



LEWIS MILLS HIGH SCHOOL'S KARISSA NIEHOFF TO SUCCEED MIKE SAVAGE



Karissa Niehoff, principal of Lewis Mills High School in Burlington, has been chosen by the executive committee to succeed Mike Savage as Executive Director of CAS-CIAC. Karissa will assume the role of deputy executive director on July 1. The CAS Board of Directors will vote on her appointment as executive director prior to January 1, 2011.

Upon learning that she was the executive committee's choice, Karissa remarked, "I feel extremely honored and humbled to have been appointed the Deputy Executive Director at CAS/CIAC. I am so impressed by the commitment to education and the professionalism demonstrated by everyone within the organization. Since I've been involved with CAS/CIAC via my work on committees, I have always been inspired by the expertise and leadership of Mike Savage and the rest of the staff. Walking into the building, one can feel the energy that comes from vision, vibrance of thinking, and a passion for what they do. One can also feel the warmth that emanates from the many good people who care very much about each member of the CAS/CIAC family. I am thrilled to have the chance to serve the organization and its members in a leadership capacity; it is the opportunity of a lifetime!"

"I feel extremely honored and humbled to have been appointed the Deputy Executive Director at CAS/CIAC. I am so impressed by the commitment to education and the professionalism demonstrated by everyone within the organization."

Principal of Lewis Mills High School since 2004, Karissa began her career in Connecticut public education in 1989 as a physical education instructor at Greenwich High School. In the succeeding years, she worked as a physical education and health teacher both at the middle and high school levels, first at Joel Barlow High School in Redding and then at Bethel Middle School. In 1993, she joined the staff of Litchfield High School where, over the course of six years, she taught Personal Wellness and Latin and served as the K-12 Wellness/Exercise Science Department Coordinator and as athletic director. In 2000, Karissa was appointed assistant principal of Har-Bur Middle School in Burlington. Four years later, she assumed her current position as principal of Lewis Mills High School.

Karissa has conducted numerous in-service workshops and presentations at the local, regional and national levels. She has led forums on topics such as NEASC standards and the accreditation process, Professional Learning Communities, block scheduling, literacy development, using student performance data to drive program development, brain research, curriculum mapping, and NCLB and other legislative issues.

A long-time sports enthusiast, Karissa served for four years on the Education Committee of the United States Olympic Committee, authoring the "OlympiKids School Celebration Guide," acting as U.S. delegate to International Olympic Academies in Greece and Canada, and representing the USOC at numerous national conventions, conferences and educational programs. Karissa was also co-founder and dean of the "Passing The Torch" Academy For Youth Sport Leadership, a USOC initiative to promote leadership and the spirit of Olympism within the realm of youth sport.

A successful high school field hockey coach at Joel Barlow and Litchfield High Schools, Karissa's teams earned four conference titles and one state championship. In 1995, she was named "Class S Field Hockey Coach of the Year." Karissa has served on the

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Please join us
for a
Retirement Celebration
in honor of

Michael Savage
Executive Director, CAS-CIAC

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

5:30pm - 8:30pm

Aqua Turf Club

Plantville, CT

**All proceeds from this
event will go toward supporting
Mike's dream of building a school in Haiti**

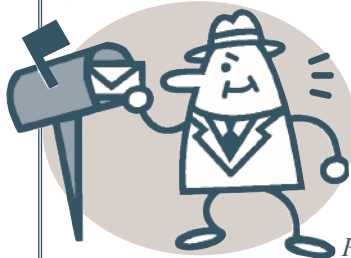
R.S.V.P. before May 19, 2010

\$50 per person

**Please go to
http://files.casciac.org/savage_invite.pdf
to R.S.V.P. or to make a donation**

LEGAL MAILBAG

By Attorney Thomas B. Mooney, Neag School of Education, University of Connecticut



Editor's Note: *Legal Mailbag* is a regular feature in the CAS BULLETIN. We invite readers to submit short, law-related questions of practical concern to school administrators. Each month we will select questions and publish answers. While these answers cannot be considered formal legal advice, they may be of help to you and your colleagues. We may edit your questions, and we will not identify the authors. Please submit your questions to: [<legalmailbag@casciac.org>](mailto:legalmailbag@casciac.org)

Q. DEAR MAILBAG: A parent is mad that I suspended his son for fighting after school with another student, and he is demanding that I tell him what happened to the other student. I already told him that I can't tell him that because personally-identifiable information is confidential under FERPA (though I did assure him that "appropriate" discipline was given). Now, he is demanding that I give him the documents concerning the incident and the disposition, with the name of the other student redacted. That way, he argues, it will not be "personally-identifiable." I would love to get him off my back. Is that OK?

- Worn Out

A. DEAR WORN: I give the parent high grades for creativity, but an F for his understanding of FERPA. Recent amendments to the FERPA regulations make it crystal clear that one need not disclose the name of a student for related information to be "personally-identifiable." Rather, when the party requesting the information has personal knowledge that would permit him or her to know which student is referenced, the information in question would be considered "personally-identifiable," and it may not be released except as otherwise permitted by FERPA (e.g., written consent of parent). In any event, you had better clean up your own act. Your attempt to placate the parent with the assurance that "appropriate discipline" was imposed was itself a FERPA violation.

Q. DEAR MAILBAG: At my school, parents really do think of teachers as public servants, or maybe even just servants. One particularly demanding parent showed up unannounced the other day, and she demanded to see all documents in the personnel files of the teachers assigned to the fourth grade at my school. She makes no bones about it; she wants to read transcripts and whatever else so that she can decide who the best teacher is. Then, she will request that her son be assigned to that teacher's class. Can we tell her no dice because teacher personnel files, particularly their transcripts, are confidential?

- Your Humble Servant

A. DEAR HUMBLE: Teachers are often surprised to realize that almost all of the information in their personnel files is public. The Freedom of Information Act is broadly interpreted to provide public access to public records in most cases. To be sure, documents created pursuant to the teacher evaluation plan are confidential by statute. Otherwise, the test is (1) whether there is any public interest in the information, and (2) whether the disclosure of the information would be highly offensive to a reasonable person. There is no public interest in some personnel file information, such as medical information, unlisted telephone numbers, social security numbers, and family information. However, there certainly is public interest in information relevant to a teacher's employment, including transcripts and other information submitted as part of the application process. This parent is entitled to review most of the information in the personnel files of these employees.

Q. DEAR MAILBAG: We are looking to create an alternative program for students that will include a work component. The students will leave school early to go to their jobs. However, there will be days where they are not working and will need a ride home. The plan was for the teacher of the program to bring these students home via the school van. However, I was told that this was against the law for special education students. When I asked why and what law, I didn't get an answer. Is this true, and why would they pass such a law?

