

- National Federation of State High School Associations
- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- National Middle School Association
- National Association of Elementary School Principals



BULLETIN



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CAS CELEBRATES SUCCESS IN CT'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

By Regina Birdsell, Asst. Executive Director

The elementary division of the Connecticut Association of Schools held its 18th Annual Program Recognition Banquet on November 21, 2011, at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington. Sponsored by Horace Mann Insurance, the theme for the evening was "Celebration of Connecticut Elementary Schools' Success." The evening publicly acknowledged exemplary programs and dedicated staff members that have brought about significant school improvement, promoted school success, or had a positive impact on their schools.

Kevin Hogan, news bureau chief for WFSB Channel 3, served as master of ceremonies welcoming the guests and providing introductions to the speakers. Dr. Marion Martinez, associate commissioner of the division of teaching, learning, and instructional leadership for the Connecticut State Department of Education, was the guest speaker for the event. Dr. Martinez acknowledged the uniqueness of the exemplary programs and praised the dedication and commitment of the staffs being honored. "It's important to shine a light on these educators who have challenged themselves and their students with engaging and creative programs."

Loraine Giannini, chair of the CAS Elementary School of the Year Committee, and Dr. Martinez presented the *Elementary*
continued on page 6

CAS RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING FIRST-YEAR PRINCIPALS

By Regina Birdsell, Assistant Executive Director

The Connecticut Association of Schools is pleased to announce that Scott Baker, principal of Tariffville Elementary School in Simsbury, Christopher Sandford, principal of Wheeler Middle/High School in North Stonington, and Jim Wygonik, principal of Lyme-Old Lyme High School in Old Lyme, have been selected as the recipients of the *William Cieslukowski Outstanding First-Year Principal Awards*. These awards recognize first-year principals from the high school, middle school and elementary school levels who have had a positive impact on their school and/or district and have demonstrated exemplary instructional and organizational leadership, a willingness to take risks, and the ability to overcome adversity.

Elementary award recipient **Scott Baker** was nominated for the *William Cieslukowski Outstanding First Year Elementary Principal Award* by Matt Curtis, director of human resources in Simsbury. In his nomination, Mr. Curtis wrote, "Every organization searches for those within who have the ability to act as true leaders; those who recognize the power of personal relationships and how they can impact the school community at large. Scott is one of those special individuals. He has established a wonderful rapport with staff during his first year as principal at Tariffville School. His perspective on personnel and leadership is involvement, encouragement, and accountability. In holding all, especially himself, to the highest standards he has earned the respect of the entire staff. In a short period of time, Scott has made a profound impact and proven to be an invaluable asset to the district, students, staff, and parents and guardians. He grounds his thinking in research and recognizes the importance of establishing interpersonal relationships with all stakeholders."

Christopher Sandford is the recipient of the *William Cieslukowski Outstanding First Year Middle School Principal Award*. In their nomination, Principal Veronica Wilkinson and Director of Special Services Susan Costa stated: "Connecticut Standards for School Leaders states a principal

must be a visionary, recognize best practices in instruction, use his knowledge to encourage reflection and growth in professionals, and develop a culture in which the entire school community collaborates to provide the best in education.

continued on page 6



Pictured with CAS President Kit Bishop (left) and CAS Executive Director Karissa Niehoff are Scott Baker (top), Chris Sandford (middle) and Jim Wygonik (bottom).

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>

Q. DEAR MAILBAG: When a new principal came to our school last year, I was all excited. But the bloom is off the rose, and I realize that he thinks that "assistant principal" means gofer. I have to get out of here, and I am ready to apply for other jobs. However, the new principal is also emotionally needy, and I shudder to think how he would react if he knew I am looking for another job. With the Freedom of Information Act and all, I am concerned that word will get out. Is there any chance that my applications will not be made public?

- *Desperately Seeking*

A. DEAR SEEKING: While the Freedom of Information Act provides for the public disclosure of almost all records related to the public's business, records concerning job applicants are generally exempt from disclosure. Under the FOIA, job applicants have a privacy interest (unless and until they get the job, of course). The law states that the minutes of executive session need not list the names of job applicants attending for the purpose of a job interview. Extending that principle, the FOI Commission has ruled that personally-identifiable information about unsuccessful job applicants is exempt from disclosure. Clearly, any application carries with it the risk of exposure. But most school districts are careful to maintain confidentiality to be sure to get the best candidates.

Q. DEAR MAILBAG: What is the appropriate way to corroborate a student's accusation of a teacher's sarcasm, or inappropriate demeanor or conduct? While I want to give a teacher the benefit of the doubt, I have to confirm whether or not a teacher acted inappropriately. In most cases, the only other witnesses are students. Can I question potential student-witnesses about what happened in a classroom regarding a teacher's behavior? I want to investigate properly, but I want to respect the teacher's position and certainly don't want to create the perception of a "witch hunt."

