams and students they lead.

Achieve balance.

All identified the importance of taking care of yourself and your family. Your well-being affects your performance.

Maintain hope.

Via the exciting innovations occurring within their districts, Dr. Hotchkiss and Dr. Brian Troop, superintendent of Ephrata Area SD, inspired hope. Important to the innovative cultures they are creating within their districts was the message, “Sometimes you have to slow down in order to speed up.”

After you assure school safety, trusting relationships, board support, leadership capacity, and passion, bold moves for sustainable transformations in your district and schools will be possible. Be hopeful for the opportunities that lie ahead.

Best wishes for an inspiring start to your school year!

Communication Tip of the Month

“To support new administrators, district leaders need to be highly reflective and intentional. At an individual level, the district leader can be clear, honest and delegate appropriately. Personally check in with your new leader. Listen, ask questions and be present. Articulate your vision, clarify your values and explicitly communicate your expectations. Be honest with the leader about your own professional challenges and struggles. Through your actions, let your new leader know that he or she can trust you — that you believe in and know the new administrator can do the job. Delegate in developmentally appropriate ways and provide the personal support, resources and ongoing progress monitoring the new administrator needs to be successful.” – Mary Herrmann and Jessica Herrmann, from “Systems of Support for New Leaders,” as published in the June issue of AASA’s School Administrator. The June issue of AASA’s School Administrator examined Capacity Building, focusing on systems that connect staff accountability for student performance to professional support.

PASA Flyer

July 2018
“If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”
— African proverb

The state budget is done. A School Code bill was signed. Education is getting an increase, not big, but an increase. The school year is right around the corner, and it’s time to wind up the vacations and get back into the groove.

Each superintendent, each school administrator, has his or her own personal and district challenges, focus, goals and priorities going into the 2018-19 school year. And each person spends considerable time examining what has been, what is and what needs to change in order to make the next school year successful for students, staff and the community.

It’s a lot of work, work that is often time-consuming and energy-consuming. I am always amazed at the commitment, drive and enthusiasm all of you bring to that work. We need you.

But the African proverb above provides some guidance about all that work, all that preparation, all that planning. If you think you should do it all, should direct it all, should plan it all and basically go it alone, you may not be doing yourself, your district or public education a favor.

Sharing information and ideas, building relationships with not only your staff but also with colleagues both in your intermediate unit and across the commonwealth is an important part of your professional life. While it may be easier to stay in the district rather than attend the I.U. meeting, it may not be wiser. While it may be simpler to avoid workshops and conferences and seminars and concentrate instead on what is going on in your part of the world, it may not be as professionally enriching. Yes, you may save money by staying in the district and rarely going beyond its borders, but what are you missing? What could you learn from the experiences of those who serve districts far from your geographic area?

The same is true of advocacy. How can you best advocate for your students and your district? Go it alone? Avoid advocacy altogether and not get involved in “politics”? Or join with your colleagues both regionally and statewide, even nationwide. Share, learn, grow. And join together whenever you can to speak up for public schools. If we want to go far, we must go together.

Advocacy is not easy, but it is important, as important as professional training and learning, as important as management, as important as developing district budgets. And working together, sharing ideas and developing strategies to make our collective voices heard in policy debates about education is essential.

PASA has a resolutions document that provides direction for our advocacy. It will continue to do that, as this living document is revised annually to maintain its relevancy in the context of the ever-changing political and educational landscape. But words without deeds are rather empty. And a few individual voices speaking out for public education is not nearly as effective as school administrators coming together in one voice to speak up for what is best for our communities, our districts and our students.

So, in your planning for the new school year, I would encourage you to stay informed, stay aware, and look for opportunities to meet with your colleagues both regionally and statewide, even nationwide. Share, learn, grow. And join together whenever you can to speak up for public schools. If we want to go far, we must go together.

FROM THE PDE...

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) is seeking individuals to serve as Chief Recovery Officers (CRO) for school districts in financial recovery status. Act 141 of 2012, also known as the School District Financial Recovery Act, is designed to help financially distressed school districts return to financial stability and ensure an adequate education for students in these districts. As part of this law, the Secretary of Education appoints a CRO after a school district has been declared in financial recovery status.

