

President-Elect

Eric Wolfgang



My name is Eric Wolfgang and I wish to become the next President-Elect of this fine organization. I have been a member of the Central York School District, located just outside of York City, for the past 19 years and Board President for 11 of those years. I grew up in York City, graduated from the York County School of Technology and went on to receive my degree from Penn State. I have been married to my wife, Sherrie for 38 years and I have 2 grown children and three grandchildren. I have been very involved in PSBA over the years, having attained Master School Board member status as well as PSBA Fellow. I am in my second year on the PSBA Governing Board serving as vice-President and Chair of the platform Committee.

My vision for PSBA is to continue to build upon the organizational excellence for which this organization has come to be known. It is important to provide strategic planning for future needs of the organization as well as established direction so that future leaders have a clear roadmap for PSBA. We have to continue to be at the forefront of the ever changing public educational landscape in order to serve all our member's needs as well as all the students we represent. PSBA must expand our legislative advocacy efforts in order to effect necessary change which will benefit all our members. We have to be active partners when legislation is being considered as well as write legislation and find willing partners in the General Assembly to sponsor that legislation.

We need increased involvement by more members of our organization, which will serve to strengthen the overall organization.

The challenge for the Governing Board is to listen intently to and consider all the various viewpoints of our membership while working to build consensus. With input from the Executive Director, we must continue to look toward the future to maintain an organization which is responsive to the member's needs, while attempting to anticipate what challenges will be forthcoming to public education. Public education is a cornerstone of our democracy and therefore should never be looked at simply from a dollars and cents perspective, but rather from the standpoint of a moral and ethical obligation to the future citizens of our commonwealth.

We must demand a level playing field whereby all educational providers work under the same rules and regulations. The traditional public education setting needs to evolve using 21st century technologies in order to enhance and improve the individual education of every student. Public education must change in order to adequately teach and prepare our students for their futures, ensuring the success of our great nation.

Thank you for your consideration of me to serve you as the next President-Elect, and helping to chart the course for PSBA into the future. I promise to fulfill this position to the best of my ability, to help maintain the excellence of PSBA.

Vice President

Art Levinowitz



I have been involved in education my entire professional life. I was a teacher for 8 years, employed as an administrator for over 25 years for the New Jersey State Department of Education, and I have served on my local school board for 19 years. For the past 5 years I have been the President of the Board of the School Directors for the School District of Upper Dublin. Also, for the past 9 years I served as the President of the Joint Operating Committee for the Eastern Center for Arts and Technology; my area career and technology school. I have experience serving PSBA as both a regional director and the section 8 advisor. During the 2017 school year I participated and completed the Pennsylvania Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP). This year long program, sponsored by the Education Policy and Leadership Center (EPLC), focuses on Policy, Leadership, and Networking. I retired and now have more time to pursue a PSBA leadership role.

I strongly agree with the vision established years ago by PSBA; to stand for strong school boards, strong public schools and a strong Pennsylvania. PSBA puts school directors first by providing them the tools to be successful. In February PSBA updated its professional development program by designing and offering 42 On-line learning courses free to all-access members. In May, I completed all courses earning the Certificate in Board Governance and the associated seven badges. By providing the appropriate resources, including on-line courses, professional development, workshops and conferences, we

can build strong school boards throughout the Commonwealth. However, unless our boards take advantage of what is available we are failing our students and communities. PSBA has the responsibility to empower school board members to succeed by providing vital tools, superior training and powerful advocacy.

In a recent PSBA survey the three greatest challenges for PSBA and public education were budget pressures, implementation of The Every Student Succeeds Act, and school construction/maintenance. Pension costs, charter school payments, and special education costs were identified as the top budget pressures. In addition, we face significant challenges addressing the mental health issues of our students, school safety and security, creating greater flexibility in the graduation requirements, Education Savings Accounts (ESA) vouchers, and Property Tax Reform. How do we best address these challenges? All those who support public education, including board members, must work together to advocate for solutions. An example is the process PSBA used to prepare the Commonwealth Education Blueprint. By bringing together education stakeholders from across the commonwealth, real change, support and progress can occur. By working with organizations such as PA PTO, PASA, PASBO, PACTA, PAIU, PA Principals Association, PIAA, and Communities in School we can work together to make a real difference in the lives of all public school children.

I look forward to serving as your next Vice President. I will be a strong advocate for public education and for all school boards across the Commonwealth.

PSBA Insurance Trust Trustees (Choose up to Three Candidates)

Dr. Richard Frerichs (Penn Manor SD), PSBA Past President

Dr. Richard Frerichs is a Millersville University professor emeritus, the 2014 President of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, a PSBA Master School Board Director and the recipient of the Allwein Advocacy award. He has played an active role in PSBA currently serving as the chair of the Pennsylvania Public Education Foundation and a member of the EdPAC and Insurance Trust Boards. In addition to his PSBA commitments, he is currently a member of the Penn Manor SD Board of Directors, the Council of Trustees of Millersville University, and chair of the Literacy Council of Lancaster County. Frerichs received his doctorate from the University of Delaware and served on the faculty of Millersville University for 36 years. He has served as president of the Penn Manor School Board, Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit Board, Millersville University Alumni Association and the local chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, and as a board member of the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators.

William S. LaCoff (Owen J. Roberts SD), PSBA Past President

LaCoff was first elected to the school board of Owen J. Roberts SD (Chester Co.) in 1995. Prior to retirement, he was employed in various aspects of the real estate industry; as a mortgage broker, an agent and a property manager. He previously served as president of PSBA in 2007 and 2015 and served as a PSBA liaison and member of the Federal Relations Network. Additionally, he has experience as a region leader, president of the Insurance Trust and a trustee of the Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund. In addition to being a trustee of PSBAIT, he holds positions on the boards of EdPAC and PaPEF. He is a former member of the Chester County School Boards Legislative Council. LaCoff holds a bachelor's degree from Villanova University, where he also completed graduate training in English. He completed graduate training in business at Temple University. LaCoff also is a past president of Historic Yellow Springs, a non-profit organization focused on

art, culture and the environment. He and his wife, Anita, have five grown children, six grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Nathan G. Mains, PSBA CEO

Nathan G. Mains began his tenure as CEO of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association in September 2013. He is a trustee for the Pennsylvania Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS), a public pension fund with nearly \$50 billion in assets and the Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF), a \$5 billion fund created specifically to assist local education agencies and municipal entities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania manage their investment needs. He is the Board Secretary/Treasurer of both EdPAC, a statewide political action committee dedicated to promoting candidates that support public education, and the Pennsylvania Public Education Foundation, a statewide nonprofit that promotes excellence in public education. Mr. Mains is a member of the Board of Directors of C.M. Regent Insurance Company, one of the leading insurers of school property in the United States. Prior to joining PSBA, Mr. Mains served as the president and state director for Communities in Schools of Pennsylvania. The organization works within public school systems, determining student needs and establishing relationships with local businesses, social service agencies, health care providers, and parent and volunteer organizations to provide needed resources with the goal of lowering student drop-out rates.