- *Wearer of the Black Hat*

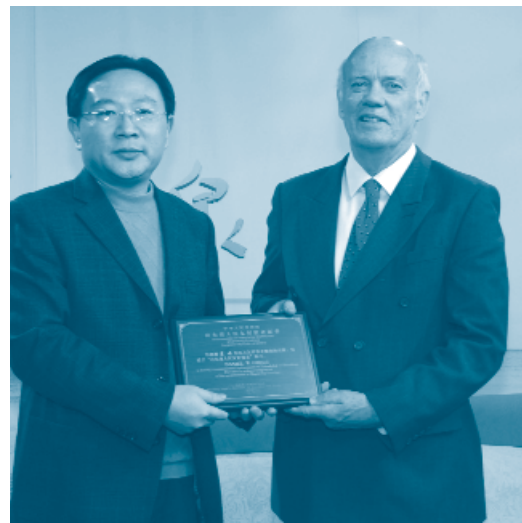
A. DEAR BLACK HAT: The key here is modulation. We need to take appropriate action, but it may not be necessary to jump right to questioning students, which as you recognize could undermine the teacher. With the limited facts, I cannot offer a definitive recommendation. How serious was the sarcasm? What did the teacher say when confronted? Would a warning suffice? The key point is that it is sometimes necessary to question students. However, we do that only when the allegations are serious or repeated. Teachers should know that we will question students, but only as necessary.

Q. DEAR MAILBAG: Between Hurricane Irene and Winter Storm Alfred, our board of education has had to change the school calendar. We are bracing for the various parent requests to excuse children from school for family vacations that have already been planned (and a number that haven't). What right do we have to say that a student's absence from school for that purpose is unexcused? I don't want to be a pain, but a school day is a school day, and students and their families shouldn't be free simply to blow it off.

- *Reasonably Rigid*

A. DEAR RIGID: The distinction between an excused and unexcused absent can be important. The law defines a "truant" as a student who "has four unexcused absences from school in any one month or ten unexcused absences from school in any school year." At present, you are free to determine whether an absence will be recorded as excused or unexcused, and sadly that determination can put you in conflict with parents. However, Public Act 11-136 requires that the State Department of Education provide school districts with definitions of "unexcused" and "excused" absences by July 1, 2012. While those definitions will not be available to assist you with the inevitable arguments this year, we hope that they will bring more clarity to this issue in the future.

ct news & notes



■ On December 12, CAS Director of International Programs Dan Gregg (top and bottom right) received the Ambassador of Friendship Certificate, Shandong Province, People's Republic of China. The award is given annually to foreigners in acknowledgment of their contributions to Shandong Province. The award was presented by the Governor of Shandong Province (top left) through the Shandong People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. The award presentation was made at the Jinan Television studio for the English Channel and will be incorporated into a second interview series on Two Cultures/Two Systems.

On a related note, the CAS Principals' Center and the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) are again collaborating on a Connecticut-Shandong Principal and Teacher Shadowing Project, part of the Connecticut-Shandong Sister School Initiative. The aim of the project is to build partnerships between school leaders, promote mutual inter-cultural understanding, and create opportunities for professional development. Priority will be given to personnel from schools with existing partnerships in Shandong Province. The twelve-day field study in Beijing and Shandong Province is

... more ct news & notes

scheduled for April 11-23, 2012. Applications must be submitted to CAS no later than January 15, 2012. For additional information, visit <http://casctiac.org/go?451>.

■ The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) results released last month by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) showed flat trends for Connecticut students. When comparing 2011 performance to the 2009 results, the only sign of progress was reported in Grade 8 reading where there was a modest upward trend in the overall average scale score and no meaningful change in the percent of students scoring at or above the Proficient level.

■ Last month, in the wake of the destructive late October snowstorm, the state department of education issued a circular letter concerning school closures and the legal considerations regarding modifications to the school calendar. The department remains cautious about prematurely considering changes to the 180-day requirement and will conduct a careful review and analysis of any waiver requests once a district has concluded and asserted that 180 days of school is not possible under its circumstances. Read the letter in its entirety at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/circ/circ11-12/c6.pdf>.

Connecticut NAEP Mathematics and Reading Performance 2003-2011

YEAR	GRADE 4		GRADE 8	
	AVG. SCALE SCORE	PERCENT OF STUDENTS AT/ABOVE PROFICIENT	AVG. SCALE SCORE	PERCENT OF STUDENTS AT/ABOVE PROFICIENT
MATHEMATICS				
2003	241	41*	284*	35
2005	242	42	281*	35
2007	243	45	282*	35
2009	245	46	289	40
2011	242	45	287	38
READING				
2003	228	43	267*	37*
2005	226	38	264*	34*
2007	227	41	267*	37*
2009	229	42	272*	43
2011	227	42	275	45

* indicates a statistically significant difference when compared to performance in 2011.

For an explanation of statistical significance and why it is used in NAEP reporting, see Appendix A.

national news & notes

■ The number of students attending charter schools has soared to more than 2 million as states pass laws lifting caps and encouraging their expansion. The growth represents the largest increase in enrollment over a single year since charter schools were founded nearly two decades ago. In all, more than 500 new charter schools were opened in the 2011-12 school year. And about 200,000 more students are enrolled now than a year before, an increase of 13 percent nationwide. The largest growth in charter schools over the last year was in California, which added 47,000 new students; Florida, with 23,500 new students; Texas, with an extra 22,000; and Ohio, which brought in some 12,000 more. The boom is attributed in large part to the Obama administration's \$4.35 billion Race to the Top competition, which rewarded states for taking on ambitious education changes that included expanding charter schools.