The CRO is charged with developing and implementing a financial recovery plan to lead the district into financial solvency and position it for academic success and serves at the pleasure of the secretary. CLICK HERE to read a complete job description.

PDE is seeking qualified individuals with senior level administrative and financial experience in working with school districts. This individual must meet one or more of the minimum legal criteria and possess at least five (5) years’ experience in one or more of the following areas:

- budget and financial management
- public school finance
- school administration
- accounting
- academic assessment
- education law
- hold a graduate degree from an accredited institution of higher education in business or finance and has at least four (4) years relevant experience in business, finance or management

The expected start date will be upon full execution of an agreement. Compensation is pursuant to a contract with PDE and the terms and conditions will be based upon qualifications and years of experience.

Questions and inquiries should be directed to David Volkman, PDE Executive Deputy Secretary, at (717) 787-1489 or at dvolkman@pa.gov.
From the Women’s Caucus
Learning: A Learned Behavior
BY LYNN FUINI-HETTEN, CAUCUS PRESIDENT

As July comes to a close, I am thinking about my professional learning this summer. What have I been reading? What podcasts have I listened to, and how will I share what I have learned with my team in the fall? How will my intentional learning help move Salisbury Township School District closer to our vision/learning beliefs? I am also reflecting on my personal learning process. My entire career revolves around learning, so how can I improve my own learning?

In a recent Harvard Business Review article, Ulrich Boser (author of Learn Better) shares his perspective that learning is a learned behavior, and we can get better at it. But, with all this content, including blog posts, tweets, vox messages, Facebook posts, informal conversations, magazines, books, and, yes, even the Allentown Morning Call print newspaper, how can I consume information more efficiently?

Boser encourages us to organize our goals. What does that look like? What do you want to learn? How can you develop strategies to reach those goals?

This year, my colleague Randy Ziegenfuss and I are focused on learning about learner-centered leadership. We were really transparent about this goal for ourselves, our team and our board. This goal will help us become better leaders as we work towards developing a learner-centered learning environment in our district.

In addition to interviewing other educators and thought leaders across the country through our shiftyourparadigm.org podcast, we are reading multiple publications from Education Reimagined, including the Pioneer Magazine and curated resources. All of this content directly relates to leading effectively in an environment which infuses our learning beliefs.

After a year of publishing content, we are at the point where we really need to process all of this content metacognitively and synthesize what we have learned. We have read countless articles and published 36 podcast interviews with leaders and learners in learner-centered environments across the country. After creating and consuming this content, what do we know? What do we still want to learn? How will we fill in the gaps, build our understanding, increase connections to our practice, and ask more questions?

Boser also reminds us to pause during the learning process so that we take some time to reflect on the learning. After each podcast, Randy and I take the time to make connections to our practice, ask ourselves and our team questions based on our context, and identify some next steps. We explicitly memo these ideas through blog posts. This helps us make the learning personal, relevant, and contextualized for us in Salisbury Township School District. And we need to ask ourselves: Where are we in this journey?

Learning how to learn and applying that learning is key to positive school system leadership.

So, what are you learning this summer? Where are you in your journey? How will your learning help your team reach its goals during the 2018-19 school year?
Recognizing Pennsylvania’s Public Schools…

Green Ribbon Schools

Wexford Elementary School (Pine-Richland SD) and Mt. Lebanon High School recently were honored as two of the U.S. Department of Education’s 2018 “Green Ribbon Schools.” The program recognizes schools for their dedication to reducing environmental impact and cost, improving health and wellness of schools, and providing environmental education to students. Only 46 schools nationwide received the recognition this year.

Wexford Elementary was recognized for several interconnected programs providing students with the knowledge and opportunities to have a healthy body, mind and environment. In the Mt. Lebanon HS, a variety of green initiatives have enabled the campus to reduce energy consumption and conserve resources.

During a recent press conference honoring the award recipients, Michael Walsh, deputy secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, also presented to the Carlisle Area SD a “Champion of Green Schools Award” for installing solar panels that have reduced energy consumption by 25 percent since 2007.

Congratulations!