- Driving Me Crazy

A. DEAR DRIVING: The law presumably in question does not refer to special education students. Rather, Conn. Gen. Stat. § 14-44 requires a special license for anyone engaged in the regular transportation of students. If the plan is that the teacher would regularly drive students home using the school van, a special license is required. If the teacher has the license and the school van meets requirements for a school transportation vehicle, you should be able to go forward with the plan.

ct news & notes

■ A divided state Supreme Court last month opened the door to significant changes in the way the state funds public education, ruling that the Connecticut Constitution guarantees students not just a public education, but one that can prepare them for employment, higher education and civic responsibilities like voting and jury duty. The 4-3 ruling in Connecticut Coalition for Justice in Education Funding, Inc., et al. v. Governor M. Jodi Rell et al. did not prescribe changes or even say changes were necessary. In siding with the plaintiffs in an education funding lawsuit, the justices sent the case back to Superior Court for trial. Any changes it could bring are likely years away. But the ruling established a significant new framework, for the first time explicitly declaring that students have the right to a certain level of education, and defining what it is. (Source: Hartford Courant, 3/23/10)

■ Connecticut's fourth- and eighth-graders read at a higher level of proficiency than most of the nation overall, and eighth-graders showed improvement over previous scores on a national standardized test. But the percentage of students in those grades reading at or above the proficient level is still surprisingly low, with less than half meeting the goal. The results also show that the state's academic achievement gap between poor students and their wealthier counterparts hasn't budged. Connecticut's eighth-grade reading proficiency overall increased by 6 percentage points, with 43% scoring at or above the proficient level on the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress. That performance means that Connecticut scored better than 43 other states, essentially tying with Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Vermont. Connecticut fourth-graders held steady, with 42% scoring at or above the proficient level, up 1 percentage point from 2007, the last time the test was given. That means they outperformed 48 other states, with only Massachusetts having a significantly higher percentage of students with better scores. However, only 18% of Connecticut's economically disadvantaged students performed at the proficient level or above, compared with 52% of their wealthier peers. "The essence of it is that Connecticut's relative performance is strong but the results show that our achievement gap continues to be the issue before us," said Tom Murphy, spokesman for the state department of education. (Source: Hartford Courant, 3/25/10)

... more ct news & notes

■ A new tracking system has found that the high school graduation rate in Connecticut is much worse than thought, with only 79.3% of students getting their diploma in four years in 2009. The state had estimated that 92% of students graduated in four years in 2008, 2007 and 2006. The 2009 graduation rate for minorities was dismal. Only 58.1% of Hispanic students and 66.2% of African American students graduated in four years, compared with 86.8% of white students. Low-income students fared poorly, as well, with only 59.9% getting their diploma in four years. The new data system tracks individual students, even those who move out of one school system and into another. As a result, the state has been able to get a more accurate picture of what is really happening. Connecticut had previously estimated the graduation rate based on annual drop-out rates and data reported by school districts. Since 2006, the state has estimated the graduation rate at 92%, up slightly from estimates of 91% in 2005 and 90% in 2004. The state began using the new data system after reaching an agreement with the National Governors Association and 49 other states to use the same criteria for calculating graduation rates. Connecticut has been building a new system that can track each student by a numerical identifier as he or she moves from grade to grade and even school system to school system, said Tom Murphy, spokesman for the education department. The new system avoids the problem of counting the same student twice as he or she moves from one district to another, a factor that threw off previous graduation estimates. Education officials said last month that the numbers demand immediate attention. "While we have made this a priority in recent years, we must approach this issue with a sense of urgency," Education Commissioner Mark McQuillan said in a statement. (Source: Hartford Courant, *Connecticut Graduation Rates Not As Good As Thought, Tracking System Shows*, 3/24/10)

CORRECTION

On page 3 of the March issue of the BULLETIN, Lance Pepper was incorrectly identified as Oliver Pepper. Lance was one of two Connecticut students who won the 2010 Prudential Spirit of the Community Award. We apologize for the error.

HAITI RELIEF EFFORT GOING STRONG

We are pleased to announce that, through our partnership with the Governor's office, CAS has collected more than \$69,000 in funds for the victims of the devastating earthquake in Haiti. This is a long-term relief effort and schools are encouraged to continue their fundraising efforts. Our goal is to collect enough money to fully fund the construction of a new school in Haiti!

Listed below are all of the schools in Connecticut that we are aware have contributed to the CAS Haitian Relief Effort to date. We extend our warmest and most sincere thanks to each and every one of them. Unfortunately, in our attempt to streamline the donation process (that is, allow schools to make deposits locally rather than have to funnel all of their checks/coins/cash through CAS), we waived one procedural piece: our ability to track the donations. If a school makes a donation through its local bank branch, CAS does not receive an individual record of it. Therefore, if your school made a deposit locally and you would like to be acknowledged in a future issue of the BULLETIN, please send an email to kpacktor@casciac.org.

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- Emma Hart Willard School, Berlin - Salvatore Urso, Principal
 - Ellen Hubbell School, Bristol - Rochelle Schwartz, Principal
 - Cheshire Public Schools, Cheshire - Greg Florio, Superintendent
 - Coventry High School, Coventry - Troy Hopkins, Principal
 - G.H. Robertson Intermediate School, Coventry - David Petrone, Principal
 - Broadview Middle School, Danbury - Edward Robbs, Principal
 - Hayestown Avenue School, Danbury - Laura Kaddis, Principal
 - Deep River Elementary School, Deep River 06417 - John Pietrick, Principal
 - Frederick Brewster Elementary School, Durham - Nancy Heckler, Principal
 - Deer Run School, East Haven - William Grimm, Principal
 - Parkville Community School, Hartford - Elizabeth Michaelis, Principal
 - J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School, Madison - Rachel Weiss
 - Southeast Elementary School, Mansfield Center - Norma Fisher-Doiron, Principal
 - Elmer Thienes Mary Hall Elementary, Marlborough - Loraine Giannini, Principal
 - Bielefield School, Middletown - Renata Lantos, Principal
 - Keigwin Middle School, Middletown - Tracey Koff, Principal
 - Naugatuck High School, Naugatuck - Francis Serratore, Principal
 - Salem School, Naugatuck - Jennifer Kruge, Principal
 - New Fairfield High School, New Fairfield - Mariana Coelho, Principal
 - John Trumbull Primary School, Oakville - Kathleen Scully, Principal
 - J.F.Kennedy Middle School, Plantsville - Angelo Campagnano, Principal
 - Pomfret Community School, Pomfret Center - Jane Dion, Principal
 - Community School, Prospect - Joseph Nuzzo, Principal
 - Long River Middle School, Prospect - Jayne Lanphear, Principal
 - Chatfield School, Seymour - Jaime Giordano, Principal
 - Seymour High School, Seymour - Cathy Goodrich, Principal
 - Central School, Simsbury - Edie Balkun, Principal
 - Henry James Memorial School, Simsbury - Susan Homrok-Lemke, Principal
 - Simsbury High School, Simsbury - Neil Sullivan, Principal
 - Urban T. Kelley School, Southington - Elizabeth Lutz, Principal
 - Mansfield Middle School, Storrs - Jeffrey Cryan, Principal
 - Tolland Intermediate School, Tolland - James Dineen, Principal
 - Aiken School, West Hartford - Kathleen Rotchford-McKay, Principal
 - Bugbee Elementary School, West Hartford, 06117 - Peg Beecher, Principal
 - Eric G. Norfeldt School, West Hartford - Caryn Falvey, Principal
 - Webster Hill School, West Hartford - Jeff Wallowitz, Principal
 - Suffield High School, West Suffield - Donna Hayward, Principal