■ Thirteen states have expanded virtual school programs or online course requirements this year, which has coincided with a rush of investors eager for entry to the K-12 education market. Revenues from the K-12 online learning industry are estimated to grow by 43% between 2010 and 2015, and to reach \$24.4 billion. This despite a recent study of virtual schools by Stanford University that found online students performed significantly worse than counterparts in traditional schools. Another study from the University of Colorado found that only 30 percent of virtual schools run by for-profit organizations met the minimum progress standards outlined by NCLB. "The frenzy to privatize America's K-12 education system, under the banner of high-tech progress and cost-saving efficiency, speaks to the stunning success of a public relations and lobbying campaign by industry, particularly tech companies," writes Lee Fang an investigative researcher and blogger who writes for The Progress Report and ThinkProgress.

Study: Adolescent Suicide Risk Can Start in Middle School

Educators have long known that puberty is a tough time for students, but a new study published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health* suggests the risks for depressed children can start much earlier than expected: Nearly 40% of adolescents who attempt suicide first try to kill themselves before high school.

As part of the ongoing longitudinal study, the Raising Healthy Children project, James Mazza, a professor of educational psychology at the University of Washington, and colleagues collected data on depressive symptoms and suicide attempts from 883 young adults ages 18 and 19 in a Pacific Northwest school district.

Mazza and his colleagues found that the 9 percent of students reported attempting to kill themselves had more frequent self-reported symptoms of depression than other students as early as elementary and middle school. The rate of suicide attempts rose sharply around age 12, or 6th grade, and continued to increase through 9th grade. However, the 39 students who reported trying to commit suicide several times, tried for the first time earlier—some as early as age 9.

"Young adults who end up having chronic mental health problems show their struggles early," Mazza said in a statement on the project. "This study suggests that implementation of mental health programs may need to start in elementary and middle schools, and that youth in these grades are fairly good reporters of their own mental health."

(www.edweek.org, by Sarah D. Sparks, December 5, 2011)

Youth Sexting Not All That Common, Reports Find

Illegal actions involving sexting befall a relatively small number of youth Internet users nationally, according to two reports from the University of New Hampshire. But the reports focus on transmission of videos and pictures and don't address sexually explicit text-based messages that might also be sent via smartphone, computer, or other electronic communication.

One study based on an anonymous survey of more than 1,500 youth Internet users ages 10-17 found only one in 100 respondents reported appearing in or creating sexually explicit images showing "naked breasts, genitals, or bottoms," and one in 40 reported creating nude or nearly nude pictures or videos.

A second study based on an analysis of youth sexting cases from a sample of more than 2,700 law enforcement agencies estimated that 3,477 cases of youth-produced sexual images were

handled by such agencies during 2008 and 2009. That's a relatively low number for a crime nationally, the study says, citing an estimate that only 100 more cases of sexting were reported to authorities than youth homicides during 2008.

Both studies, published by the university's Crimes Against Children Research Center, note the difficulty in defining and differentiating different types of sexting. They also both focus primarily on the transmission of images, which are far more likely to get kids (and adults) in legal trouble. Two thirds of the cases examined were found to be aggravated incidents involving additional elements of crime and abuse beyond the creation, transmission, and possession of sexual images, with a little more than half of those involving an adult. The rest were termed experimental and were mostly found to be driven by romantic or attention-seeking motivations.

Meanwhile, the youth survey showed that estimates of youths involved in sexting could range between one in 100 to nearly one in 10, depending on the definition used.

(www.edweek.org, by Ian Quillen, Dec. 6, 2011)

Data Walls Wanted!

Would you like to share your data? The Seventh Annual Connecticut Data Conference will be taking place on April 24th and 25th. We are looking for districts and schools to submit data walls for this event. You can contact Megan Alubicki, Associate Education Consultant, Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of School Accountability and Improvement by e-mail at megan.alubicki@ct.gov with any questions.

Save The Date!

7th Annual Connecticut Data Conference

**High Quality Instruction and Assessment
in the Age of Common Core Standards**

April 24 & 25, 2012 - Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell

Keynote Speakers:

**April 24 - Dr. Karin Hess, Senior Associate,
National Center for Assessment**

**April 25 - Tony Alpert, Chief Operating Officer,
Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium**

**Sponsored by the Connecticut Association of Schools,
the Connecticut State Department of Education and EASTCONN.**

IMPORTANT REMINDER

All member schools were required to update their school information in the online CAS membership database by **October 15th**. To date, only 41% of our members have done so. It is vital that we keep our membership data as current as possible. This allows member schools to take full advantage of the benefits of CAS membership and ensures that our online membership directory information is up-to-date. **Please keep in mind that if we don't have the correct e-mail address on file for the building principal, he/she will miss out on important news and announcements.**

All member school principals should have received an e-mail containing their school number and login ID for accessing the on-line membership database. Principals who did not receive this message can contact Karen Packtor, kpacktor@casciac.org. Visiting the on-line membership database also provides principals with an opportunity to review and sign off on the 2011-2012 CAS membership agreement, which is a requirement of CAS membership.