STEM Demonstration

The Conrad Weiser High School’s STEM team recently were at the State Capitol providing a demonstration of their app capable of assessing 3-D wound proportions which can be transferred to a 3-D printer to manufacture a personalized bioactive glass-embedded bandage. According to Superintendent Dr. Randall Grove, the students are working with local, state, national and international partners to fund and support their work and are developing a patent for their intellectual property in hopes to take the idea to market. (from a story published by Pennsylvania Legislative Services)

National Engineering Competition

The Varsity A Team from the General McLane High School recently took fifth place in the Technology Student Association Tests of Engineering Aptitude in Mathematics and Science. The high school’s Varsity B Team ranked in the top 10 in the competition for its digital media presentation. Student teams created two-minute videos to promote fictional green consulting firms that they designed to accomplish assigned tasks. This year’s project challenged students to create a miniature model home heated by thermodynamics. (from goerie.com, 6/28/18)

Congratulations!

PASA thanks our Awards of Achievement sponsors for their continuing support in recognizing outstanding public school administrators in Pennsylvania.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2019 AASA National Conference on Education
February 14 - 16, 2019 in Los Angeles, California
Focus: Effective Leadership Creates Success

PASA Seeking Nominations for 2018 ‘Awards of Achievement’

PASA is again seeking nominations for three special awards recognizing leadership in public education in three areas:

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION - Demonstrating commitment to excellence as evidenced through notable service to the profession. Examples of this service may include developing an effective professional development program for school district educators, demonstrating leadership in administrator preparation programs, school study councils or other professional development efforts, or promoting the education profession through research, writing or organizational service.

Sponsored by: Horace Mann

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP - Demonstrating commitment to excellence in teaching and learning by developing, nurturing and supporting exemplary programs that support the academic achievement of particular student populations, enrich student learning in a particular content area, or implement strategies to enhance student learning across the curriculum.

Sponsored by: Lincoln Investment Planning, Inc.

LEADERSHIP IN PUBLIC EDUCATION - Demonstrating commitment to school administration as a profession, to public education and to one’s colleagues, including participation in and leadership with the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators.

Sponsored by: PLGIT/PFM

All PASA members are eligible for these awards. Individuals may self-nominate or be nominated by their peers, staff or board. Those nominating/self-nominating should complete the PASA Awards nomination form and include and/or attach further information that will provide a judging panel with sufficient evidence to support the nomination.

The PASA Awards of Achievement will be presented in October during the PASA/PSBA Annual Conference in Hershey. A monetary award of $1,000 will be donated in each recipient’s name to a scholarship fund of his/her choice or to the Pennsylvania administrator preparation program of his/her choice.

Deadline for nominations is JULY 31.

For more information on the Awards of Achievement, see the PASA web site at www.pasa-net.org/pasaawards.

PASA thanks our Awards of Achievement sponsors for their continuing support in recognizing outstanding public school administrators in Pennsylvania.

Has a student, staff member, your district or school in your district been recognized for outstanding achievement? Send us the information at pasa@pasa-net.org so that we can share that accomplishment and the great things happening in public schools through The PASA Flyer.
Last month PASA unveiled a new White Paper outlining the comparative costs of online education in cyber charter schools and public school districts.

Authored by Dr. Brett Gilliland, Director of Educational Support Services for I.U. 11, and PASA Executive Director Dr. Mark DiRocco, “Cost Analysis: Cyber Charter Schools and Public School District Cyber Learning Programs” notes the wide discrepancy in costs for operating online education programs for both regular students and special needs students in cyber charter schools and public school districts.

“Many local school district leaders have answered the call to innovate and become more entrepreneurial in the delivery of their instructional programs in an effort to provide a quality school experience for those families that want a non-traditional learning option for their children,” the paper states, observing that those efforts keep students and families connected to the local school district, students have access to a quality curriculum and save the local district money, often in significant amounts.

The report notes that the 2017-18 cyber charter school tuition rates paid by local school districts ranges from a low of $7,598 to a high of $18,544 per student, with a statewide average tuition rate of $11,305. Yet, the vast majority of local school districts offering cyber learning options are spending $5,000 or less annually to educate students through a local online learning option. In addition, special education cyber charter tuition rates range from a low of $15,118 to a high of $48,198, for an average of $24,192 per student across the commonwealth, while local school districts are providing similar online learning services for $7,000 or less per student.