national news & notes

■ A new study on gender differences in academic achievement, offering what it calls "good news for girls and bad news for boys," finds that, overall, male students in every state where data were available lag behind females in reading, based on an analysis of recent state test results. At the same time, in mathematics, a subject in which girls have historically trailed, the percentages of both genders scoring "proficient" or higher were roughly the same, with boys edging out girls slightly in some states and girls posting somewhat stronger scores in others. In certain states, such as Arkansas, Hawaii, New Mexico, and Vermont, the gender gap for reading proficiency was 10 percentage points or higher, based on 2008 test data. The report was released last month from the Center on Education Policy. The full national report as well as individual state profiles of achievement trends for males and females are available on CEP's Web site, www.cep-dc.org

■ According to a new study from the Center on Education Policy, English language learners (ELLs) made progress on state tests over the last three years, USA TODAY reports. The study looked at state tests in math and reading from 2006 to 2008, the years after federal testing for ELLs under the federal *No Child Left Behind* law became finalized. Twenty-five of 35 states with sufficient data made gains in fourth grade reading among English language learners. In grades four and eight in reading and math, 70 percent of those states made gains in the number of students scoring "proficient." While offering some positive news, the study also noted significant gaps between proficiency levels among English language learners and other students: Of the 35 states examined, 11 had differences of more than 30 percentage points between English-learner students and their non-ELL counterparts.

■ A new report from Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation points to significant shortfalls in preparation and support for those who change careers to teach, and debunks common assumptions about their paths to teaching. Its survey of 504 teachers found that the majority of career changers -- 92% -- pursued teacher education through a university program, and nearly nine in 10 considered their programs to have been excellent overall. Programs were

TWO STUDIES LINK HEALTH AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

A new report released by the California Dropout Research Project (CDRP) describes the connections between health and high school dropouts. The report, *The Connection Between Health and High School Dropout*, synthesizes existing research, examining several aspects of how health affects dropouts, and highlights three distinct pathways in which both are connected. Childhood physical illness, childhood mental health problems and adolescent risk behaviors are the three pathways that link health and education. Physical illnesses and chronic conditions such as asthma and diabetes can prevent a child from succeeding. Research reported in the February 17 issue of the *Journal of American Medical Association* found that 25% of children in the U.S. have chronic health conditions. "Expanding access to medical care and providing disease management support are strategies that will help to improve educational performance," said Russell Rumberger, Director of the California Dropout Research Project. "The report underscores the need for health care reform and demonstrates how it can help address America's dropout crisis." The report also looks at childhood mental health issues and adolescent risk behaviors as factors that contribute to the increased risk for high school dropouts. While not as commonly diagnosed as physical illnesses and chronic conditions, mental health issues affect almost one in five children and adolescents; as many as 80% of these children go untreated for their mental health problems. The report suggests that while more research is needed on the effectiveness of interventions and the development of policies for improving health and education, there are immediate strategies that can be pursued by schools and healthcare providers to address the issue. To view the report, visit http://cdrp.ucsb.edu/dropouts/pubs_reports.htm

In a related study from Equity Matters, researcher Charles E. Basch, a professor of health and education at Teachers College, Columbia University, suggests that, in order to close academic achievement gaps, educators and federal officials need to better coordinate efforts to address the health disparities that impede learning for students from disadvantaged groups. For his study, Mr. Basch reviewed more than 300 studies in education, psychology, health, and other areas, looking for health disparities that would provide strategic leverage points for improving student learning. The health problems he chose met three criteria: (1) they negatively affected urban students from traditionally disadvantaged minority groups; (2) they were linked in some way to poorer educational outcomes for students; and (3) they had some evidence of school-based programs and policies that could successfully address them. The "educationally relevant health disparities" he focused on were: vision problems, asthma, teenage pregnancy, aggression and violence, physical inactivity, lack of breakfast, and inattention and hyperactivity. Federal data show that asthma problems, for example, affect 8.8% of white children between the ages of 5 and 14, compared with 21.5% of Puerto Rican children and 12.8% of African-American children in that age range, and are particularly prevalent in the nation's largest cities. Some studies have also found that children with asthma tend to have more problems with concentration and memory, to have their sleep disrupted, and to miss more days of school. Likewise, vision problems, which affect low-income individuals at twice the rate of others, have been linked to poorer academic achievement. Although the report makes dozens of recommendations for educators and policymakers at local, state, and federal levels, it calls on the U.S. Department of Education, in particular, to take a leading role. The report says the department should coordinate health services for children across the federal government, develop a strategic national school health plan, require schools to include health goals in mandated school-improvement plans, and create incentives for states to address students' health needs.

mainly faulted for failing to prepare teachers for real-world challenges. On a composite index of ratings, more than one-quarter of those surveyed (28%) gave their teacher preparation a "C" or better with regard to dealing with behavioral issues, incorporating standards into the curriculum, and teaching English language learners. The report also counters stereotypes about career changers as midcareer or second-career executives taking large pay cuts to teach. It

found that nearly three in five career changers (57%) worked in other jobs for less than ten years before entering the classroom. Two out of three (67%) reported that their teaching salaries were the same as or better than salaries in their previous jobs. To be eligible for the survey, interviewees had to be current teachers who had been teaching in public schools for no more than 20 years, and who had held positions in other fields for at least three years before teaching.

THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS

• Providing Exemplary Programs and Services that Promote Excellence in the Education of All Children •

CAS Announces the 58th Annual Meeting!

"No frills" business meeting to be conducted in 2 hours

We are pleased to announce that we will hold our 58th Annual Meeting on **Thursday, May 13th** at the CAS Central Office in Cheshire. Please mark the date on your calendars!

In an effort to boost attendance, last year's event was a "bare bones" meeting - just two hours in length - stripped of many of the "extras" that had been included in past years. The shortened format was very well-received and, therefore, will be repeated this year. No formal meal will be served; however, coffee and pastries will be provided at the outset of the meeting, which will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn by 10:30 a.m.

58th ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, May 13, 2010

CAS Central Office, Cheshire

8:00-8:30: Registration

8:30-10:30: Business Meeting

10:30-11:00: Individual Membership Meetings

NOTE: Following the adjournment of the business meeting, members are invited to attend the individual membership meetings hosted by the elementary, middle and high school divisions. It is especially vital that high school members remain to vote on proposed CIAC bylaw changes.

