

**EYE ON NY**

Eye on NY: Rep. Dan Maffei to unveil his education agenda Monday in Syracuse



OCTOBER 27, 2013 6:05 AM • [ROBERT HARDING](#) | ROBERT.HARDING@LEE.NET

Two months after President Barack Obama [visited central New York to praise local education efforts and outline his plan to make college more affordable](#), U.S. Rep. Dan Maffei will unveil his own education proposals Monday in Syracuse.

Maffei, D-Syracuse, will hold a press conference at the Institute of Technology at Syracuse Central to discuss his education agenda. He will be joined by a handful of

local education leaders, including Cayuga Community College transfer counselor Eric Zizza and Kim Oropallo, director of Head Start programs at Cayuga-Seneca Community Action Agency.

The plan will use ideas shared by central New York education leaders at roundtable meetings hosted by Maffei in Auburn and Syracuse. He held two roundtables on kindergarten through 12th grade education and hosted a separate roundtable on higher education.

Maffei said in a recent interview with The Citizen that education will be one of his top priorities in the final months of 2013 and beyond.

"Higher education, whether it's college or trade school, is key to developing the middle class," he said. "The more we had these [education roundtable] sessions, we kept on learning that part of the challenge here is not simply lack of jobs, but lack of people who are able to then fill these jobs and help create more jobs for others."

Read a recap of Maffei's press conference on [auburnpub.com](#) and in Tuesday's print edition of The Citizen.

Nozzolio recognizes Domestic Violence Awareness Month, renews push for 'Brittany's Law'

As the state recognizes Domestic Violence Awareness Month, state Sen. Michael Nozzolio is calling his fellow state legislators to support a bill that would create a statewide registry of violent felony offenders.

Nozzolio, R-Fayette, has introduced "Brittany's Law" before, but the legislation has yet to pass both the Assembly and Senate.

"During the past legislative session, the state Senate took a tremendous step forward in adopting a tougher stance against violent crime by enacting 'Brittany's Law'. All we need now for the violent offender registry to become a reality is for the state Assembly to join the Senate in adopting 'Brittany's Law'," Nozzolio said in a statement.

"As state senator, I will continue my aggressive efforts to enact tougher sentencing guidelines for violent criminals, reinforce laws to protect women and children from domestic violence and strengthen the rights of crime victims to prevent future tragedy from occurring."

Brittany's Law is named for Brittany Passalacqua. Brittany and her mother, Helen Buchel, were murdered at their home in Geneva by a man who previously served prison time for assaulting his infant daughter.