

**Wednesday  
October 27, 2021**

**8:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.**



5.5 CLE credits (all substantive)

# 2021 VIRTUAL School Law Workshop

A background image of a statue of Lady Justice, blindfolded and holding scales of justice and a sword, set against a blue gradient background.

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

(in order of appearance)

**John G. Audi, Esq.,** *Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams LLP*, Pittston, PA

John Audi has over 30 years of experience in public sector labor and employment law and now focuses his work on education labor law, public sector labor law, legal consultation and staff training. He started his career as general counsel to a union of state workers employed by the Office of Employment Security, and from 1999–2008 served as in-house regional counsel for the Pennsylvania State Education Association. His vast experience touches all aspects of labor relations matters including arbitrations, bargaining, PLRB hearings and related court litigation. He served for 11 years as an administrative law judge for the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board and he is a frequent lecturer on labor, employment and education legal matters. Audi is also the current president of the Pennsylvania School Board Solicitors Association.

**Ryan T. Gonder, Esq.,** *McNees, Wallace & Nurick LLC*, Harrisburg, PA

Ryan Gonder is a trusted legal advisor for municipal government. He has defended and successfully resolved tax sale disputes and various other tax claims brought against county governments in court. Furthermore, Gonder has conducted due diligence reviews that identified millions of dollars of over-payments of tax and pursued refunds for many different types of clients. He has also assisted in developing and litigating a multimillion-dollar tax assessment appeal. Prior to entering the legal field, Gonder served over five years as a logistics management specialist and central case manager for the United States Army, in a civilian role. He has a unique combination of professional and educational experiences that allow him to truly appreciate clients' concerns for technical analysis and to be an effective advocate all the while providing value to whatever problem or solution he is working on with the client. Gonder is also a school board director at Central Dauphin School District and has recently written on the topic of ESSER III funding.

**Rachel K. Lozosky, Esq.,** *Peacock Keller, LLP*, Washington, PA

Rachel K. Lozosky concentrates her practice upon education and employment law. She serves as solicitor for numerous public school districts, providing counsel on a wide variety of issues including personnel matters, student discipline, labor relations, special education, policy development and compliance with Pennsylvania's Right-to-Know Law. Lozosky also represents public school districts throughout the greater Pittsburgh region through Peacock Keller's position as an approved defense firm with the Pennsylvania School Boards Association Insurance Trust. In that role, Lozosky has defended public school districts in special education due process hearings,

as well as advised districts in the earlier stages of programming and placement disputes, to assist in successful prevention of escalation to due process hearings. Lozosky also represents private companies and nonprofit entities in employment law matters, including employee discipline, hiring and termination. In addition, Lozosky represents employees in issues including review and drafting of severance and non-compete agreements, unemployment compensation appeals, and discrimination actions. Lozosky is current president-elect and past regional director of the Pennsylvania School Board Solicitors Association (PSBSA) and is a member of the Washington County Bar Association. Lozosky graduated cum laude from Washington & Jefferson College and earned her juris doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh.

**Peter C. Amuso, Esq., Rudolph Clarke, LLC, Trevose, PA**

Peter C. Amuso is a partner with the law firm of Rudolph Clarke, LLC, in the Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, office. He focuses his practice on education law, including labor law matters and union contract negotiations for the large southeastern Pennsylvania school districts for which his firm serves as solicitor. He also litigates matters for school districts in state and federal courts, the Charter School Appeal Board, and the secretary of education. He counsels his school district clients daily on the full range of issues confronting them today, from charter school applications to Right-to-Know requests to the ever-changing complex pandemic issues. Prior to joining his current firm, Amuso managed zoning and land-use litigation for a major developer throughout eastern Pennsylvania and has represented school districts, individuals, community groups and educational institutions in zoning and land use matters. An active-duty veteran of the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, Amuso was elected to the School Board of Springfield Township in 2005 and served as chair of the Property Committee during a period of major school construction. He earned his bachelor's degree from Georgetown University and his juris doctorate from Harvard Law School. He currently serves on the board of the Pennsylvania School Board Solicitors Association.

**Nicole L. Feight, Esq., Rudolph Clarke, LLC, Trevose, PA**

Nicole Feight is an associate at Rudolph Clarke, LLC, where she represents municipalities, municipal authorities and school districts in Bucks, Montgomery and Delaware counties. Through her role as a solicitor, she has gained extensive experience in processing and responding to Right-to-Know requests, as well as handling appeals before the Office of Open Records. She also works with her school district clients in connection with applications under the Charter School Law and a variety of labor and employment matters. Feight is a graduate of Ursinus College and earned her juris doctorate at Temple University's James E. Beasley School of Law. She is a member of the Bucks County, Montgomery County, Philadelphia and Pennsylvania bar associations.

**Linda J. Randby, Esq., Senior Director of Legal Services, Pennsylvania School Boards Association, Mechanicsburg, PA**

Linda Randby is the senior director of legal services for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, joining the association's legal team and its judicial advocacy, member legal information and other legal services in March 2020. Randby is an experienced litigator and appellate advocate who in the past represented government officials and entities in numerous state and federal lawsuits involving a wide variety of civil rights, employment, contract, administrative and criminal law issues. Prior to joining PSBA, Randby advised and represented the Governor's Office of General Counsel at the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole and the Pennsylvania State Police. She also advised and represented the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency before state and federal agencies and courts in matters related to consumer finance, privacy, higher education, intellectual property, contracts and other matters related to quasi-corporate entities. During her time in private practice, she was an associate at McNees, Wallace & Nurick representing clients in intellectual property and contract matters. She received her juris doctorate at Widener University Commonwealth Law School, where she currently serves as president-elect of the Widener Law Commonwealth Alumni Association board of directors. She is also a Master in the James S. Bowman American Inns of Court.

**Michael I. Levin, Esq., PSBA General Counsel, Levin Legal Group P.C.,** Huntingdon Valley, PA  
Michael Levin is a founder and president of the Levin Legal Group, PC, a firm concentrating in the representation of public school districts, labor and employment law, and civil rights litigation. Levin is general counsel to the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, the Pennsylvania School Boards Association Insurance Trust and the Pennsylvania Principals Association. He represents school districts as solicitor, labor law counsel, litigation counsel and special education counsel. He is a frequent lecturer at national and statewide seminars in school law. He is the author and editor of several books, including *Pennsylvania School Personnel Actions*, *Municipal Liability: An Analysis of the Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act*, *Pennsylvania School Laws and Rules*, and *United States School Laws and Rules*. He is past chairman of the Education Law Section of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, a past director of COSA, and is the inventor of the two player rules of the popular board game Risk.