Join us on May 13th to review highlights of 2009-2010 and chart a course for 2010-2011!

Register online at <http://www.casciac.org/amregister>

CAS President Dr. V. Everett Lyons has led the association through an historic year, one which began with the stunning announcement of the retirement of long-time executive director Mike Savage. In addition to skillfully guiding the board through the challenging process of finding a new executive director, he promoted an ambitious set of goals which has furthered the association's progress in the areas of outreach, educational leadership and advocacy. Through the CAS/CSDE Executive Coaching Initiative, CAS is currently providing direct, sustained professional support to fifty-nine schools in twenty-two low-performing districts. Now in its third year of operation, the program has achieved sustained and conclusive success thanks in large measure to the industrious efforts of Mike Buckley and Susan Kennedy.

Under the direction of Dave Maloney, the Connecticut Student Activities Conference (CSAC) experienced unprecedented growth in the 2009-2010 school year. In addition to expanding the BandJam and KiDSMARATHON initiatives established last year, the CSAC forged new partnerships to promote Unified Theater™, robotics and Next Generation Leaders.

Berlin High School Principal George Synnott will conclude his tenure as chair of the CIAC Board of Control following a quiet but productive year. The board passed one proposed bylaw change which will come before the CIAC membership for approval at the annual meeting. The change concerns imposing sanctions on coaches who publicly criticize game officials. Thanks to the leadership of Joe Tonelli, the CIAC Officials' Association has achieved maximum membership and, therefore, has no room to grow. Its board is poised to implement a policy requiring background checks on all high school sports officials. The Unified Sports® Program continued its impressive participation gains due in part to the Project Unify Grant which has provided seed money for new schools to start a Unified Sports® team.

Additional information, including the proposed revisions to the CIAC By-Laws, will be available on the CAS-CIAC website shortly.

THERE WILL BE NO COST FOR ATTENDING THE ANNUAL MEETING

Niehoff, continued from page 1



Karissa Niehoff received a CAS Letter of Commendation from President Ev Lyons at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

United States Field Hockey Association Board of Ethics since 1996 and, in the summer of 1996, she was the field hockey program leader at the International Youth Camp during the Atlanta Olympic Games. Karissa also coached high school volleyball, softball, basketball and track. In 1997, she coached a girls basketball team at the World Scholar Athlete Games which involved over 2,000 coaches and athletes from 150 countries.

Over the past fourteen years, Karissa has served on a number of CAS and CIAC boards and committees, including:

- Sportsmanship Committee (Chair)
- Michaels Cup Committee
- Field Hockey Committee
- CIAC Board of Control
- High School Professional Studies Committee
- Committee for the Advancement of Young Girls and Women in Sports

"With the selection of Karissa Niehoff the CAS community will continue its record of positive growth and service to the educational leaders of Connecticut," commented CAS President V. Everett Lyons. "Karissa brings to the position her sensitivity of the issues facing our state schools, along with a high level of enthusiasm and the ability to unite various constituencies within the organization. We look forward to her exciting leadership in the years ahead."

SAVE THE DATE!

Twelfth Annual CT Association of National Honor Societies State Conference

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2010

7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Hartford Marriott, Rocky Hill

"Making Your Mark" Leadership Principles to Meet the Challenge

by
Keynote Speaker Ed Gerety



Differentiated Instruction, Assessment and Grading

Rick Wormeli, one of the nation's premier experts on differentiated instruction, will be presenting in Connecticut on April 29 and 30.

Co-sponsored by the Connecticut Association of Schools and the New England League of Middle Schools, this two day conference entitled "Differentiated Instruction, Assessment and Grading," is geared towards upper elementary, middle level and high school teachers.

Rick will tackle many of the most controversial topics of assessment and grading today, such as how we should account for students' efforts, what we can accept as evidence of mastery and formative vs. summative assessment.

For full details and registration, visit
http://www.nelms.org/calendar/diff_instruc.html.

MR. WOODHEAD

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I LIKE THAT YOU QUIT
WRITING "IDK" FOR
ANSWERS ON TESTS.



AND I'M HAPPY ABOUT
YOUR NEWFOUND
CONFIDENCE.



BUT I STILL HAVE TO
MARK IT WRONG IF
YOU JUST WRITE "IK."



IMPROVED DOCUMENT CLEARINGHOUSE IN DEVELOPMENT

By Dennis Carithers, Ph.D.,
Connecticut Principals' Center Director

The CAS Technology Committee is working with Matt Fischer, CAS Director of Information Services, to create a secure area on the CAS website that would facilitate the sharing of critical materials and documents. In the past, CAS has collected handbooks, bell schedules, and other such resources from school districts. Having the information accessible in one location was helpful to principals, but it still required that the items be searched individually to collect, say, dress codes or midterm exam schedules. What is new and improved now is that this clearing house of documents will be indexed and categorized by subject for ready use by CAS members.

The greater the volume of material that we can collect, the broader the array of resources you will have available to you. We are asking for specific items to start and then hope to expand as more topics develop. You may have recommendations, too, for other information you would like to have collected.

For elementary schools, we encourage you to send your student handbooks, report cards/progress reports; acceptable use policies (indicate if it is a district policy.), data team process and forms, SRBI formats, plans for positive parent interaction and behavior plans/student contracts.

For middle schools, we suggest sending your student handbook, as well as your bell schedule, acceptable use policy (note if it is a district policy), and electronic device policy if not in the handbook.

For high schools, we suggest sending your student handbook, as well as items such as dress codes, electronic device policy, bell schedule, graduation requirements, acceptable use policy (indicate if district policy) if they are not in the handbooks.

You can send any of the above to: documents@casciac.org. Please specify the name of school, town and level of school in the body of the message. Also, please note:

- 1) The preferred format for files is .pdf, but we will also accept Word or Excel files.
- 2) Please name the files so it is obvious what each file is, i.e. "Our School Student Handbook.doc" or "Our_school_bell_schedule.pdf",

Once we have received a representative group of materials, we will let you know when and how you can access them.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Due to the overwhelming success of the previous summer institutes, the Connecticut Association of Schools, with support from the Connecticut State Department of Education, Connecticut Association of Supervision & Curriculum Development and the State Education Resource Center, is again sponsoring the *2010 Summer Leadership Institute* themed "Transforming Schools: Building Capacity." It will, again, take place at the Heritage Inn in Southbury, June 29-30, 2010.



Phil Schlechty

The Keynote Speaker is Phil Schlechty. Phil comes out of a background as fundamental as an Ohio farm and as lofty as Ohio State University. He is an exceptional speaker, thinker, writer and leader. He has deep, abiding passions for equity, excellence, the public schools, and American democracy. His unique talent lies in the ability to draw upon such diverse sources of inspiration and to develop coherence among them around issues of kids, schools, communities, and leadership.

