

Melissa A. Fingar

Melissa Fingar is currently the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and School Attorney for the Brockport Central School District, a suburban district outside of Rochester (NY) encompassing five schools, student enrollment approaching 4,000, and about 800 employees.

Ms. Fingar graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Corporate Communications from the Park School of Communications of Ithaca College and went on immediately to obtain a Master's of Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations. She went on to receive her Juris Doctorate at the University of Buffalo School of Law of the State University of New York at Buffalo.

While working on her Master's degree, Ms. Fingar engaged in internships in the personnel department of both Xerox Corporation and Reader's Digest, and in the New York State Assembly serving the Labor Committee. Following receipt of her degree, Ms. Fingar became a Field Representative for the Montgomery County Council of Supporting Service Employees in Gaithersburg, MD, a Local of the Service Employees International Union, serving in this capacity for about a year, before enrolling in the School of Law. While in law school, she served as a Summer Associate in the Harris Beach law firm in Rochester.

Subsequently, Ms. Fingar served as an Appellate Court Attorney in the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court and as Associate Attorney for employee benefits and labor and employment law practice groups with the firm of Phillips, Lytle, Hitchcock, Blaine and Huber in Rochester for two years, and as Senior Associate for labor and employment law, emergency medical services, and educational institutions practice groups with the Harris Beach firm for approximately eight years.

Ms. Fingar then joined the Brockport Central School District, where she has served for approximately seven years. There, her extensive experience in labor law contributes to her oversight of all human resources functions. Her responsibilities include participation on the District's management team, coordination of the District's Board Policy Committee, and providing legal advice on employment and education law.