“The charter school funding formula is based on the false assumption that the cost of educating a student in a traditional public school district can be calculated and established as a per pupil cost to educate a student in a cyber charter school,” the report concludes. “Traditional public school districts have shown that full-time cyber learning programs can be offered at a fraction of the cost that cyber charter schools are receiving as required under current charter school law.”

The report also references an earlier PASA White Paper on Charter School Reform, urging policymakers to review PASA’s eleven recommendations for reform outlined in that report.

“PASA strongly recommends that the governor and legislature work to solve this funding debacle that has unnecessarily drained public school district funds to the detriment of students,” the report adds. Click here to read the White Paper.

Noteworthy Quotes…

“If the goal of the people who funded this lawsuit is to silence us, I can tell you that it’s not going to happen. Together, PSEA members speak out for the kinds of policies that our public school students need to get the education they are entitled to and for the salaries, benefits, working conditions, and respect that every public school employee deserves.” – PSEA President Dolores McCracken, on the recent Janus decision overturning “fair-share” fees, from a press release, 6/27/18

“This year’s bipartisan budget continues to increase opportunities for all Pennsylvanians and shows the results of our hard work to get our finances under control.” – Gov. Tom Wolf, on passage of an early state budget, from a press release, 6/22/18.

“Where we can, we have kept spending under control and are positioning the state for future prosperity. This budget plan also starts the process of providing schools with the tools they need to create a more secure learning environment for our children.” – Senator Majority Leader Jake Corman (R-Centre/Huntingdon/Juniata/Mifflin) on the finalized 2018-19 state budget

“Public schools can work extraordinarily well when they are properly supported and properly funded. We are here today to make sure that support happens.” – PASA Executive Director Dr. Mark DiRocco, during a press conference at the State Capitol on June 19.
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR THE NOVEMBER SESSIONS AT I.U. 3

For Aspiring Leaders...

Do you have a school administrator in your district who is thinking about moving forward in their education journey into central office administration and/or the superintendency? Do you know of someone who should do that?

Or are YOU thinking about that?

The “Aspiring to Leadership” workshops are what you or school administrators in your district need in that journey, designed specifically to provide practical information and tools to assist those considering a future career as a district cabinet-level leader and/or superintendent.

The scheduled workshops will be held in two convenient locations:

**Allegheny I.U. 3** – 475 East Waterfront Drive, Homestead, PA 15120
- Thursday, Nov. 1: Aspiring to Cabinet Level/Central Office Leadership
- Friday, Nov. 2: Aspiring to the Superintendency

**PASA Office** – 2608 Market Place, Harrisburg, PA 17110
- Thursday, Jan. 31: Aspiring to Cabinet Level/Central Office Leadership
- Friday, Feb. 1: Aspiring to the Superintendency

**About Each Workshop…**

**Aspiring to the Superintendency:** This workshop will provide an overview of the role, responsibilities and rewards of serving as a superintendent; the balancing of responsibilities in order to prioritize instructional leadership; knowing yourself as a leader and finding the right match; negotiating a sound contract; and entry planning and transition.

**Aspiring to Cabinet Level/Central Office Leadership:** This workshop will provide an overview of cabinet positions; team building via varied attributes, skill sets and work styles; best practices, and related interview questions and interview simulations; and actions for transitioning to the new role.

**Workshop Schedule…**

8:00 a.m. – Check-in/Continental breakfast
8:30 a.m. – Program begins (includes lunch)
4:15 p.m. – Program concludes

**Registration…**

Cost for each one-day session is $159. Register for one – or both!

[See the PASA website for details at www.pasa-net.org/aspiring.]

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**NEW in 2018!**

**PASA Summit for Assistant Superintendents**

**Thursday, October 25, 2018**
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. (lunch provided)

**PASA Offices**
2608 Market Place, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Assistant Superintendents hold unique positions within school districts, often serving as the conduit between the eye in the sky and the feet on the ground. The Assistant Superintendent’s role typically includes planning, developing, supervising, evaluating, and maintaining programs and services at all levels in all buildings that impact the core of the district’s mission, teaching and learning.

**That is why this workshop is for YOU!**

Attend this one-of-a-kind event to join your colleagues from across the Commonwealth to focus on research theory and the practical application of the Assistant Superintendent’s critical leadership behaviors that most favorably impact student outcomes. You will learn how to create the culture, capacity, coherence and courage to implement the ESSA across your district, assuring equity and opportunity in teaching and learning.