CAS OFFICERS: 2011-2012

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 President-Elect.....David Russell, John Winthrop M.S., Deep River
 Vice President (H).....Francis Kennedy, Stafford H.S., Stafford Springs
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 Vice President (E).....Rosie O'Brien-Vojtek, Ivy Drive School, Bristol
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 Earle Bidwell.....Asst. Executive Director
 Regina Birdsell.....Asst. Executive Director
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 Beth Rasmussen.....Young Athlete Program Coordinator
 George Synnott.....Asst. Director of Unified Sports®
 Joseph Tonelli.....Director of Officials

THE BULLETIN

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SEVEN CONNECTICUT TEACHERS HONORED WITH LOCAL HERO AWARDS

Last month, Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC®) of Connecticut and Western Massachusetts honored 10 area teachers - seven from Connecticut - with the fifth annual *RMHC Local Hero Awards*. The recipients were honored by the RMHC Board of Directors at a reception at the Connecticut Governor's Residence in Hartford and were joined by superintendents and principals from their respective districts and schools, as well as other invited guests. Jim Altman, reporter for FOX CT, served as the master of ceremonies. Commemorative plaques were presented to the ten teachers, and RMHC donated a total of \$10,000 to area schools through \$1,000 grants for each honoree's respective school.

"Our board of directors is proud to acknowledge these exceptional teachers for their tireless commitment and important service," said Laura Phillips Ward, president of RMHC of Connecticut and Western Massachusetts. "Our RMHC chapter awards grants to local nonprofits that provide a brighter future for children, with a particular focus on supporting education. With the Local Hero Awards, we are able to thank the devoted professionals who help children everyday - our outstanding area teachers."

"It is a privilege to join the supporters of RMHC in commending and celebrating these teachers for their generous contributions, distinguished service and

outstanding leadership," said Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy. "Our valued teachers provide a firm foundation for the progress and accomplishments of our children and young adults, who are of course the promise of our future."

There is no application or nomination process for the RMHC Local Hero Awards. Instead, the local charity works closely with partnering organizations, including the Connecticut Association of Schools, to identify these "Heroes" throughout the region.

Pictured below is CAS Assistant Executive Director Regina Birdsell (upper right hand corner) with the 2011 Local Hero Award recipients from Connecticut:

1. Kristen Juda, Seventh Grade Social Studies Teacher, Har-Bur Middle School, Burlington
2. Allysa Lombardo, Third Grade Teacher, Washington Elementary School, Waterbury
3. Kristi Luetjen, Kindergarten Teacher, Whiting Lane School, West Hartford
4. Pellegrino Mancini, Special Education Teacher, Ivy Drive Elementary School, Bristol
5. Joseph Peluso, History Teacher, Guilford High School, Guilford
6. Allyson Singleton, Third Grade Teacher, Memorial Elementary School, East Hampton
7. Joyce St. Germaine, Art Teacher, Bristow Middle School, West Hartford



Outstanding First-year Principals, *continued from page 1*

Chris demonstrates these qualities through his actions daily. He is the sole principal for a combined middle school/high school and as such, must be aware of the unique needs of each. In the face of this challenge, he has moved the school forward on many fronts in one short year. During his first year, there have been considerable initiatives in both buildings. All of them have been geared toward making the teachers' roles more effective and allowing them to have a greater impact on student achievement. It is clearly evident that Chris believes teaching to be the most noble of professions. As the school administrator, he provides teachers with the tools and resources they need to be most successful and serve as an inspiration to the students of North Stonington."

Jim Wygonik is the 2011-2012 recipient of the *William Cieslukowski Outstanding First Year High School Principal Award*. In her nomination, Dr. Elizabeth Borden, director of curriculum, summarized Jim's first year this way: "In his first full year as principal of Lyme-Old Lyme High School, Mr. Jim Wygonik has established and empowered a talented and dedicated leadership team that is transforming a highly successful, well-respected high school instruction program into a 21st century model of excellence. Mr. Wygonik has achieved this lofty goal based on his early observations at Lyme-Old Lyme High School, his strong vision for powerful instructional practices, an unwavering belief in shared leadership and high expectations, a warm smile, an open door, and a healthy dose of humor and humility. Looking back at Mr. Wygonik's accomplishments during his first full year as Principal of Lyme-Old Lyme High School, there is no question in my mind, he is worthy of this nomination as the Connecticut Association of Schools Principal of the Year Award. He has provided a strong innovative instructional leadership in the midst of a complex multi-year construction project. Based on the work he has accomplished and the respect he has earned from his highly demanding staff, I am honored and proud to nominate Mr. James Wygonik for this prestigious award."

All three principals were honored at the CAS Board of Directors' meeting on December 19, 2011.

Program Recognition Banquet, *continued from page 1*

School of the Year Award to this year's co-recipients, Center School in Old Lyme and Thomas Hooker School in Meriden. Katharine Bishop, principal of Daisy Ingraham School in Westbrook and president of the Connecticut Association of Schools, presented the *CAS 2011-2012 Exemplary Elementary Educator Award* to Pellegrino (Bill) Mancini, a resource room teacher at Ivy Drive School in Bristol.

A multimedia presentation recognizing each school and the honorees in attendance was shown followed by each principal presenting his/her honorees with the program recognition plaque. CAS provided all member schools with a souvenir booklet of the programs honored at this event and each school received a recognition plaque. Photos for each school were supplied by Grynn & Barrett Studios, the official photographer for CAS.