This two-day conference will provide participants with personal and professional strategies to maximize their effectiveness as school leaders to ensure high achievement for all students. For more information, visit www.casciac.org/pdfs/SLI2010SaveTheDate.pdf.

BandJam
The Ultimate
Battle of The Bands!!

BandJam West
Darien HS
May 21, 2010

&

BandJam East
Norwich Free Academy
May 21, 2010

Featuring top high school rock bands from across the state
Go to <http://www.casciac.org/bandjam.shtml> for more information

Registration for BandJam has been extended to April 28th.
Please share this announcement with your students!

SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS HONORED BY CAS

By Earle G. Bidwell
Assistant Executive Director



Keynote Speaker Marion Martinez

Two hundred fifty eight distinguished volunteers were honored at the CAS Elementary & Middle School Volunteer Banquet at the Aqua Turf Club on March 16, 2010. The Connecticut Association of Schools proudly celebrates this event annually to publicly acknowledge the work of parents and other volunteers for their contributions to schools across the state. Five hundred and seventy five participants from eighty Connecticut elementary and middle schools

were treated to a four-course meal and were entertained by pianist Kim Quinn from Rocky Hill. Honorees were presented with certificates and corsages to commemorate countless hours of service to Connecticut children.

Connecticut Associate Commissioner of Education Dr. Marion Martinez, was the keynote speaker. In her remarks, she stated that "we can give many things, but the gift of time is the most important gift one can give." She commended the volunteers for being good will ambassadors and for making a difference in the lives of children. "Your presence speaks volumes to our students and you model what is important."

The Connecticut Association of Schools and its corporate partner, the Bearingstar Insurance Group, along with CAS official photographers, Gryn and Barrett, join Associate Commissioner Martinez in celebrating the contributions of volunteers who share their time, talents and commitment to quality education in Connecticut schools.



A proud volunteer receives a corsage from a grateful principal.

ARTS IN THE MIDDLE ADDS NEW OFFERINGS

By Earle G. Bidwell, Assistant Executive Director

The Ninth Annual Arts in the Middle Conference scheduled for May 18, 2010 on the campus of the Hartford Art School, University of Hartford, promises to be bigger and better than ever. That is good news for middle school aspiring artists and their art teachers as there will not only be more offerings, but room for more participants.

Mainstays of the program are the ever-popular choices of Acrylic and Mixed Media, Plein Air Painting, Water Color Painting, Pen and Ink Drawing, Cartooning, Self Portraits, Drawing, Art of the Indigenous People of Australia, Computer Photoshop and Photograms (creating abstract photos without negatives). Each of these choices will be offered twice, ensuring participants opportunities to work in two media during the course of the day.

Back by popular demand for a second year is Stuck on You, creating original folding wallets, iPod cases and purses out of colored duct tape. Also returning after a one year hiatus will be wire sculpture: creating 3-D sculptures with wire, beads and found objects.

New this year will be opportunities to create African Spirit Masks. Students will create masks representing their own personal power and meaning using tin and aluminum cans, along with other found objects.

While primarily for students, art teachers are encouraged to sign up for workshops and participate as learners. It is a great opportunity to learn how to work in a new medium. Working artists lead all the workshops and bring examples of their own work or portfolios.

Thanks to support from corporate partner Horace Mann Educated Financial Solutions, the cost of the workshops, including supplies and lunch, is only \$25 per attendee from CAS member schools.

While there are more slots for attendees this year, there are limits to the number of participants in each session to ensure that each student gets individual attention and that all go home with two completed projects. Online registration can be found at www.casciac.org/register.



ciac news

CT SUN HOSTS 2010 CIAC GIRLS BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP LUNCHEON

By Stephanie Ford, Director of Marketing



Keynote Speaker Connecticut Sun Guard Kara Lawson



Wethersfield High School Girls' Basketball Team

High School girls basketball took center stage once again at the Mohegan Sun Convention Center as the eight teams playing for the four CIAC Class Championships gathered Wednesday, March 17 for the 2010 championship luncheon. Coaches, players and administrators from Norwich Free Academy, Mercy, Hillhouse, Wethersfield, Brookfield, Kolbe Cathedral, Portland and St. Paul Catholic were on hand for the event, with WTNH Channel 8 sports anchor John Pierson serving as the Master of Ceremonies.

One player from each of the eight teams addressed the crowd of about 200, and Vice President and General Manager Chris Sienko encouraged the players to savor a moment they have worked hard to earn. But he also reminded them to remember the big picture. "Basketball is fleeting," Sienko said. "The game of life is forever."

The keynote speaker for the program was Connecticut Sun guard Kara Lawson. Although she was only recently signed by the Sun as a free agent, Lawson is well known for her exploits on and off the court. A former star at the University of Tennessee who has won a

WNBA championship and a gold medal, Lawson is currently making a name for herself as an analyst with ESPN.

At the luncheon, Lawson recalled her own high school memories from her days as a point guard at West Springfield in Virginia, where she won state titles as a sophomore and a senior. It was an upset loss in the state tournament during her junior year that she remembered most, however, because it inspired her to improve her three-point shooting. As a senior the next year, her three-point shooting helped carry West Springfield through some close playoff games and on to a second state title. "You never know when your defining moment will come," Lawson said.

This was the fifth straight year the Connecticut Sun has hosted the CIAC girls' basketball state championship luncheon. On June 6th, the Sun will recognize the four state championship teams on court at halftime of the game against the San Antonio Silver Stars. Each team will receive a commemorative plaque, and framed team jerseys will be hung on the concourse throughout the 2010 WNBA season.

JACKIE SULLIVAN HONORED AT CHEER CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the CIAC Cheerleading Championships on March 12th, the Connecticut Association of Schools honored one of its finest cheerleading coaches and advisors, Jackie Sullivan. Chair of the Cheerleading Committee since 1992, Jackie has been an untiring advocate for the sport of cheerleading and has demonstrated an unrelenting commitment to the young people of Connecticut. Co-director of the cheerleading tournament since 1998, she has continued to see to the ongoing expansion and improvement of post-season competition in a sport that now involves nearly 2,400 athletes statewide. Under her leadership, the tournament has evolved into one of the CIAC's most exciting and competitive championships. Jackie is currently serving on the National Federation of State High School Associations' Spirit Committee as a representative from New England. A certified judge for cheerleading, she has judged local, state, and New England regional competitions for a number of years. Jackie recently retired from Norwich Free Academy after a long and distinguished career as a teacher, department chair, dean of students and house principal.



Assistant Executive Director Dave Maloney honors Jackie Sullivan for her many years of dedicated service.