**Featured Presenter:**

Dr. Tracey Severs, nationally recognized teacher and school administrator, and Chief Academic Officer for the New Jersey Department of Education, will inspire you to “Reach4Results.”

To register, see the PASA website at: [https://www.pasa-net.org/asstsuptsummit](https://www.pasa-net.org/asstsuptsummit)

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**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR THE NOVEMBER SESSIONS AT I.U. 3**

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[See the PASA website for details at www.pasa-net.org/aspiring.]
Advocacy News...

**AASA Legislative Advocacy Conference**
Several PASA members joined their colleagues from across the nation in Washington D.C. earlier this month to learn more about the current issues in Washington and meet with Representatives, Senators and key staff members in Congress.

Information sessions included updates on the Higher Education Act and teacher shortages, fiscal policy in ESSA, reporting and education news coverage in today’s environment, E-rate, and the 2018 elections and what it means for education.

**Lobby Day in Harrisburg**
Many PASA members were among those who participated in Lobby Day at the Capitol on June 19. The day included visits with lawmakers and participation in a press conference in the Capitol Rotunda.

During the press conference, school officials from PASA, PARSS and the PA Principals Association spoke on numerous education issues, including funding, school safety, principal and teacher evaluations, vouchers and education savings accounts, PlanCon and graduation requirements. PASA members who spoke during the press conference were Dr. Emilie Lonardi (Downingtown Area), James Estep (Mifflin County), Dr. Richard Fry (Big Spring) and Dr. Mark DiRocco (PASA Executive Director).

RIGHT: PASA President Dr. Emilie Lonardi was among those speaking during the afternoon press conference, calling for effort to address the rising cost of special education and the need for cyber charter school tuition changes.

ABOVE: (L-R) PASA members with Representative Glenn Thompson: Dr. Shane Hotchkiss (Bermudian Springs), Dr. Nick Guarente (Greenwood), Dr. Jay Burkhart (South Western), Cong. Thompson, LeeAnn Wentzel (Ridley), Dr. Brian Troop (Ephrata Area), Dr. Mark DiRocco (PASA Executive Director) and Tina Viletto (Montgomery County I.U. 23)

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**
Register today - and don’t miss this year’s featured speakers:

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**
- Darrell Scott, author and founder of Rachel’s Challenge, an organization focused on creating a culture of kindness to combat bullying
- Chuck Underwood, founder of consulting firm The Generational Imperative and international expert on generational study

**FEATURED SPEAKERS**
- John Gerdy, author and founder/executive director of Music For Everyone
- Thomas Murray, director of innovation for Future Ready Schools

**Reserve Your Rooms Now!**
Housing for the Conference remains open, but rooms are going fast! Get your reservations in now! Reservation deadline is September 17.

**PASA Events at the Conference: Remember to Register!**
Don’t forget to include the special PASA Recognition Luncheon with your conference registration. Network with your colleagues and join us to recognize our outgoing President Dr. Emilie Lonardi and three recipients of the PASA Awards of Achievement.

In addition, the PASA Women’s Caucus will have a drop-in session for conversation and networking during the conference (no fee).

SEE YOU IN HERSHEY!

Conference website: [https://www.paschoolleaders.org/](https://www.paschoolleaders.org/)
“Strategic and Cultural Leadership” was the focus of Part 1 of the PASA New Superintendents’ Academy, offered July 12-13. Forty-two participants attended the two-day program, which also provided opportunity for discussion and networking.

Sessions and presenters focused on a variety of topics, including:

- **First 100 Days: Transition and “To Do’s”** – Dr. Mark DiRocco (PASA Executive Director) and Connie Kindler (PASA consultant for professional development)
- **School Safety** – Dr. Mark DiRocco
- **A Team of 10: Developing an Effective School Board and Superintendent Relationship for Strategic and Cultural Leadership** – Dr. Emilie Lonardi (Downingtown Area)
- **Team Building for Strategic & Cultural Leadership** – Dr. Mark Leidy (Mechanicsburg Area)
- **Lessons Learned** – Dr. Amy Martell (Troy Area), Dr. Jill Takacs (Jenkintown) and Stephen Rodriguez (Pottstown)
- **Targeting Good Governance for Strategic & Cultural Leadership** – Dr. Mark DiRocco
- **School Board Transitions and Orientation** – Connie Kindler
- **Superintendent Evaluation** – Dr. Mark DiRocco and Virginia Montgomery, Esq., PASA General Counsel
- **Innovative Strategic & Cultural Leadership** – Dr. Shane Hotchkiss (Bermudian Springs) and Dr. Brian Troop (Ephrata Area)
- **On-the-Spot, Hands-On Assistance for Social Media Newbies and Seasoned Pros** – Dr. Hotchkiss and Dr. Troop