Special thanks go to the members of the CAS Program Recognition Committee for their thoughtful planning and arrangement of this special evening: Roxanne Augelli, Michael Barile, Kent Hurlburt, Jennifer Kruge, RoseAnne O'Brien-Vojtek, and Jocelyn Poglitsch.



Dr. Marion Martinez presents *Elementary School of the Year Award* to Center School Principal Chris Pomroy.

Kit Bishop presents *Elementary Educator of the Year Award* to Ivy Drive School's Bill Mancini.



Dr. Marion Martinez presents *Elementary School of the Year Award* to Thomas Hooker School Principal James Quinn.

REGISTER NOW

Next Generation National Science Education Standards

+

Using NAEP, TIMSS and PISA Resources to Improve Instruction

Two great workshops packed into one three-hour dine-and-discuss session!

DATE: Thursday, January 26, 2012,

TIME: 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: CAS Office, 30 Realty Drive, Cheshire

COST: \$25 (includes dinner)

FOR: Principals, Assistant Principals, and Literacy, Math and Science Leaders

GRADES: K-12

PRESENTERS: Liz Buttner, Science Consultant, CT State Dept. of Education (CSDE); and Renée Savoie, NAEP State Coordinator, CSDE

For registration and more information:

www.casciac.org/register

ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR SCHOOL OFFICE PERSONNEL

Friday, May 4, 2012

Aqua Turf Club



This one-day conference is designed to support the daily work of school office personnel and the important contributions they make to a school's culture and positive teaching and learning environment.

Keynote Presenter:

Attorney Tom Mooney
Shipman and Goodwin, LLC

SIGN UP NOW!

Get your running shoes ready because KiDSMARATHON is back!!!

We have five confirmed locations to celebrate our runners! Please come join us to celebrate healthy lifestyle choices!

- ➡ May 12th - Fairfield Ludlowe High School
- ➡ May 19th - Cheshire High School
- ➡ June 2nd - Norwich Free Academy AND Danbury High School
- ➡ June 9th - Plumb Hill Playing Fields, Litchfield

Questions? Contact Dave Maloney, assistant executive director, at dmaloney@casciac.org or 203.250.1111 ext.3936.

Registration is now open!

Visit
www.casciac.org/pdfs/2012KMFlier.pdf
for more details!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

CAS Volunteer Recognition Banquet

March 13, 2012

Aqua Turf Club, Southington

Details? Contact rbirdsell@casciac.org

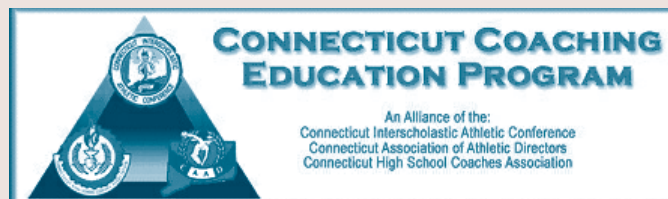
Sports News & Notes

■ *The National Girls and Women in Sports Day* (NGWD) will be held on February 1st, 2012. This will be the 26th annual celebration of the event; participation normally includes all age levels and encompasses a large number of high schools. The day began in 1987 as a way to remember Olympic volleyball player Flo Hyman and is recognized annually as a national day by Congress. This year's theme for the day is *Title IX at 40: In it for the Long Run*. We encourage member schools to plan activities around this day to honor outstanding women who have contributed or benefited from Title IX.

■ We are pleased to announce that **Jennifer Mears** of Rockville High School and **Christopher Madaffari** of Brien McMahon High School in Norwalk have been selected as national finalists in the 2011 Wendy's High School Heisman Award Program. Nearly 48,000 applications were submitted by students and high schools across the country, and only six male and six female students were selected to advance to this level. Since 1994, the award has honored high school athletes who display exceptional leadership in the classroom, on the playing fields and in their communities. Each application was scored and documented by ACT, one of the nation's leading scholastic testing services, and each finalist has been selected by a distinguished panel of national committee members, composed of leaders in education, business, sports and government.

■ The National Athletic Trainers' Association released a first-of-its-kind position statement today on sudden death in youth sports, combining 10 older position statements from

the organization into one 14-page document. While the older position statements each took an expansive look at one particular youth-sports safety issue, never before has there been a position statement covering such a wide range of causes of death in youth athletes. In the new statement, NATA members examined the leading causes of death in student-athletes, namely: asthma, catastrophic brain injuries, cervical spine injuries, diabetes, exertional heat stroke, exertional hyponatremia, exertional sickling, head-down contact in football, lightning, and cardiac arrest." Recognizing the many reasons for sudden death allows us to create and implement emergency action plans (EAPs) that provide detailed guidelines for prevention, recognition, treatment, and return to play (RTP)," the statement reads. Nearly half of high schools lack athletic trainers, according to NATA, leaving coaches, athletic directors, or strength and conditioning coaches to shoulder the burden of immediately tending to student-athlete injuries. Since these professionals lack the medical expertise of an athletic trainer, NATA strongly recommends that all schools have an EAP in place, to guide school officials through emergency situations. "We believe that 90 to 95 percent of the deaths that happen in youth sports are preventable," said Dr. Douglas Casa, CEO of the Korey Stringer Institute and professor of Kinesiology at the University of Connecticut, who was co-chair of the committee that released the new policy statement. The statement, "Preventing Sudden Death in Youth Sports," will be published in print in the January 2012 issue of the *Journal of Athletic Training* (visit www.nata.org).



