

Welcome New Members!

Welcome new RIASC members. By now, you have received our welcome letter and have familiarized yourselves with RIASC through our informational brochures, our website, and our ongoing communications.

Many of you recently viewed the Newly Elected Leaders Orientation on January 8 and 9. RIASC, The Hassenfeld Institute for Public Leadership and the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns assembled a great program that included essential topics, including Ethics, the elements of the Open Meetings Act, and your fiduciary responsibilities. Day two presented case studies exhibiting tough choices and effective leadership during critical times.

It was great that so many newly elected and seasoned members attended, and have established or continued their commitment to ongoing professional development.

Please watch your emails for future professional development opportunities and for updates from our Executive Director, Tim Duffy, regarding the current legislative session.

As you begin your school committee service, remember RIASC, along with the seasoned members on your committee, can serve as a resource to you.

January, 2021

- RIASC OFFICERS**
- Liana Fenton**
President
 - Erin Dube**
President-Elect
 - David Testa**
Secretary/Treasurer
 - Mary Anne Roll**
Past President
- BOARD MEMBERS**
- Mark Fiorillo**
 - Jean Harnois**
 - Kathy Patenaude**
 - Susan St. Amand**



Save the Date!
(Tentatively)



Plan to attend RIASC's Annual Meeting*
May 1, 2021
Crowne Plaza
Warwick, RI
 *(Tentative per Covid regulations.)

Attendees will receive six professional development hours.

RIASC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Plan to achieve your 6 hours in 2021!

School Committee members are required by law to achieve six hours of professional development every calendar year.

Did you attend the recent Newly Elected Leaders Orientation? If so, you have achieved six hours for 2021.

Watch your email for future professional development offerings. Are there any topics you would like presented in an upcoming session? Contact us with your suggestions.

RIASC'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
Why Stop at Six Hours?



In 2004 The Rhode Island Association of School Committees created the Leadership Academy, a voluntary professional development program for school committee members.

After completing 15 hours of RIASC professional development, Academy graduates receive recognition from the Rhode Island Board of Education at our Annual Meeting.

EXTERNAL TRAINING CREDITS

DON'T FORGET TO SUBMIT EXTERNAL CREDITS!

The RIASC Board met and approved a policy for its members allowing them to gain credit hours for attending external training sessions. External training sessions are sessions that have relevance to your role as a school committee member but are not sponsored by RIASC. In order to qualify for external credit, a *Request for Approval* form must be completed and submitted to RIASC.

The form can be obtained by visiting our website at www.ri-asc.org and linking to the "Professional Development" page.

NEED A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RESOURCE?

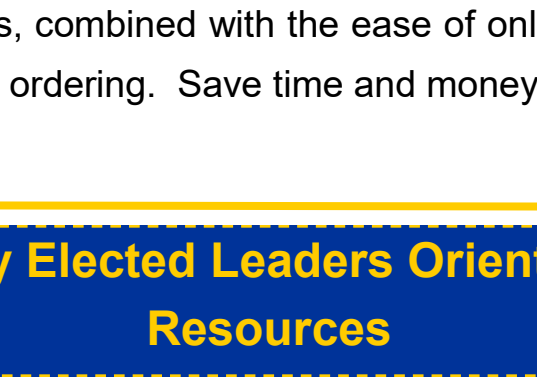
Are you on the contract negotiations team for your district? Do you want to conduct research during the negotiation process? RIASC has you covered.

RIASC hosts the Collective Bargaining Electronic Resource, that includes teacher contract language for all school districts.

We encourage you to visit the site and to make sure your district has submitted their latest electronic contract to RIASC so that we can provide you with the most current information for your teacher contract negotiations.

The site is located at <http://ntlong.com/cber/>

BUYBOARD PURCHASING COLLABORATIVE SAVING DISTRICTS \$\$\$



Do you know if your district takes advantage of the cost savings of BuyBoard? Why not find out?

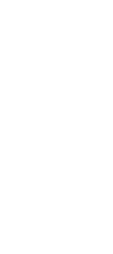
The BuyBoard National Purchasing Cooperative is a national online purchasing cooperative formed between the National School Boards Association and several state school boards associations to streamline the buying process for schools, municipalities and other public entities.

Developed to comply with state laws which require government entities to make purchases from an approved list of vendors who have gone through a competitive procurement process, BuyBoard gives districts the advantage of leveraging the cooperative's ability to obtain bulk discounts, combined with the ease of online, web-based shopping and ordering. Save time and money with BuyBoard

Newly Elected Leaders Orientation Resources

- Rhode Island Ethics Commission Questions:**
Ethics.email@ethics.ri.gov
- RI Attorney General Open Meetings Resource:**
[Open Government- Rhode Island -RI Office of the Attorney General](#)
[Chapter 42-46 - Index of Sections \(state.ri.us\)](#)
- The Attorney General's Open Government Summit will be held in July, 2021.
- Remember to complete and submit your NELO evaluation sent to you via email by the Hassenfeld Institute.

Visit www.ri-asc.org



Visit the RI-ASC website at www.ri-asc.org where you will find training videos on essential school committee topics, information on upcoming professional development sessions, past newsletters, data files, photos, and the Rhode Island General Laws regarding the powers and duties of school committee members.