Dates for the remaining two sessions of the 2018-19 round of the New Superintendents’ Academy are September 26-27 (Part 2) and January 8-9 (Part 3). **Registration is now open for Part 2!**

**PLEASE SHARE WITH NEW SUPERINTENDENTS IN YOUR I.U.**

**New Superintendents’ Academy Session: SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP**

September 26 - 27  
PASA office, Harrisburg

**Approved for 25 PIL credits**

**Practical information about the exciting and complex role of the superintendent – and strategies needed for success!**

**TOPICS:**
First Things First: An Organizational System That Works  
Aligning Systems with Your Profile of Future Graduates  
Systems That Promote Equity  
Interactive Leadership Simulation  
Collective Bargaining Systems  
Economic Pressures and the Budget System  
Infrastructure: Capital Projects, Procurements Basics  
School District Business Systems

Deadline for making overnight hotel room reservations at a special rate:  
August 26

See the PASA website for details at [http://www.pasa-net.org/workshopnsa](http://www.pasa-net.org/workshopnsa).
No Rest During Recess
BY NOELLE ELLERSON NG, AASA ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, POLICY AND ADVOCACY

Every July, AASA holds its annual legislative advocacy conference. This year, it was July 10-12, and more than 200 superintendents and school business officials from across the country came to DC to make the case for continued investment and policy that supports and strengthens the nation’s public schools.

2018 is a mid-term election year, one that seems exceptionally partisan and political. Even as things heat up on the campaign trail and Congress begins to turn its attention to home states and home districts over the summer (August) recess and fall rolling up to the November elections, the fact remains there are a bevy of issues that could be impactful and consequential to education. Those issues are the ones that were highlighted during the advocacy conference, and are the ones that you and your fellow educators can use as the basis for any advocacy or outreach you may do during the summer recess and fall, when you may be able to meet with your Congressional delegation while they are home.

The education policies that are salient and certain for action are annual appropriations, Perkins Career & Technical Education, and the Higher Education Act. We also did a quick round up of the other topics that may garner news coverage, come up in conversations in your community, or otherwise emerge on your radar.

All of these topics are summarized in our talking points. Use these resources to make the most of the August recess and fall campaign period. Members in the home district are ripe for a visit to a public school, an opportunity to see what the district is doing, what it needs, and how federal policy can bolster the two.

A deeper list of AASA talking points on these “hot” issues is available on the PASA website at https://www.pasa-net.org//Files/Docs/2018/AASATalkingPoints.pdf. Here’s a quick summary of those talking points:

**Appropriations**
- Thank your members of Congress for the final FY18 package, which provided a $3.9 billion increase to USED, a critical investment that worked to restore the continued pressure of recession cuts. The FY18 allocations must be the starting point for any FY19 discussions. Even with this significant funding increase, the final FY18 allocation is below what it would have been if Congress had level funded USED since FY12 and just adjusted for inflation.
- AASA and ASBO oppose any effort to direct public dollars to private education. We oppose all vouchers and privatization schemes. We ask Congress to continue to prioritize investment in critical formula programs designed to level the playing field, including IDEA, Title I and Title IV.
- Urge your delegation to increase investment in the LHHS bills and direct a larger share of the overall increase in non-defense discretionary funding to LHHS to support education.

**Higher Education Act**
- Oppose the PROSPER Act! It will harm the district’s ability to hire quality new teachers and will leave teachers with higher debt and fewer incentives to remain in the classroom.
- Talk about teacher shortage issues in your district, if applicable, to illustrate the reality of the issue in the Representative’s district and provide them with cover for opposing.
- For Democrats, thank them for their commitment to supporting future teachers, as they are all committed to opposing the PROSPER Act.