WINTER CEU MODULE OFFERINGS FOR COACHES

CIAC Office - 30 Realty Drive, Cheshire

NO WALK-IN REGISTRATIONS

Thursday - JANUARY 19, 2012 ~ 6-9pm

Module 14 - *Critical Incidents and Emergency Planning*

Friday - JANUARY 20, 2012 ~ 6-9pm

Module 9 - *Sport Psychology for Interscholastic Coaches*

Saturday - JANUARY 21, 2012 ~ 8:30-11:30am

Module 7 - *CIAC Guide To the Roles & Responsibilities of a Coach*

Saturday - JANUARY 21, 2012 ~ noon-3pm

Module 2Rev - *Communication, Public Relations & Organization*

Saturday - JANUARY 21, 2012 ~ 3:15-6:15pm

Module 3Rev - *Safety Rules, Care & Prevention of Athletic Injuries*

Registration for any or all of these 5 modules must be done online at www.ctcoachinged.org/CEU.html

Additionally, 12 hours of CEU's can now be obtained ONLINE, including the Concussion Management Module 15. Registration information can be found at above url.

Div I legislation upheld in 1st electronic vote

By Michelle Brutlag Hosick
NCAA.org

In its first-ever electronic override vote, Division I members decided to retain legislation that prevents an institution from hosting, sponsoring or conducting a nonscholastic basketball practice or game in which men's basketball prospects participate on its campus or at an off-campus facility it uses regularly.

The proposal was intended to address a proliferation of nonscholastic men's basketball events held on Division I campuses during quiet periods, especially in May and June.

To be successful, 62.5 percent of those voting needed to support the override. When polls closed, 58.59 percent of 355 schools voting were in favor of the override.

continued on page 12

FALL 2011 CIAC SPORTS CHAMPIONS

GIRLS SOCCER

<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Class LL: Glastonbury	Trumbull
Class L: Avon	Farmington
Class M: Northwest Catholic	Granby Memorial
Class S: Immaculate	Litchfield

BOYS SOCCER

<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Class LL: Pomperaug	Trumbull
Class L: Bunnell	Avon
Class M: Suffield	Granby Memorial
Class S: Somers	Litchfield

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Class LL: Newtown	Southington
Class L: East Lyme	RHAM
Class M: Rocky Hill	Joel Barlow
Class S: Coventry	Northwest Cath

FOOTBALL

<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Class LL: Xavier	Staples
Class L: Daniel Hand	New Canaan
Class M: Ansonia	Ledyard
Class S: Holy Cross	Cromwell



Photo: Christian Abraham / www.connpst.com
Xavier QB Tim Boyle leads his team to a 42-7 victory over Staples in the Class LL football championships.



Photo: Christian Abraham / www.connpst.com
New Canaan loses to Daniel Hand in the Class L boys football championship.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Open: Fairfield Prep	Xavier
Class LL: Fairfield Prep	Danbury
Class L: Darien	Naugatuck
Class MM: Tolland	Watertown
Class M: Suffield	Rocky Hill
Class SS: Haddam-Killingworth	Canton
Class S: Bolton	Thomaston

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Open: Ridgefield	Guilford
Class LL: Ridgefield	Glastonbury
Class L: Wilton	Pomperaug
Class MM: Guilford	Avon
Class M: Tolland	Hillhouse
Class SS: Oxford	Griswold
Class S: Thomaston	Immaculate

GIRLS SWIMMING

<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Open: Greenwich	New Canaan
Class LL: Greenwich	Amity Regional
Class L: Darien	New Canaan
Class M: Wilton	Branford
Class S: Weston	Lauralton Hall



Photo: Photo credit: David Hahn / msgvarsity.com

The Immaculate Mustangs became the 2011 CIAC girls soccer state champions with a 3-0 victory over Litchfield in the Class S soccer finals.

GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY

<i>Champion</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
Class L: Cheshire	Norwalk
Class M: Wilton	Branford
Class S: Granby Memorial	Lauralton Hall



