



FEH BOCES Staff News and Notes February 26, 2016

*“The Mission of the Franklin-Essex-Hamilton
Board of Cooperative Educational Services
is to provide shared services to its component
school districts”*

Legislative Advocacy

At their February 18 meeting the FEH Board of Education passed a resolution regarding the Gap Elimination Adjustment that remains in the Executive Budget proposal. Eliminating the GEA will help all of our districts and is especially important to the Lake Placid, Saranac Lake and Tupper Lake School districts. The resolution can be found [here](#).

At the same meeting the Board adopted a position paper from the New York State BOCES Education Consortium as the position of the FEH BOCES as well. A critical aspect of this position paper is the effort to increase the portion of CTE salaries eligible for BOCES aid. This has been frozen at \$30,000 for the past 22 years. As salaries have increased, the level of aid for salaries has remained flat, harming all of our districts. The Board adoption of this position paper can be found [here](#).

Our area legislators are strong supporters of public education in the North Country. Your voice will reinforce the importance of these issues. Contact information for Senator Little and Senator Farley can be found [here](#). Contact information for Assembly Members Duprey, Stec (make sure you select Dan Stec ant not Phil Steck), and Butler can be found [here](#). Contact information for Governor Cuomo can be found [here](#).

Model Schools Conference

The FEH BOCES and several component school districts have participated in activities provided by the NYS CTE Technical Assistance Center. The NYS CTE TAC is operated by the International Center for Leadership in Education (ICLE) through a contract with NYSED.

Bill Daggett, Chairman of the International Center for Leadership in Education (ICLE), has headed an effort that began 10 years ago as a joint venture between the Council of Chief State School Officers and ICLE to find, analyze, and disseminate the best practices of the nation's most rapidly improving schools.

As part of the New York State Technical Assistance Center, funded by the State Education Department, Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES has been invited to participate in an initiative to share these rapidly improving schools' innovative best practices with the component districts and to lead a discussion on how those practices may help inform the work of each of the districts and the FEH BOCES.

Dr. Daggett will be discussing the opportunity with area superintendents and board members on April 7, including a conference offered by the ICLE. FEH BOCES will be assembling a team to attend the ICLE Model Schools Conference in late June. The team will use the conference to investigate how we might use this approach to build on our already strong instructional programs. If we move forward, this work will be melded into existing work that is already underway through our participation in Zone 3, the statewide CTE project, and other current professional development efforts. I encourage you to discuss this opportunity with your program administrator.