



# EVENT SCHEDULE



(a department of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association)

## 2023 School Solicitors Symposium July 13-14, 2023

The Penn Stater Hotel & Convention Center, State College, PA

7.5 CLE credits available (6.5 substantive, 1 ethics)

### Thursday, July 13, 2023

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	<b>Registration outside Presidents Hall 1</b> <b>Continental breakfast</b> (included in program fee)
9:00 – 9:10 a.m.	<b>Welcoming remarks, introductions and administrative announcements</b> <i>All Symposium sessions will be held in Presidents Hall 1</i> Benjamin L. Pratt, Esq., president, Pennsylvania School Board Solicitors Association, Saxton & Stump, Lancaster PA
9:10 – 10:40 a.m.	<b>School Law Update</b> <i>Always a favorite feature of the Symposium, PSBA General Counsel Michael Levin provides a lively overview of what's happening in the courts, new statutes and regulations, and other developments directly impacting public school operations and liability exposures, accompanied by his comprehensive written summary of the past year's legal developments in school law. (1.5 substantive CLE credits)</i> Michael I. Levin, Esq., PSBA general counsel, Levin Legal Group, Huntingdon Valley, PA
10:40 – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Refreshment break</b>
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<b>Technology Update</b> <i>In 2023, applications using artificial intelligence (AI) burst onto the scene in education. From AI image generators to AI chatbots such as Chat GPT, these new tools show both promise and legal pitfalls for schools and educators. In this session, Mark Cheramie Walz and Ed Diasio focus on what this technology can do, and what attorneys should be telling their clients about AI use in schools. (1.5 substantive CLE credits)</i> Edward A. Diasio, Esq., Wisler Pearlstine, Blue Bell, PA Mark W. Cheramie Walz, Esq., Sweet Stevens Katz & Williams, New Britain, PA
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Lunch on site at The Gardens Restaurant</b> (included in program fee)

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	<p><b>Key Developments in Tax Assessment and Tax Exemption Cases</b></p> <p><i>Hear about important court decisions impacting how school districts can initiate tax assessment appeals, defend against tax assessment challenges and (possibly) obtain taxes from nonprofit institutions. (1 substantive CLE credit)</i></p> <p>Howard L. Kelin, Esq., Sweet Stevens Katz &amp; Williams, New Britain, PA Jonathan M. Huerta, Esq., King Spry Herman Freund &amp; Faul, Bethlehem, PA</p>
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.	<p><b>Ethics</b></p> <p><i>This CLE will focus on Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI). The presenters will review the growing diversity in Pennsylvania and its school population. How policies and procedures affect those diverse students and what action items schools can implement to provide a more inclusive environment. (1 ethics CLE credit)</i></p> <p>Gabriela Raful, Esq., Galfand Berger, Philadelphia, PA David F. Conn, Esq., Sweet Stevens Katz &amp; Williams, New Britain, PA</p>
3:30 p.m.	<b>Administrative announcements and adjournment until 7:30 a.m. Friday</b>
5:00 p.m.	<p><b>Solicitors' social hour and pay-your-own dinner outing</b></p> <p>Happy Valley Brewing Company, 137 Elmwood St., State College, PA</p>
<b>Friday, July 14, 2023</b>	
7:30 – 8:30 a.m.	<b>Full buffet breakfast at The Gardens Restaurant</b> (included in program fee)
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	<p><b>Procurement</b></p> <p><i>"The right way, the wrong way and the maybe way – procurement of services and materials for school districts under Pennsylvania School Code and Procedures." The presentation will take a deep dive into the procurement practices of school districts and the short cuts some districts may be taking to procure services and materials in light of the clear direction of the PA School Code. We will examine alternatives to the bidding practice and provide practical tips for when your clients stray from the law. (1.5 substantive CLE credits)</i></p> <p>Benjamin L. Pratt, Esq., Saxton &amp; Stump, Lancaster, PA Brian F. Boland, Esq., Kozloff Stoudt, Wyomissing, PA</p>
10:00 – 10:20 a.m.	<b>Refreshment break</b>
10:20 – 11:20 a.m.	<p><b>Right-To-Know Law: Trends and Developments</b></p> <p><i>School Districts throughout the commonwealth are relying on legal counsel more than ever to ensure compliance with their statutory obligations under the Right-To-Know Law (RTKL). This session will offer an in-depth examination of special hot topics and developing areas of inquiry. Included in the discussion will be recent decisions impacting the classification of school bus surveillance video, trends affecting records that may be protected under FERPA, developments in the analysis of sufficient specificity under the RTKL and consideration of what records may be "of" the district, including those generated via social media. (1 substantive CLE credit)</i></p> <p>Nicole L.M. Feight, Esq., Rudolph Clarke, Trevoze, PA Tricia S. Springer, Esq., Eckert Seamans Cherin &amp; Mellott, Harrisburg, PA</p>
11:20 a.m.	<b>Closing remarks; program adjourns</b>
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	<p><b>Working lunch meeting of the officers and sectional directors of the Pennsylvania School Board Solicitors Association (PSBSA)</b></p> <p>(Room 112)</p>