



November 2023

Election Day Report from CSEA's Legislative & Political Action Department:

Statewide Ballot initiatives

CSEA was successful in two ballot initiatives this year. The first raises the debt limit for small city school districts to 10 percent of property values and puts them at the same level as all other school districts.

The second initiative extends for 10 years the authority of counties, cities, towns and villages to exclude from their debt limits any debt incurred for the construction of sewer facilities.

Both initiatives passed overwhelmingly.

Region 6

Monroe County Executive Adam Bello was successful in his re-election. CSEA members worked hard to keep Bello in office because of all the good he has done for the county workforce and members look forward to continuing that relationship.

In addition, Bello had coat tails and is credited with turning the supervisor race in Irondequoit back to Democratic hands as well as gaining control of the Monroe County Legislature!!

In Erie County, Mark Poloncarz was re-elected as County Executive, his fourth term as County Executive.

Region 5

In the Town of Manlius, all of our CSEA endorsed candidates for Town Council and Town Supervisor won their elections. This includes CSEA LRS Mike Nesci.

In Onondaga County, CSEA endorsed candidate for County Executive Bill Kinne lost to Ryan McMahon. CSEA endorsed incumbent County Comptroller Marty Masterpole won reelection. In our priority race for the 10th district Legislator, CSEA endorsed Carrie Wood trails incumbent legislator Mark Olson by 47 votes. With absentees still out and being within the margins, this will head to a hand count. All other CSEA endorsed candidates for Onondaga County Legislature have won.

In Oswego County, CSEA endorsed candidate for Mayor of Fulton Jim Rice has won his election. In addition, CSEA endorsed Candidate for Fulton Common Council Donald Patrick, a longtime CSEA member, won reelection.

In the race of Utica Mayor, where we did not make an endorsement, Democratic Councilwoman Celeste Friend lost to Republican Council President Michael Galime. Despite a significant democratic enrollment advantage, Galime was able to defeat Friend by over 30 points.

In the City of Rome in Onedia County, CSEA endorsed incumbent Mayor Jackie Izzo lost to former Rome PBA president Jeff Lanigan. Lanigan had defeated Izzo in the republican primary in June. Izzo was then endorsed by the democratic party and ran on their line.

In Cayuga County, all CSEA endorsed candidates for County Legislature won reelection. The democrats have also secured a true majority for the first time in a decade. Members in Cayuga County were very active in these races and will be very excited by the results. Unfortunately, CSEA member and our endorsed candidate for Clerk, Kristine Lytle, lost her election.

Region 4

In the top priority race in the region, CSEA endorsed Carmella Mantello won her election to become the first woman Mayor of Troy. All CSEA endorsed incumbents for the Schenectady County Legislature won re-election. Jaime Lynn Puccioni, our endorsed candidate for Niskayuna Supervisor, won re-election to her second term. Former CSEA member Bob Kirkham was elected to his first full term to the town board in Glenville.

In Albany County, all incumbents in the Albany County Legislature were re-elected. However, Democrat Kyle Simmons is currently down 10 votes in a too close to call race. In the Town of Colonie, CSEA endorsed Peter Crummey won another term as Town Supervisor. Most endorsed candidates in Colonie were successful, except for Paul Nylin (an IBEW local 263 board member) who lost his election to the town board.

Region 3

Long time CSEA friend, Sue Serino was successful in her election to become the next Dutchess County Executive. CSEA endorsed County Clerk Brad Kendall was re-election, but endorsed DA candidate Matt Weishaupt, who was the third member of the Republicans running county-wide, lost to the Democratic candidate in a tight race.

In Ulster County, endorsed Kingston Mayor Steve Noble was re-elected by a wide margin and credits CSEA's help during a difficult primary election to even be on the ballot in the General. CSEA is very proud that CSEA activist Jeanne Edwards was elected to the Kingston City Council.

Region 2

While CSEA did not endorse, it is important to note that for the first time the republicans won a city council race in the Bronx!! Dem incumbent Marjorie Velazquez lost to her republican

challenger, Kristy Marmorato. If you recall, last year we saw assembly losses to republicans in Brooklyn as well.

Region 1

Long Island saw an absolute red wave in both Nassau and Suffolk that did not necessarily match the rest of the state, or even the country. Republican voter turnout simply overwhelmed the Democrats. This red wave is a trend over the past few election cycles as we have seen Republicans make gains throughout Long Island.

In Suffolk County, CSEA endorsed Democrat Dave Calone lost to current Republican Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine.

CSEA was successful in several county legislative seats, however one we were closing watching was District 7. Endorsed Democrat Ryan McGarry was defeated by incumbent Dominick Thorne. In the Town of Brookhaven, Republican Dan Panico was elected as the Town Supervisor, replacing Ed Romaine. All our endorsed candidates in the town were elected. In the Towns of Babylon, Huntington, Southampton, and Riverhead, all endorsed candidates were elected.

In Nassau County, there were no surprises on Election Night. In the towns of Oyster Bay and Hempstead, all incumbent Republican candidates were reelected, all endorsed by CSEA. In the Town of North Hempstead, endorsed incumbent Republican Jen DeSena defeated Jon Kaiman. In the City of Long Beach, we endorsed three Republican candidates for City Council, and all three were elected in the Democratic stronghold.

National Highlights:

Races in other states that can give us a view of trends for upcoming races in 2024:

In Kentucky, incumbent Governor Andy Beshear was re-elected. Beshear, a Democrat in an overwhelming red state of Kentucky, ran on his record as a moderate which clearly resonated with voters. Abortion was an issue in this race and Beshear used it to his advantage. In addition his message did not focus on the economy or pocket book issues but instead played on individual freedoms and the importance of community and being one state all working together and caring for each other as good neighbors do!!

In Virginia, Republican Governor Glenn Youngkin, who was not up for re-election nonetheless poured millions into campaigning in an effort to turn the Virginia Legislature red!! It didn't work. In fact the Dems took control of both houses of the legislature. Interesting note here, Youngkin also campaigned on a compromise position on abortion. His proposal was legal abortion up to 15 weeks and exceptions to incest, rape and the health of a woman. It didn't work!! Abortion still playing in many states.

Finally, in Ohio, a ballot measure amending the state constitution to establish a right to abortion overwhelming was approved by voters. This clearly shows that abortion rights are still a major issue in national and state politics.