



CABE

Connecticut Association
of Boards of Education

Membership Guide 2026

**We're working
for you!**

Education

Advocacy

Support

The Leading Voice for Connecticut Public Education



81 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1242
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On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) team, we are delighted to share our Membership Guide—a comprehensive resource detailing our association’s mission, values, and the range of benefits available to CABE members.

This booklet provides an overview of CABE, including our dedicated team, impactful programs, and invaluable services aimed at fostering excellence in public education statewide. From professional development initiatives to policy work to advocacy efforts, we remain committed to supporting educational leaders like you.

We thank you—Board of Education Members and Superintendents alike—for your dedication to the students, families, and staff in your districts and Connecticut. Your tireless efforts and leadership are instrumental in shaping the future of public education and ensuring equitable opportunities for all.

As we collectively navigate the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, we stand ready to partner with you in advancing our shared mission of educational excellence for ALL of Connecticut’s students.

Sincerely,



Meg Scata
President, CABE



Patrice McCarthy
Executive Director and
General Counsel, CABE

About CABE

Purpose

The Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) is a statewide non-profit organization that advocates for public schools and school board leadership in Connecticut. CABE is dedicated to strengthening public education through advocacy, education and service to our member boards of education. It's our belief that providing high-quality education for all Connecticut children begins with effective leadership. CABE exists solely to support our school boards so the future of public education continues to be a bright one.

Mission

To assist local and regional boards of education in providing high quality education for all Connecticut children through effective leadership.

Vision

CABE is passionate about strengthening public education through high-performing, transformative local school board/superintendent leadership teams that inspire success for each child.





Founded in 1906



143
MEMBER SCHOOL DISTRICTS

1,430
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

468,900
CONNECTICUT PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

EDUCATION

PARTICIPANTS IN
CABE TRAININGS SINCE 2015:



4,208

CABE/CAPSS

STATE CONVENTION



788

ADMINISTRATIVE
PROFESSIONALS



CUSTOM CABE
WORKSHOPS

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
SINCE 2020:



FREE
WEBINARS

ADVOCACY



87

BILLS ON WHICH
CABE PROVIDED
TESTIMONY
SINCE 2021



1,908

PARTICIPANTS IN
DAY ON THE HILL
SINCE 2009



93

MEETINGS WITH
CONNECTICUT
**CONGRESSIONAL
DELEGATION** IN
WASHINGTON, DC
SINCE 2010



700+

LEGAL INQUIRES
ANSWERED
ANNUALLY



263

**LEGISLATIVE
BREAKFASTS**
ORGANIZED
SINCE 1995



700+
POLICY INQUIRIES
ANSWERED
ANNUALLY



592
ISSUES OF
**POLICY
HIGHLIGHTS**
NEWSLETTER
PRODUCED
SINCE 2000



145

POLICY MANUALS
DEVELOPED FOR
DISTRICTS
SINCE 1995



475
ISSUES OF
**CABE
JOURNAL**
PUBLISHED
SINCE 1985



79

BOARD
CHAIR
CHECK-INS
SINCE 2020

SUPPORT

2026 CABE Board of Directors

Executive Committee



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CABE Staff

Here to help meet your needs!

Administration

The Administration Department can help with general information, board relations, student leadership, Board leadership, Accounts receivable, accounts payable, district dues, Unemployment Cost Control, reporter inquiries.



Patrice McCarthy
Executive Director
and General Counsel
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Joanna Iannucci
Coordinator of
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Administration
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Annette Tamburrino
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Administrative Assistant
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Policy

The Policy Services Department can help with Policy Audits, Custom Policy Manual, Policy Highlights, Policy Update, sample policies, consultancy, C.O.P.S. online policy, broadcast emails, website.



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Pam Brooks
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Policy Services
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Shannon Hamilton
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Membership

The Membership Department can help with Convention, board/superintendent relations, board training, workshops, CABE Journal, Board Member Academy credits, individual workshops, publications, database, broadcast emails, website.



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Government Relations

The Government Relations Department can help with advocacy, reporter inquiries, Resolutions, Education Law Summaries, legislative issues, Advocacy Highlights, Day On The Hill, Delegate Assembly, Legislative Wrap Up, broadcast emails, website.



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Gail Heath
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Labor Relations

The Labor Relations Department can help with legal issues, Negotiations Data Service, Custom Negotiations, District Information, Statistics, reporter inquiries, broadcast emails, website.



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Wilmarie Newton
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Your Connection



Education

CABE is the premier provider of professional development for Connecticut's boards of education, from orientation programs for new members to customized workshops for individual school districts. CABE has unparalleled experience in promoting effective governance through leading-edge training programs that our members hail as second to none.