caad news

BALSAMO, MENGOLD HONORED AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

By Dave Johnson, C.A.A., Athletic Director, Bunnell High School, Stratford

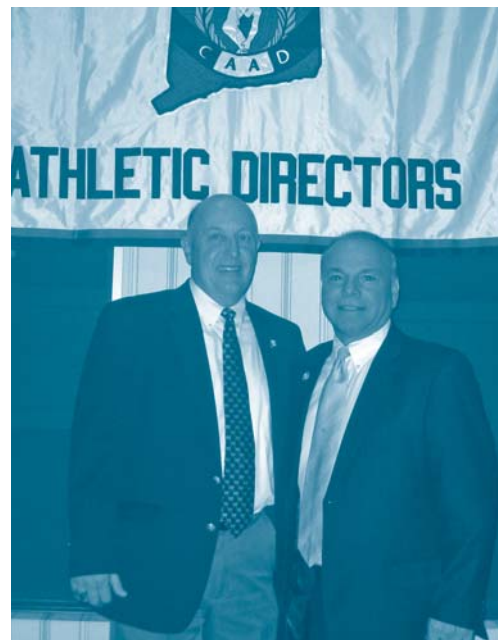
Two of Connecticut's most outstanding athletic administrators, Fred Balsamo and Paul Mengold, were honored with special awards at the NFHS Conference for High School Athletic Directors held in Indianapolis, IN, December 10-13, 2011. Balsamo, currently CAAD's Executive Director and the former athletic director for both the Middletown and East Haven Public Schools, was one of twelve athletic administrators to be inducted into the NIAAA Hall of Fame. The NIAAA Hall of Fame, which was created in 2009 to honor retired athletic administrators who had exemplary careers in athletic administration, has now inducted thirty-three members in its first three years of existence. The induction ceremony was the highlight of a gala conference banquet that was held in the Indianapolis Downtown Marriott on the evening of December 13th and attended by over 1,000 conference attendees, families and friends. Hall of Fame recipients received a beautiful crystal bowl from NIAAA President Annette Scogin and NIAAA Executive Director Bruce Whitehead. Each recipient was also showcased with a special video presentation that highlighted the recipient's achievements at the local, state and national levels.

Mengold, who is currently in his 28th year as Director of Athletics at Amity Regional High School, was honored at the conference luncheon on Monday, December 12th, with a National Federation (NFHS) Citation Award. The NFHS Citation is presented each year by the National Federation of State High School Associations to outstanding athletic administrators in recognition of contributions to interscholastic athletics at the local, state and national levels. Mengold received his award from NFHS Executive Director Bob Gardner and NFHS President Rick Wulkow. He was one of eight athletic administrators to receive the NFHS Citation in 2011. Each NFHS Citation recipient received a beautiful silver dish and like the NIAAA Hall of Fame recipients, were highlighted with a special video presentation that showcased the accomplishments of the award winners.

In addition to the conference awards banquets, the Connecticut delegation, headed by CAAD President Trish Witkin, attended numerous workshops and seminars dealing with a myriad of interscholastic issues, par-

ticipated in NIAAA state and national meetings, and visited with the many sporting goods manufacturers and businesses in the NIAAA Exhibition Hall. Returning to a time-honored tradition at the closing NIAAA meeting and state door prize drawing, CAAD donated a Hitchcock Chair that was won by a lucky conference attendee. The conference closed with a special presentation from Texas regarding next year's conference which will be held in San Antonio.

Clockwise from right: Paul Mengold and Fred Balsamo share the spotlight at a reception hosted by CAAD; CAAD President Trish Witkin addresses conference attendees at the NIAAA annual meeting; Connecticut contingent joins Paul Mengold after he received NFHS Citation; Fred Balsamo and NIAAA Executive Director Bruce Whitehead share a moment at the awards banquet.



... more caad news

CAAD SPONSORS NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR WORKSHOPS

By John Krot, Athletic Director, Killingly High School

The position of athletic director has become more and more demanding in recent years. Over this same period, the number of new athletic directors has increased. In an effort to support and assist colleagues who are new to the position and those who have been in the position for less than four years, the Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors has promoted and provided various in-service workshops for these new athletic administrators.

The most recent in-service workshop took place in early October at the CAAD General Breakfast Meeting held at the Rocky Hill Marriott. Following the meeting, new athletic directors were invited to take part in a round-table discussion involving veteran ADs moderated by Joe Canzanella (New Haven Schools). The new athletic directors had the opportunity to ask various questions about issues and concerns that they have had to deal with on the job. The hour-long round table discussion provided valuable practical information for the new athletic directors as well as much insight into the current position of athletic director.

On January 11, CAAD will host its annual mid-year review for new athletic directors (on the job for 1-3 years). This year's workshop will combine presentations from Matt Fisher (CIAC on-line website), Fred Balsamo (Connecticut Coaching Certification and NIAAA Leadership Training and Certification Program), and Paul Hoey (CIAC Rules & Regulations Update with a question / answer panel discussion with current CAAD members). There is no cost for the workshop and CEU's will be awarded. For more information, call the CAAD office, 203-651-3921 or visit http://www.casciac.org/pdfs/Newer_Athletic_Directors_Workshop.pdf.



John Krot

2010-11 CAAD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD ANNOUNCED

By John Krot, Athletic Director
Killingly High School

Hartford Public High School's Junior Varsity baseball team is this year's recipients of the *CAAD Sportsmanship Award* for its display of true and genuine sportsmanship in a baseball game with Enrico Fermi High School.

Here's the story. In the bottom of the sixth inning with Enrico Fermi winning, the Hartford Public pitcher was facing a situation with two runners on base and two outs. Enrico Fermi sent to the plate a special needs student-athlete, Bryan Cressotti. What took place next was very special. The Hartford Public pitcher proceeded to pitch to the Fermi batter in such a way to allow him to hit the ball. The pitcher and the Hartford Public team offered encouragement to the Fermi player. After missing a few pitches, Bryan fouled a few pitches off. After a few more pitches, Bryan went back to the bench. As Bryan was going back to the bench, both teams, coaches, umpires and fans cheered as if he had hit a game winning shot. The entire Hartford Public team stood and gave Bryan an additional round of applause as did his own team. When the game ended, both teams shook hands and showed their appreciation of each other - a display of sportsmanship at its finest.