... more ciac news

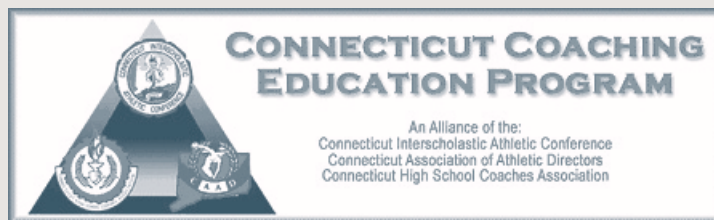
■ Executive Director Mike Savage received the 2010 CIAC Girls' and Boys' Basketball Dedication Award on March 19, 2010. He was honored at a reception held at the Mohegan Sun just prior to the first basketball championship game. Also honored were Special Service Award recipient Stephen Villanti, and Merit Award recipients Cindi Birdsey, Robert Ferrarotti, Cynthia Hitchcock, Vito Montelli, and William Scarlata.



Mike Savage receives the Basketball Dedication Award from Boys' Basketball Committee Chair Walt Zalaski and Girls' Basketball Committee Chair Sue Lemke.



■ Forty-five teams competed in the second annual Connecticut high school dance state championships held on February 27th at Hamden High School. This year, there were six competitive divisions. The winners were: Hip Hop (Large) - Masuk H.S.; Hip Hop (Small) - Branford H.S.; Jazz (Large) - Brookfield H.S.; Jazz (Small) - Bunnell H.S.; Pom - Hamden; Kick Line - Hamden.



The Connecticut Coaching Education Program recently began offering online courses for CEU credit. The new online modules allow coaches to earn the credits they need on their own schedule. The response to these courses has been overwhelming!

The CCEP is an alliance of the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Association (CIAC), the Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors (CAAD), and the Connecticut High School Coaches Association (CHSCA)

Online CEU's Now Available!

Get the credits you need on your own schedule:

- Mod 101 - Fundamentals of Coaching (6 hour Mod)
- Mod 6 - Revocation, Harassment and Hazing (3Hour Mod)

For more information, visit:

<http://www.ctcoachinged.org/onlineceu.html>

>From: Vida, Dick

>Date: Wed, Mar 31, 2010 at 12:21 PM

>Subject: RE: Online Module Completion Confirmation

>To: coachingeducation@casciac.org

>

>

>This course was so well-organized. The material and the
>way it was presented were absolutely outstanding. Lots of
>information to read and it took me four hours to complete the
>course. I e-mailed our AD this morning and told him every
>coach should be required to take this course. What an eye
>opener! I couldn't believe some of the case material I was
>reading. In my 33 years of coaching at Newington High
>School, this is one of the best sessions I have ever taken.
>A+ for the course and it's contents. Kudos to the people who
>prepared this course.

>

>

>I plan on taking more modules in the future. I have all my
>modules for my coaching permit but the on-line courses are
>a great way to stay on top of your game as coaches. What
>a benefit to have at your fingertips.

>

>

>Respectfully
>Coach Dick Vida
>Newington High School

>

... more ciac news



At the annual CAAD conference last month, CAAD President-Elect Trish Witkin and CAAD President Ray DeAngelis presented Mike Savage with a \$1,000 check in support of his effort to raise money to build a new school in Haiti. See related item page 15.

Appeals Court Affirms Ruling Regarding Ineligibility of Transfer Student

A Louisiana state appeals court has left intact the ruling of a lower court, which declined to explore a question of damages in a case where a plaintiff alleged that his due process rights were violated when he was deemed ineligible by the Louisiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. The dispute surfaced when Giles Menard, the son of plaintiffs Creig Menard and Debbie Menard, transferred from Abbeville High School in Vermilion Parish, Louisiana to Lafayette High School in Lafayette, Louisiana. Menard had played varsity football at AHS until he was injured in November 2007. After transferring to LHS, Giles and the school made an eligibility request to play football. On February 25, 2008, the LHSAA ruled that there was not a bona fide change of plaintiffs' residence under its rules. Therefore, Giles was ineligible under its "transfer rule" to play football for LHS during his initial year of attendance, which happened to be his senior year. The plaintiffs filed a petition in Lafayette Parish, seeking a temporary restraining order and further injunctive relief against the LHSAA. Specifically, the Menards challenged the substance of the transfer rule, the LHSAA's interpretation of the rule as applied to the underlying facts, and its conclusion under the rule that Giles's residence in Lafayette was not the result of a bona fide change in residence. The lower court ruled against the plaintiffs, a ruling that was upheld on appeal. "The trial court was correct in concluding that it lacked subject matter jurisdiction to determine those issues, which clearly relate to the internal affairs of a voluntary association," wrote the appeals court. "As we noted in *Johansen v. La. High Sch. Athletic Ass'n*, the LHSAA's actions in investigating eligibility of student athletes and enforcing its own internal regulations are clearly not conducted under color of state law. Among other substantive issues, the appeals court also reviewed the purpose of the transfer rule as described in *Genusa v. Holy Cross College, Inc.*: "The purpose of the transfer rule is prophylactic in nature; without it high schools would be free to recruit athletes with a laissez-faire attitude. It protects the integrity of athletic programs and prevents transgressions by unscrupulous participants."

THE OFFICIAL CIAC SEASON

When Does It Start and When Does It End?

By Dr. Robert Lehr, CIAC Executive Staff

The CIAC staff receives numerous questions related to the official start and end of a season for student-athlete participation. CIAC regulations do not prohibit a student-athlete from involvement with an outside team or sports program before the first scheduled contest for his/her team. From that date until the end of the student-athletes season, practice and/or competitions with a team or program other than the high school team is prohibited. The following are a few examples of the end of a season:

- If a student-athlete is on a tournament roster for a team in a CIAC tournament, he/she may not practice or otherwise participate with an outside team until his/her team is eliminated from the tournament. If his/her team is fortunate enough to play in a championship game, he/she is permitted to participate with a non-school program after the date of that championship. In the event that his/her sport participates in the New England tournament and his/her team qualifies for that event, then he/she is prohibited from participating with an outside team until the New England event concludes.
- If a student-athlete is on a team that qualifies for CIAC tournament play, but is not included on the roster, he/she is allowed to participate with an outside program after his/her final season concludes, including league playoff games. That individual may not, however, be put on his/her team's CIAC tournament roster after becoming involved with an outside program.
- If a student-athlete is on a team that does not qualify for CIAC tournament play, then CIAC rules permit him/her to participate with a non-school program after his/her final regular season event, including league tournaments.
- Coaches whose seasons have concluded are permitted to practice until the final state championship game (New England tournament for some sports). Those coaches may wish to have their student-athletes refrain from participating with a non-school team even though CIAC rules do not prohibit the student-athlete from doing so.
- Student-athletes in the sports of gymnastics, golf, indoor and outdoor track and field, swimming and tennis may practice but not compete with a non-CIAC team during the season. Those practices may not interfere with or replace their school practices. For additional information on those sports, refer to the CIAC Handbook (Page 63 -2009-2010 Handbook).