Advocacy

CABE is the leading advocate for Connecticut's school boards on education policy and funding issues at the state and federal levels, amplifying the needs and concerns of school districts across the state. CABE is also the preeminent provider of legal information and assistance to boards of education and superintendents and has successfully participated as amicus curiae in landmark cases affecting PreK-12 education statewide.



Support

CABE is uniquely qualified to provide timely, informative supports and resources to help its member districts navigate emerging issues in the public education landscape, including the latest trends and developments in policy and labor relations. CABE also has several decades of experience conducting executive searches to assist districts in the recruitment and selection of top-notch candidates for superintendent and other leadership positions.

CABE Services

CABE is the only statewide organization devoted solely to representing the needs of boards of education.

In this time of increased fiscal stress and uncertainty, it is more important than ever that school boards work together to promote public education.

Advocacy Efforts

Unlimited help for your advocacy efforts, monitoring legislative bills, testifying, developing strategies, informing legislators of impact of legislation in Hartford and Washington, D.C.

Board Professional Development

Regional and statewide workshops, conferences, webinars, and Annual Convention at a discounted fee, as well as unlimited, tailored workshops on topics such as roles and responsibilities, goal setting, board self evaluation, and FOIA at no additional fee.

E- Services

Board Chair listserv, Superintendents' Administrative Professionals listserv, Advocacy Highlights, Policy Highlights and What's Going on at CABE emails.

Legal Services

Unlimited legal consultations, legal updates, legal advocacy.

Media Relations

Increasing media and general public's awareness of concerns of school boards.

Negotiations Service

Information exchange/clearinghouse, settlement trends, contract review, referrals.

Network

Tap into more resources and have a voice in the work representing the needs of boards of education statewide.



Membership gives boards the strength found in numbers, and allows us to better influence legislators with regards to making decisions that are in the best interest of school boards and public education.

Policy Service

Unlimited consultations, sample policies, policy information, Reference Manual, Customized Policy Service, Online Service, Update Services, Policy Audit Service, Policy Matters Roundtable.

Publications

CABE Journal; Whole, State and Federal Agendas; Education Law Summaries, and books.

Search Services

Specializing in executive searches tailored to the specific needs of Connecticut districts.

Unemployment Insurance

Consultation, claims processing, administration, appeal hearings.



All our services are provided by knowledgeable, expert professionals who have great experience in helping boards better serve their communities.

"Thank you for this informative, well-researched, and forward-focused article. Understanding the role of AI in our classrooms and beyond is, without a doubt, the challenge/opportunity of our time, and I'm glad to see CABE is on the forefront of thinking about the policy issues ahead for our Boards of Education."
- Superintendent

"We appreciate CABE's role advocating for our students!"
-Board Chair



CABE Speaker Resources

Among your CABE membership benefits is the opportunity to call upon CABE's professional staff to provide you and your Board with a no-cost workshop, discussion or even just a phone call on any important educational issues.

Following are the names of our staff and the issues on which they have particular expertise. Feel free to contact any of them to inquire how to bring our knowledge right to your Board.

Should there be subjects not listed here that you would like to learn about, please free to call the office and we will do our best to address your inquiry.



Patrice A. McCarthy

Executive Director and General Counsel

Board Goal Setting
Board Leadership
Civility in Our Communities
Freedom of Information
Legislative Update

Retreat Facilitation
Robert's Rules of Order
Roles and Responsibilities
School Governance Councils
Superintendent Search Process

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Nicholas Caruso

Associate Executive Director for Field Services and Technology

Board Goal Setting
Board Governance
Board Self-Evaluation
Board/Superintendent Relations
Community Leadership

Custom Board Workshops
Effective Meetings
Leadership/Team Building
Retreat Facilitation
Roles and Responsibilities

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Jody Goeler

Senior Staff Associate for Policy Service

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Policy and Vision
Governing through Policy
- Monitoring
- Roles and Accountability

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How to Target Your Lobbying
Legislative Update

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Conrad Vahlsing

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Explanation of For Fee Services

Policy Services

- **Core Policies, Regulations & Bylaws Manual** (\$400) – This service is a digital reference manual of school board policies, regulations and bylaws to provide guidance for boards of education in formulating policy, and for superintendents and their staff in carrying out their administrative functions. After two years, updates may be purchased for \$150 per school year.
- **Annual Policy Update Service** (\$350) – This service provides districts with updates for existing policy manuals reflecting changes in the state and federal law and any judicial action affecting policy and current policy topics of importance and interest.