**Perkins Career and Technical Education Act**
- Support the accountability and improvement structure in the House bill. It ensures districts receive technical assistance if they fail to meet performance goals. It also gives districts three years to meet state targets before they must implement an improvement plan and receive technical assistance from the state. In contrast, the Senate bill only gives districts two years to meet state-determined goals and allows the state to threaten taking a district’s funding away if they do not meet these goals adequately.
- Do not support language in the Senate bill that requires districts to continuously improve. There are many circumstances in which a decrease in numerical performance levels may not represent an actual decrease in the quality of the program, but instead might be reflective of changes in program offerings, student populations served, economic conditions, etc. There are many examples where a program may not be able to continually improve, and we reject the continuation of this construct in a program that is woefully underfunded.
- The funding level of Perkins is close to that of ESSA Title IV. We saw a purposeful structure of Title IV to be designed with flexibility and deference to state and local education leaders, much like ESSA overall. We are concerned that Perkins, while similarly funded, has a disproportionately high accountability construct.

Other Topics (topics listed below, content in the talking points document located at https://www.pasa-net.org//Files/Docs/2018/AASATalkingPoints.pdf)
- Anti-Integration rider (in the approps bill)
- WiFi on buses
- Vouchers
- Nutrition
- STOP School Violence Act
- Medicaid
- Immigration/DACA
- Infrastructure

Use this information and the related talking points as a spring board for your summer and fall advocacy. And, as always, should you need additional information or have any questions, reach out to the AASA advocacy team.
Leaders Matter

During the Legislative Advocacy Conference this month, AASA launched a new campaign that brings to the fore front powerful contributions being made day-in and day-out by the outstanding men and women charged with leading the nation’s school districts.

The “Leaders Matter” campaign, which also shines a spotlight on the high-performing districts themselves and what they mean to their communities, aims to document and disseminate how the work of superintendents and their respective educator teams and school systems are essential to securing and sustaining student learning.

During the campaign, AASA plans to highlight scores of success stories generated by AASA members to illustrate the leaders that truly matter in the effort to bring to light the diversity required of the role and the uniqueness of the setting.

Join the conversation on Twitter at #LeadersMatter or share a story about the leaders that matter in your district or about a leader that matters to you at http://aasacentral.org/leadersmatter/.

School Safety Toolkit

Also during the Legislative Advocacy Conference, AASA launched the School Safety & Crisis Planning Toolkit, a comprehensive set of online resources designed to help superintendents and other district administrators respond effectively to the growing violence in our schools as well as other crises, such as weather-related issues, fires, suicides, etc.

“As the nation’s largest organization representing the leadership of our public school districts, we felt it was our responsibility to create a digital safety solution package, specifically tailored for AASA members as well as non-member superintendents for before, during and after a crisis,” said Dan Domenech, AASA Executive Director.

Features of the kit include a roster of superintendents and other district leaders who can provide peer-to-peer guidance on an array of major incidents that arrive without a moment’s notice. The kit also includes a 24-hour hotline service, managed by Joseph Erardi, a former superintendent of Newtown Public Schools and a former member of AASA’s Executive Committee.

AASA was joined in the project by CrisisGo, the maker of a world-class mobile app that enables two-way, real-time communication in the event of an emergency within a classroom or school building. Other contributors included the American School Counselor Association, National Association of School Psychologists, National School Boards Association and the National School Public Relations Association.

“We are on a mission to improve school safety across the country,” Domenech said. “The intent and design of this toolkit is to provide a checklist comprised of essential elements that is easily accessible by administrators.

“This is an ongoing endeavor. If you have ideas you would like to share in order to better serve our members in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact us.”

To access the School Safety & Crisis Planning Toolkit, please visit http://aasacentral.org/school-safety/.

Women in School Leadership Awards…

The AASA Women in School Leadership Awards pay tribute to the talent, creativity and vision of outstanding women educational administrators in the nation’s public schools. AASA is now seeking nominations for these awards. Any female superintendent, central office staff, school principal, classroom teacher or school-based specialist in a leadership role may be nominated or apply. The deadline is Oct. 12. See the AASA website, www.aasa.org, for details.

National Conference on Education


Join AASA today and become part of a supported community of school leaders nationwide who advocate for public education! See the AASA web site for details at www.aasa.org or contact the PASA office.

