The thinking abilities of children are the most valuable resource of our nation. Recent research continues to show that boys and girls possess potential for many kinds of talents, or thinking abilities, which are important to success in the work-a-day world and in school. These talents include productive thinking, communicating, creative problem solving, and decision making.

The goal of this conference is to demonstrate the use of a multiple-talent approach in helping each child find his/her best way of developing leadership skills. We want each child attending the conference to be able to look into the future and make intelligent guesses as to what might happen, not wild guesses, but guesses that are based on real-life happenings.

To predict things that might happen and to effectively look into the future, a child needs to know what the details of the situation are: What must be considered before action is taken; what the effects of the actions will be; and how the actions might affect others.

Our schools are continually in need of successful, positive student leaders who can guide their peers and serve as role models. The purpose of this conference is to provide students with an opportunity to develop skills needed to be effective leaders. Students will participate in hands-on activities designed to foster leadership skills in productive thinking, decision making, communication, and creative problem solving.
Activities used to help develop a child’s skill in making predictions are the subject of each of the following strands:

**Productive Thinking**
A productive thinker must be an inventor who thinks of new ideas, new ways of looking at his/her world, and new ways of solving problems.

**Communication**
Communication training involves six different but related skills. They are: descriptions, comparisons, feelings, empathy, nonverbal, and network of ideas.

**Decision Making**
In everyone’s life, there is a need to make decisions. Some are of a split-second nature while others are long-range. It has been found that in training a child to make good decisions, four main skills are helpful: 1) Have the child think of many possible things he/she can do; 2) Ask the child to think more carefully about each of these things; 3) Let the child choose one; and 4) Have the child give you many different reasons for his choice.

**Creative Problem Solving**
Creative Problem Solvers use multiple approaches to arrive at solutions. In addition to hypothetical proposed solutions based upon observations, they “go out of the box” to find new and exciting ways to problem solve.

**Registration Information**
- Registration will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Registration Fee is $90.00 per CAS member school which covers one team of six (6) students, advisor, and parents.
- All four programs sell out, so register early!
- Non-Member Fee is $175.00
- Participants are strongly encouraged to wear their school colors, spirit tee-shirts, etc.

**You Must Register To Attend!!**

Make Checks Payable to: CAS
Connecticut Association of Schools
30 Realty Drive
Cheshire, Connecticut 06410
Attention: Barbara O’Connor

No Refunds will be made after December 16, 2016