Contact CABE for more information on the following policy services:

- **Customized Policy Service**
This service tailors a complete manual revision for a subscribing board of education that reflects the specific needs and priorities of that community. *Fee based on district enrollment.*
- For Districts seeking a more **targeted approach**, we offer a **Policy Series Development**. *\$2,000 per series.*
- **Policy Audit** (\$2,000-\$3,000)
This service reviews an existing policy manual resulting in a report of its strengths, needs and recommendations for any needed action.
- **Enhanced Policy Audit** (\$4,000)
Provides a comprehensive review of the district policy manual, ensuring it meets all required standards; provides the district with a detailed report of the strength and weaknesses of the manual and also provides missing mandates and modifications made to existing mandates to bring them into compliance.
- **Connecticut Online Policy Service (C.O.P.S.)**
This services offers school districts an economical way to post its policy manual on line providing instant, current and “searchable” access to board policies and has the ability to translate into multiple languages. *Fee based on district enrollment.*

Board Book

Board Book is a user-friendly, web-based service specifically designed to assist the board, superintendent and central office staff in preparing for and running board of education meetings. Contact the CABE Office for pricing information.

CABE Express

CABE Express (\$400) provides your board members, superintendent and up to five central office administrators can attend CABE workshops offered this year without any hassle and additional cost (when the program includes a meal, a charge of \$20 per person will apply to partially offset food cost).

Administrator Option

The Administrator Option (\$195) is available to principals and/or other supervisors in the school district, as identified by the local board of education, to receive: the *CABE Journal*, *Legislative Hotline*, *Action Alert* and *Legislative Report*. It also permits them to attend workshops at member prices.

CABE Field Services

CABE's Field Services relating directly to board activities are provided free of charge as part of district membership. We also provide customized workshops for boards of education and district staff.

❖ The prices listed above for fee services reflect CABE Member rates. ❖



"I am grateful to you and to CABE for the day of training, and especially appreciate all the speakers that provided a wealth of information and am looking forward to reading all the materials provided. In addition, I received the CABE book – *Becoming a Better Board Member* – and am eager to learn all that I can for this new role."

- Newly Elected Board Member

"Thank you for braving the traffic and joining us yesterday. I thought it was an excellent session, strengthened by experiences and anecdotes about the trials and tribulations of being a Board member. Over lunch they remarked that they didn't realize the enormity of the responsibility they were accepting when becoming board members."

- Superintendent

CABE Awards

CABE member districts are eligible to participate in the following award programs:

▶ Board of Education Leadership

CABE believes that Boards of Education and Superintendents which exhibit the most effective leadership are characterized by their ability to work together as “teams.” The CABE Board Recognition Awards are designed to recognize Boards that work effectively in this manner.

▶ Bonnie B. Carney Award of Excellence for Educational Communications

Effective communications with parents and community in a school district is a very significant part of the district’s operation. CABE established this award in 1975 in recognition of the good work that is being done on a daily basis.

▶ CABE Student Leadership

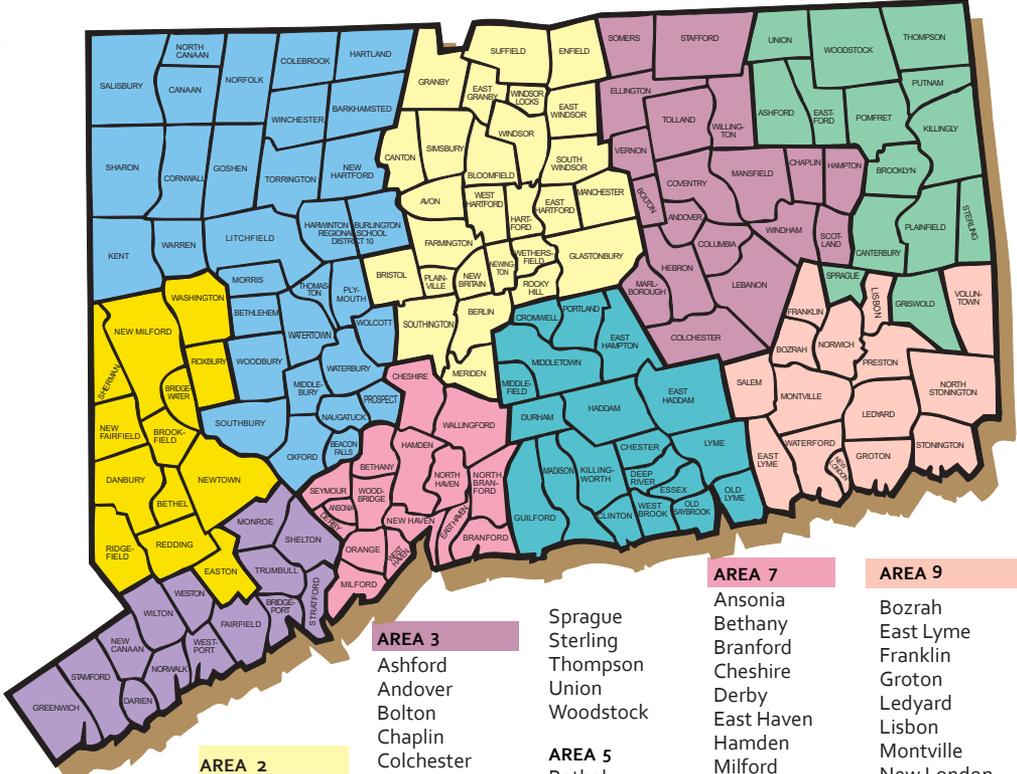
This award honors Connecticut High School and Middle School students who exhibit exemplary leadership skills. Two students from each school in a CABE member district are eligible.