... more ciac news

RECONSTRUCTING A COACHING CODE

Source Unknown

A friend and colleague, who retired from teaching and coaching two years ago, recently told me about attending a reunion held at the school where he had his first coaching experience over forty years ago.

"Back then" he related to me, "I thought I'd be the next Red Auerbach. My top priority was winning. In that regard, I did pretty well. In the four years I coached basketball at that school we won eighty percent of our games, made the state tournament every year and reached the finals twice. To my surprise, nobody at the reunion remembered any of that."

I replied to his comment, "After forty years, that doesn't surprise me." Then I asked, "Since you were only at that school for a total of four years, did anyone remember you at all?"

"The kids who were on my teams did," he responded. "I call them kids. What a shock it was to see them with stooped shoulders and gray hair. My top player, who's now a coach himself, told me he remembered my teaching him how to grab an opponent's trunks and shirt without being detected by refs, and when rebounding how to pivot in a way that results in stepping on the other player's foot. He informed me that he teaches this same stuff to his players."

"Well," I shot back, "I always heard that a person coaches the way they were coached."

"I guess it's true," my friend responded. "The fact is I didn't feel too good about myself when I heard it. Later, I talked with another player, who was always a second stringer. He said I was a really good coach, but he always had a grudge against me because I used to suspend him from the team every time he was late to school."

"That certainly was fair," I pointed out. "Most schools have rules about tardiness."

"True enough, but I know why this kid still carried a grudge." My colleague confessed. "All the kids on the team were well aware that our top scorer was late more than anyone else on the team. However, he never

got suspended. At the time, I was dating the school secretary and I persuaded her to cover for him. It seemed like the thing to do forty years ago. But, running into a person who has carried a chip on his shoulder for four decades, makes me think about it. I'm always amazed at what kids remember."

"It does make you think," I countered.

"Not just kids either," the ex-coach went on. "At the reunion dinner, I ended up sitting next to this math teacher. He and I never got along very well. This was probably because I blackmailed him into changing the grade of one of my star players. I felt it was necessary. The player would have been ineligible for the tournament. During the whole meal I had to sit there while the math teacher lectured me about professional ethics."

"I enjoyed the golf outing on the last day." He answered. "When I was introduced to my partner, whose name was Jake, as we shook hands, my partner to be informed me that he had asked to be my partner. According to him, I was someone he'd never forget. This was surprising since I didn't remember him at all. Jake claimed that he played for my golf team during my last semester at the school."

"At that point I remembered the connection. The golf program was an endangered species. No kids had signed up for the team. In an attempt to save the sport, I tried to recruit some players. There weren't any. Everyone was out for baseball, tennis or track. Somehow, I managed to scrape together five boys. I went to the athletic director with my list of players and told him we had a team. Looking at my roster he laughed and predicted the team wouldn't last a week. According to him, I had recruited the five biggest misfits in the history of the school."

"My reunion golfing partner, Jake, was one of the kids I recruited. No one in the group had ever played golf or any other sport. Not one of them had ever earned a letter. I did my best to teach them how to play the game, but it was a hopeless situation."

"Jake told me that he and the other team members were taking a lot of flack. The jocks teased them incessantly saying they were a bunch of goons who could never earn a letter. As he told me this, Jake revealed that he still has his letter and proudly displays it on the wall of his barbershop."

"When the tournament ended, Carl let it be known that he played on the team the following year as well and that thanks to me the high school still has a golf team. He said that in the two years he played, he and his team never won a single match. They never even took a single point. Their record was 0-31. But, Jake believes, no one had more fun than he did. As I left, Jake thanked me for being the person who got him to play a high school sport. Then, he gave me a hug. Driving home from the reunion, I mused that it only took forty years for me to realize that winning wasn't really a top priority."

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Earle Bidwell.....	Asst. Executive Director
Regina Birdsell.....	Asst. Executive Director
Ken Bragg.....	Asst. Director of Unified Sports®
Michael Buckley.....	Director, Principals' Center
Dennis Carrithers.....	Asst. Executive Director
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THE BULLETIN

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WINTER 2010 CIAC SPORTS CHAMPIONS

GIRLS BASKETBALL

<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Class LL: NFA	Mercy
Class L: Hillhouse	Wethersfield
Class M: Kolbe Cathedral	Brookfield
Class S: St. Paul Catholic	Portland

BOYS BASKETBALL

<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Class LL: Bridgeport Central	Hillhouse
Class L: Stratford	New London
Class M: Sheehan	Bloomfield
Class S: Hyde Leadership	Prince Tech

ICE HOCKEY

	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Div. I:	Hamden	Fairfield Prep
Div. II:	Amity	St. Joseph
Div. III:	Guilford	Brookfield/Bethel/ Danbury

WRESTLING

	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Open:	Danbury	South Windsor
Class LL:	Danbury	South Windsor
Class L:	Fairfield Warde	New Milford
Class M:	Bacon Academy	Waterford
Class S:	Somers	Nonnewaug

CHEERLEADING

	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Coed:	Waterford	Branford
Class LL:	East Hartford	Danbury
Class L:	Masuk	Foran
Class M:	Seymour	St. Joseph
Class S:	Oxford	Derby



Hillhouse Hi.S. Boys Basketball Team,
Class LL Runners-up

BOYS INDOOR TRACK

	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Open:	New Britain	Hamden
Class LL:	Hamden	Amity
Class L:	Notre Dame, W. Haven	Daniel Hand
Class M:	Hillhouse	Woodland
Class S:	Weston	Bloomfield

GIRLS INDOOR TRACK

	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Open:	Danbury	Weaver
Class LL:	Danbury	Glastonbury
Class L:	Darien	Windsor
Class M:	Nonnewaug/Weaver - CO-CHAMPS	
Class S:	Bloomfield	Weston

BOYS SWIMMING

	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Open:	Pomperaug	Greenwich
Class LL:	Greenwich	Fairfield Prep
Class L:	Pomperaug	Cheshire
Class M:	Brookfield	New Canaan
Class S:	Weston	Sacred Heart



GIRLS GYMNASTICS

	<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Open:	New Milford	Southington
Class L:	Southington	New Milford
Class M:	Darien	Pomperaug
Class S:	Valley Regional	Nonnewaug



2010 CIAC State Open Indoor Track Championships at the New Haven Track and Field Center.

© Ron Knapp, MySportsResults.com

caad news

CAAD 26th ANNUAL CONFERENCE REVIEW

By Fred Balsamo, CMAA, CAAD Executive Director

This year's conference was once again an outstanding opportunity for athletic directors across the state to get together for some meaningful professional development. We are extremely pleased with the turnout, with over 60 exhibitors on site, 205 athletic directors registered and 230 attendees at the annual banquet.

On the Wednesday night before the conference, thirty athletic directors took part in the NIAAA Leadership Training Courses. The conference was kicked off by CIAC Executive Director Mike Savage and his staff who detailed some important updates and rule changes. Mike was also presented a gift donation from CAAD toward the building of a school in Haiti in honor of his retirement.

