



New York State  
School Boards  
Association

# NYSSBA Membership

*Powerful benefits help you empower student achievement.*



# The Benefits of Membership

You stepped up to the plate for your community, your public schools, and your children's future. Now get the targeted, expert advice and training you need to make the most of the commitment you give to your district. Learn specialized knowledge and skills that you need to strengthen your district and improve the quality of your students' education.

## As a strong leader, you'll make your board the best it can be.

Whether you're new to the board, or a multi-term veteran, your time is too valuable (and the stakes too high) to identify on your own the necessary knowledge and skills you'll need to learn and employ.

Don't go it alone. Get professional coaching, resources, and training tools through membership in NYSSBA and keep your district at the top of its game. Membership provides many benefits to you and your district in terms of:

- Increased board productivity
- Informed negotiations
- Enhanced learning opportunities for students
- Sound regulatory compliance and fiscal oversight
- Development of budget and project goals



## New to the board?

Your sound decisions on school policies, budget issues, and employment decisions will afford each child access to an equitable, quality education. If you're new to the board, hit the ground running as a NYSSBA member.

Make the most of your valuable time and get up-to-speed on school board basics with NYSSBA's expert, specialized, and always-current training, resources, and development options.

### Here are three examples:

1

State-Mandated Training – complete required governance and fiscal-oversight training to gain foundational knowledge and skills concerning board roles and responsibilities, policies, procedures, legal rights, and more.

2

Complementary webinars on a variety of hot-button topics, including interactive Q&A, chats, and polling.

3

Toll-free and online access to over 50 school board specialists dedicated to your success.

Get the right information from the best source. We live and breathe school board and district topics. That's all we do. The breadth, depth, and coordination of expertise we bring to your board is simply not available anywhere else.



## Veteran board member, or ready to move beyond the basics?

Expand your board skill set and knowledge base and stay on top of emerging trends and new regulations. You can take your seat at the board table, knowing you are ready to make the right decisions on policy, budget, or employment issues because you are well informed and trained to do so.

Sign up for board-essential training and development resources such as:

**The Annual Convention**, NYSSBA's premiere event held in October is the largest statewide gathering of public education leaders in New York. The convention consists of more than 100 education sessions, state and national speakers, special networking events, the premiere pre-convention School Law Seminar and all aspects of district governance and student achievement.

**Regional Workshops and Seminars** offer hands-on knowledge you bring back to the board table.

**Legal Seminars, Policy Development, and Communication Workshops** empower you with practical information needed to handle the ever-changing legal requirements and developments facing your board. After the workshops our expert staff is at your disposal.

## Custom Board Retreats

In a league of their own, NYSSBA's Custom Board Retreats are delivered on-site in your district, at your convenience. Expert facilitators customize your retreat based on your board's unique situation and concerns. Custom retreats help your governance team build board skills, trusting relationships, problem solving skills and also help establish district goals.

### Better boards = better student achievement.

It's a simple equation, and the impact of these retreats on the board is immeasurable. Benefits continue long after a retreat ends, because top performing boards make sound decisions that can ultimately improve student achievement.



## Information Options

Today's complex and fast-changing education landscape means you have to keep your eye on the prize at all times. Stay informed with the practical information you need to manage your school district and make the tough decisions in an educated manner.

And there's no better way to do that than by choosing from our array of cross-platform information service offerings.

- **On Board:** NYSSBA's award-winning newspaper keeps you informed on educational news, legal issues and governmental actions from around the state. An informed board member is a good decision maker.
- **NYSSBA Website ([www.nyssba.org](http://www.nyssba.org)):** Our website provides an electronic connection to the latest NYSSBA services and information, giving you easy access to the tools you need to make your tough job as a board member a little easier.
- **Publications:** Access our extensive library of handbooks and guidebooks for school board members on subjects such as school law, board and superintendent evaluations, and board operating procedures; a primer for first time board members and a guide for board presidents.

We offer so many avenues and sources of information that you need not go anywhere else. NYSSBA provides one-stop info shopping, your comprehensive single source.

Depend on NYSSBA resources for the information or just call. That's right – we are only a phone call away.  
**800-342-3360**

### Top 3 Member-Only Benefits

These member-only benefits will save you time, hassle, and money:



**Personalized support:**  
Call us and get just about anything from a sample policy, to legal information, to special research on a topic of interest.



Up to a 50% cost reduction for fee-based services and resources compared to non-members.



Advocacy driven home by strength in numbers – Your board membership adds weight to NYSSBA advocacy initiatives, which in turn help your board succeed.

# Partnering with NYSSBA for the Common Good

Make your voice and concerns heard by partnering with NYSSBA as a member. No district is an island. Strong advocacy for the common good and well-being of all school boards is achieved through an association made strong by numbers.

Advocacy works for you. Never underestimate the impact Albany and Washington, D.C. will have on your local schools.

You can better control local outcomes by partnering with us. The more voices heard, the more chance all boards have in protecting the rights, values and resources of each local community.

Take advantage of these tools we provide to facilitate your own advocacy:

- **Advocacy alerts** (via email) keep you immediately informed on regulatory and legislative activity.
- A **Capital Conference** held to empower you with information and guidance when meeting with your legislators.
- The **Advocacy Action Center** on our website keeps you informed of our advocacy efforts and offers resources and tools to facilitate your own advocacy such as sample letters to send to your legislators to support your advocacy initiatives.
- **Free webinars** on federal and state issues.



## Here's a Final Review:

### **Your board concerns are our only focus.**

You'll know you have a partner that never wavers and is always there to support your needs. We exist for you. We work for you. And we are always just a phone call away.

### **We arm you with the knowledge and training that will make you a confident board member ready to take on any challenge.**

We're experts in the topics important to your board and to your development as a board member. There may be other resources out there but we know school districts – rural, urban, suburban, upstate, and downstate, we understand your needs and deliver the best quality training and services for each of those needs.

### **You save valuable time with our comprehensive services and benefits.**

You're busy, with limited volunteer time for board work, and we have what you need when you need it. It's easy to get the knowledge you need using our one-stop resources and services.

### **Your membership strengthens your board and the common good.**

In a nutshell, you'll be well informed on key issues, have easy access to information anytime, get easy-to-use advocacy tools, and add your voice to the forces of change on issues important to increasing student achievement.

Now join NYSSBA and put us to the test.





“We’re here  
for *you!*”

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24 Century Hill Drive, Suite 200  
Latham, NY 12110  
518.783.0200 • 800.342.3360 • [www.nyssba.org](http://www.nyssba.org)

