The past two years and the next several years in education promise to be tumultuous. Or challenging??? Or BOTH???

Whichever, it certainly is an exciting time to be an educator.

Things that have not changed since the 1800's are NOW changing.

Decisions made today will have far reaching effects for our students, for us as educators, for our state, country and the world.

With these changes, we realize that we, too, must be flexible and willing to change

We must be more **AWARE**: of policies, laws, politics and politicians who often establish the tone and set the footprints for our paths forward

We must be **INFORMED**: to really understand the pros and cons being discussed and to be able to have serious and meaningful discourse about education and educational leadership

And we must be **HEARD:** we must have a voice

The CT Association of Schools **(CAS)** takes such a strong lead in these areas: Awareness, Information, Voice for US!

**CAS** has…

…helped us as administrators to strengthen our leadership skills and strategies;

…offered camaraderie in sharing our stories as we worked through SBAC, SEED and teacher eval, CC standards;

…allowed us to network so that we have colleagues and mentors we can call on whenever and for whatever we are facing in our schools;

…and, CAS has especially listened to our input and viewpoints.

And because CAS is a respected and valued member at the table, through CAS, we can be heard and have a voice and we  can make an IMPACT!

So while it is more difficult than ever to find time to be at meetings, it is also more CRITICAL than ever to do so.

I hope you will continue to keep CAS on your calendar, where we can share, vent and learn….and GROW all together.

We can continue to be educational leaders who use **new resources** in our work, keep our **passion** for education fresh, and continue to **inspire** our teachers and our students.