The first general session speaker was Rulon Gardner, Olympic gold medalist, who delivered an inspiring presentation about never giving up. Friday morning we welcomed Dr. Carl Nissen who got our attention quickly with a presentation on concussions and the importance of coaches knowing their signs and symptoms as well as proven return to play procedures.

Conference Evaluations

The rating numbers on the evaluations were outstanding overall and speak for themselves (see below). Once again we had a program for middle school AD's and we welcomed 17 this year. By their comments, they want to be more involved. It was clear we need to add more topics specific to that group next year.

The rating numbers below are based on a 1-4 scale (with 4 being the best).

1. Conference Registration - 3.9 (+.0)
2. Conference Format - 3.9 (+.1)
3. Conference Organization & Details - 3.9 (+.0)
4. Hotel Service - 3.8 (+.1)
5. Hotel Accommodations - 3.8 (+.0)
6. Hotel Meals
 - Thursday Lunch - 3.9 (+.1)
 - Thursday Banquet - 3.9(+.3)
 - Friday Breakfast - 3.9 (+.3)
 - Friday Lunch - 3.7 (+.2)

7. CIAC Workshop - 3.7 (+.1)
 - Middle School Workshop - 3.8 (+.0)
8. CAAD Annual Meeting - 3.4 (-.1)
9. General Session (Rulon) - 3.9 (+1.6)
10. Workshop
 - 1. Purchasing - 3.5
 - 2. Change at top - 3.6
 - 3. Paperless - 3.9
11. Awards Banquet- 3.9 (+.1)
12. Breakfast Meeting (Nissen) - 3.8 (-.1)
13. Statewide Faculty - 3.4 (-.4)
14. Closing Meeting - 3.6 (-.2)

CAAD RECOGNIZES 2010 AWARD RECIPIENTS

At the 26th annual conference and awards banquet held on the evening of March 25th, four individuals were recognized for their outstanding accomplishments and support for high school sports in Connecticut.

Brian Fell of Woodland High School was given the *Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors Distinguished Service Award* which is our organization's highest award. Brian has been an AD since 1993 and has served on the CAAD board and has served the CIAC in various capacities.

The *Distinguished Service Award* for someone outside the field of athletic administration went to CHSCA Executive Director **John Fontana**. An icon among coaches John has provided leadership and support to the thousand of coaches and athletes in Connecticut.

Annually CAAD identifies an athletic director who is given a merit award from our national association. **Trish Witkin** from Glastonbury High School was honored at the Banquet with the *NIAAA Award of Merit* for the stellar career she has amassed and for the many things she does for high school students.

Mike Gamari from the Gilbert School, Winsted, was recognized with the *Robert Duncanson Meritorious Service Award* for his diligence and endless contributions to his school, community and to the students of Connecticut.

Dave Johnson, CAAD Awards Committee Chair, and Ray DeAngelis, CAAD President, present awards to, from top to bottom, Trish Witkin, Mike Gamari and Brian Fell.



... more caad news

ALERT -**CONCUSSION BILL 456 PROPOSED
IN CONNECTICUT STATE SENATE**

This past February, Senators Martin Looney and Thomas Gaffey introduced legislation that would require all coaches in Connecticut to be trained in recognizing the signs and symptoms of concussions as well as in the proper procedures for returning athletes to play prior to their next sports season. If passed, the legislation would be in effect beginning this coming fall. In a timely coincidence, the Connecticut Coaching Education Program was already in the process of developing a module related to concussion management when the news broke of the Senate bill. If the bill passes, the CCEP will do whatever it can to aid school districts in the implementation of the educational component. Athletic directors have been given training to teach this module to their own staff. Stay tuned!



CHSCA Executive Director John Fontana receives the "Distinguished Service Award from Outside the Field of Athletic Administration" from Dave Johnson, CAAD Awards Committee Chair, and Ray DeAngelis, CAAD President.

CAAD MEETING DATES**2010-2011**

Thurs, August 17	Board of Control	5:00 p.m.	Aqua Turf
Wed, September 8	Board of Control	12:00 p.m.	CIAC
Wed, October 6	General Meeting	4:00 p.m.	Rocky Hill Marriott
Wed, November 3	Board of Control	12:00 p.m.	CIAC
Wed, December 15-19	National Conference		Orlando, Florida
Wed, January 5	Board of Control	12:00 p.m.	CIAC
Wed, March 2	Board of Control	12:00 p.m.	Rocky Hill Marriott
Thur/Fri, March 24-25	CAAD Conference	8:00 a.m.	Rocky Hill Marriott
Wed, April 27	Board of Control	12:00 p.m.	CIAC
Wed, May 18	General Meeting	8:00 a.m.	Rocky Hill Marriott

> From: Ed Lapierre
> Date: Thu, Mar 18, 2010 at 9:43 AM
> Subject: Letter to the Editor
> To: msavage@casciac.org
>
>
> Dear Editor:
>
> I attended a semi-final girls' basketball game last month. The winning
> team is to be commended on its victory. The girls played extremely well
> offensively and defensively. Their coaching was superb.
>
> At the beginning of the game, the National Anthem was played as it is
> played in all main event high school basketball games. I stood up,
> turned my eyes to the flag and listened to the words of the anthem.
> When the portion of the Anthem reached " OH SAY DOES THAT STAR
> SPANGLED.....," the women on the team which eventually pre-
> vailed broke ranks, massed in a circle and began screaming and cheer-
> ing each other on. It was loud enough to mask the last few lines of the
> song. My heart broke when I witnessed this display. I wondered if these
> young women realized that, as of game day, thirteen American military
> personnel had been killed in action in the Middle East fighting for that
> flag. The count on Monday the 15th was 13 killed in action. Almost one
> per every day in March. Some of these veterans weren't that much older
> than the women playing on the court.
>
> Yes, I was disappointed that my hometown team did not win the
> game. However, as a veteran, I was extremely disappointed in the
> conduct displayed by the opposing players. The only reason the game
> was able to be played that night was due to the millions of Americans
> who have died for that flag.
>
> Ed Lapierre
> U.S.Army Veteran 1975-1979



INVESTORS IN CT YOUTH



★ Anthem ★
★ Baden Sports ★
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★ CT Sun ★
★ Dick's Sporting Goods ★
★ Grynn & Barrett Studios ★
★ Horace Mann ★
★ IGA / Bozzutos ★
★ Jostens ★
★ Liberty Mutual ★
★ Martin Screen Printing ★
★ MaxPreps ★
★ McDonald's ★
★ N.E. Fitness Distributors ★
★ PureTech Water ★
★ Rawlings ★
★ Sodexo ★
★ Spalding ★
★ Subway ★
★ Teachers' Insurance Plan ★
★ U.S. Marine Corp ★
★ Wilson Sporting Goods ★