What You Need to Know!

For breaking education news and the latest from the Capitol, follow us on Twitter @PASASupts.

Find what you need to know in the weekly “Education Update.” Watch your email on Mondays for the E-Update and link to this weekly report, a source for the latest in education and budget news from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and the nation.

Check the PASA website at www.pasa-net.org for reports, testimony, the program and meeting schedule, archived Updates, the PASA Career Center (job postings)…and more!
MEMBER NEWS

Dr. John Rozzo is now serving as superintendent of the Upper St. Clair SD. He previously served as assistant superintendent in the district. Rozzo replaces Dr. Patrick O'Toole, who has retired after 39 years in education.

REGION 3

Tammy Adams is now serving as assistant to the superintendent for special education and student services in the West Allegheny SD. She previously served as superintendent in the South Side Area SD.

REGION 8

Frank Frontino has been named interim superintendent for the Greater Johnstown SD. He replaces Michael Vuckovich, who is now serving as superintendent of the Indiana Area SD.

REGION 12

Dr. Timothy Williams is the new superintendent in the York Suburban SD. He formerly served as superintendent in the Westmont Hilltop SD (I.U. 3). Williams replaces former superintendent Shelly Merkle.

REGION 23

Dr. Amy Sichel, superintendent of the Abington SD, has announced she will retire, effective Nov. 9. Sichel has worked in the district for 42 years, 18 years as superintendent. She has also served as PASA President (2010-11) and AASA President (2013-14), and was the 2010 Pennsylvania Superintendent of the Year.

REGION 25

Daniel Nerelli is now serving as superintendent of the Chichester Area SD. He previously served as superintendent in the Upper Darby SD. Nerelli replaces Dr. Kathleen Sherman, who has retired.

Please report member news to PASA at pasa@pasa-net.org. Announcements of professional vacancies across Pennsylvania and in neighboring states are posted on the PASA Web site at www.pasa-net.org (Click on the “Leadership Development” button and look for “Career Center.”)

PASA Acting Superintendent Search Service

In an effort to provide continuity of leadership in school districts due to the departure or leave of the current superintendent, PASA has developed a search service for districts that need a substitute superintendent or acting superintendent, as provided in the School Code.

PASA maintains a list of retired educators who have served as district superintendents and are available to work in school districts on a temporary basis during a district’s search for a permanent superintendent or during a temporary leave of the current superintendent.

When contacted by a school district, PASA will share a list of individuals who are available to serve in the geographical location of the requesting district, meet with the school board and help them conduct interviews if requested.

PASA maintains a list of retired superintendents who are available to serve on an interim basis during a district’s search for a permanent superintendent replacement. When contacted, we will share a list of individuals who are available to serve on an interim basis in the geographical location of the requesting district and help them conduct interviews if requested.

If you are a retiring superintendent and would like to be part of this service, or if you would like to utilize PASA’s assistance in securing an acting superintendent, please contact Deborah Banks (dbanks@pasa-net.org) or Mark DiRocco (mdirocco@pasa-net.org) in the PASA office.

PASA CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018

For more information, see the PASA web site at www.pasa-net.org.

JULY

29-31 PA Education Leadership Summit (State College)

AUGUST

1 Professional Development Committee meeting (virtual)
15 Strategic Plan Advisory Team meeting (virtual)
21 Technology Committee meeting (virtual)

SEPTEMBER

3 PASA office closed
13-14 Board of Governors’ meetings (PASA office)
24 PASA Webinar: Professional Ethics, Educator Discipline Act
26-27 New Superintendents’ Academy Session 2 (PASA office)

OCTOBER

1 PASA membership year begins
10 PASA Webinar: PSERS Issues
17-19 PASA/PSBA School Leadership Conference (Hershey)
25 Assistant Superintendent Workshop (PASA office)
29 Southeast Women’s Caucus dinner/meeting (King of Prussia)

NOVEMBER

1-2 Aspiring to Leadership Workshops (Allegheny I.U. 3)
14 PASA Webinar: PSERS and Pensions
15-16 Board of Governors’ meetings (PASA office)
22-23 PASA office closed

DECEMBER

10 PASA Webinar: The Board’s Governance Role, Communications