▶ Philip S. Fenster Distinguished Service

The recipient shall be a present or past member of a local or regional board of education with leadership responsibilities both locally and statewide, and an effective advocate for public education through local control.



CABE Area Map



AREA 1

- Barkhamsted
- Canaan
- Colebrook
- Cornwall
- Hartland
- Kent
- Litchfield
- Naugatuck
- New Hartford
- Norfolk
- North Canaan
- Oxford
- Plymouth
- Region 1
- Region 6
- Region 7
- Region 10
- Region 14
- Region 15
- Region 16
- Salisbury
- Sharon
- Thomaston
- Torrington
- Waterbury
- Watertown
- Winchester
- Wolcott

AREA 2

- Avon
- Berlin
- Bloomfield
- Bristol
- Canton
- East Granby
- East Hartford
- Enfield
- Farmington
- Glastonbury
- Granby
- Hartford
- Manchester
- Meriden
- New Britain
- Newington
- Plainville
- Rocky Hill
- Simsbury
- Southington
- South Windsor
- Suffield
- West Hartford
- Wethersfield
- Windsor
- Windsor Locks

AREA 3

- Ashford
- Andover
- Bolton
- Chaplin
- Colchester
- Columbia
- Coventry
- Ellington
- Hampton
- Hebron
- Lebanon
- Mansfield
- Marlborough
- Region 8
- Region 11
- Region 19
- Scotland
- Somers
- Stafford
- Tolland
- Vernon
- Willington
- Windham

AREA 4

- Brooklyn
- Canterbury
- Eastford
- Griswold
- Killingly
- Plainfield
- Pomfret
- Putnam

- Sprague
- Sterling
- Thompson
- Union
- Woodstock

AREA 5

- Bethel
- Brookfield
- Danbury
- Easton
- New Fairfield
- New Milford
- Newtown
- Redding
- Region 9
- Region 12
- Ridgefield
- Sherman

AREA 6

- Bridgeport
- Darien
- Fairfield
- Greenwich
- Monroe
- New Canaan
- Norwalk
- Shelton
- Stamford
- Stratford
- Trumbull
- Weston
- Westport
- Wilton

AREA 7

- Ansonia
- Bethany
- Branford
- Cheshire
- Derby
- East Haven
- Hamden
- Milford
- New Haven
- North Branford
- North Haven
- Orange
- Region 5
- Seymour
- Wallingford
- West Haven
- Woodbridge

AREA 8

- Chester
- Clinton
- Cromwell
- Deep River
- East Haddam
- East Hampton
- Essex
- Guilford
- Madison
- Middletown
- Old Saybrook
- Portland
- Region 4
- Region 13
- Region 17
- Region 18
- Westbrook

AREA 9

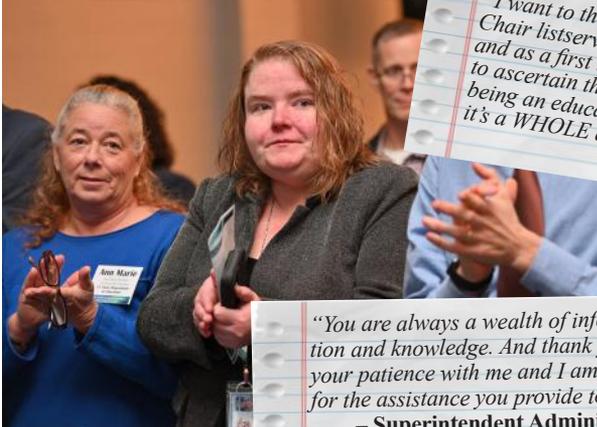
- Bozrah
- East Lyme
- Franklin
- Groton
- Ledyard
- Lisbon
- Montville
- New London
- North Stonington
- Norwich
- Preston
- Salem
- Stonington
- Voluntown
- Waterford



We're working for you!



"Thank you for all you have done and continue to do to assist Boards across the state. CABE has been an exceptional resource."
Board Member



"I want to thank you for the Board Chair listserv! Everyone is so helpful to ascertain the nuances... even after it's a WHOLE different world!"
-Board Chair



"You are always a wealth of information and knowledge. And thank you for your patience with me and I am grateful for the assistance you provide to me!"
- Superintendent Administrative Assistant





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