As Paul Newton, principal of Enrico Fermi High School, put it, "I want to thank and congratulate the coaching staff and players from Hartford Public High School for this supreme act of sportsmanship. You all should be extremely proud of your acts during this game. This is truly the essence of what high school sports are about. Years from now no one will remember wins or losses, but they will definitely remember events. This act of sportsmanship is truly that - an event that will be remembered and celebrated in the memories of all of those players and coaches for years to come. HPHS coaches and players, thanks so much for creating lifelong memories for everyone present that afternoon."

For this act of true sportsmanship, the CAAD board voted unanimously to present the Hartford Public JV baseball team with this honor.

2012 Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors, Inc. Award Recipients

◆ *CAAD Distinguished Service Award* ◆
David Schulz - Fairfield Ludlowe High School

◆ *NIAAA State Award of Merit* ◆
Matthew Perachi - Shepaug Valley High School

◆ *Robert Duncanson "Meritorious Service Award"* ◆
Jeanne Cooper - Hamden High School

NIAAA Certificates of Merit (Service Awards):

15 -	Jay Cottone	Wethersfield High School
15 -	Anthony Jaskot	Xavier Catholic High School
15 -	Richard Katz	Platt High School
15 -	Gus Lindine	Greenwich High School
20 -	John Krot	Killingly High School
20 -	Gary Makowicki	Norwich Free Academy
30 -	Paula Fitzgerald	Westbrook Junior-Senior High School
30 -	Tracy Nichols	Trinity Catholic High School
35 -	Mark Snyder	Prince Technical High School

NFHS RELEASES SPORTS INJURY DATA

The 2011-12 school year marks the sixth year that the annual National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) High School Sports-related Injury Surveillance Study has been conducted. Data compiled during this six-year period originated with nine sports (football, boys soccer, boys basketball, wrestling, baseball, girls soccer, volleyball, girls basketball and softball) from 100 randomly selected high schools in the United States. Since that time, the study has expanded to include nine additional sports (boys lacrosse, ice hockey, boys swimming and diving, boys track and field, girls field hockey, girls gymnastics, girls lacrosse, girls swimming and diving, and girls track and field), as well as including cheerleading and boys volleyball for the second year in a row.

The surveillance study was put into place to capture a large amount of detailed data on injuries, number of athletic exposures and injury event information. This year, the surveillance study's findings showed that while injury rates varied by sport, competition injury rates were higher than practice injury rates for all but three (boys volleyball and swimming, and cheerleading) of the 20 sports studied. Patterns of injury also varied by sport, where the head/face, ankle and knee were commonly injured body sites in most sports, and strains/sprains were the most-common injury diagnoses in all but two sports (boys ice hockey and cheerleading).

Across the 20 sports in the surveillance study, five to 19 percent of injuries kept student-athletes out of play for more than three weeks, and up to 15 percent of injuries required surgery. Most injury patterns have remained relatively stable over time. However, concussions have increased during the first five years of the study from a low of 8.4 percent in 2006-07 to a high of 14 percent in 2009-10. In 2010-11, diagnoses of concussions have risen to 20 percent, which may reflect an increase in concussion incidence. However, it more likely might be due to the ongoing efforts of the NFHS and the sports medicine community across the nation in raising concussion awareness. (From *High School Today*, November 2011)

NCAA Vote, *continued from page 8*

Those who don't want those events (that is, supporters of the proposal) say they are being planned and operated to help institutions with recruiting but that college coaches are being leveraged to help event operators arrange for discounted operational costs under the threat that event operators will take the event (and all of the prospects) to another institution's campus.

The Division I National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee opposed the override, agreeing that recruiting advantages were significant for schools that host such events.

The Recruiting and Athletics Personnel Issues Cabinet sponsored similar legislation for the 2011-12 cycle relating to women's basketball at the request of the Women's Basketball Issues Committee and the Women's Basketball Coaches Association. The membership's vote on the override of men's basketball issue will be instructive to the legislative council in that regard.

Schools that submitted override requests cited the loss of revenue potential as their primary concern.



INVESTORS IN CT YOUTH



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- ★ Baden Sports ★
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- ★ Big Y Supermarkets ★
- ★ Bob's Stores ★
- ★ Coca Cola ★
- ★ CT Lighting Centers ★
- ★ CT National Guard ★
- ★ Connecticut Sun ★
- ★ Dattco ★
- ★ Dick's Sporting Goods ★
- ★ Digital Back Office ★
- ★ ESPN ★
- ★ Grynn & Barrett Studios ★
- ★ Horace Mann ★
- ★ IGA / Bozzutos ★
- ★ Jostens ★
- ★ Liberty Mutual ★
- ★ MaxPreps ★
- ★ McDonald's ★
- ★ People's United Bank ★
- ★ PureTech Water ★
- ★ Rawlings ★
- ★ Sodexo ★
- ★ Spalding ★
- ★ Subway ★
- ★ Team IP ★
- ★ U.S. Marine Corp ★
- ★ Wilson Sporting Goods ★