

Spring, 2011

Memorandum to: NHS/NJHS Advisors

From: Don Gates, Executive Director—CANHS

Re: 13th Annual CANHS Conference Attendees

Thank you for registering for our May 16th annual honor society conference at the Hartford Marriott Hotel located in Rocky Hill, CT.

After the keynote address, students will be participating in table talk discussions during two one-hour time blocks. The purpose of these conversations will be to share effective strategies that have worked in their respective schools that, as a result, will insure each student participant taking back to their own school fresh ideas that support their interest in the specific table talk discussion in which they were engaged. In the first time block, scheduled from 9:30—10:30 am, students will be asked to prioritize their top 3 out of the 10 topics that they will pursue in a deeper discussion. During the 2nd hour, scheduled from 10:45-11:45 am, students will identify 2 different topics from the listing of 10 and follow the same procedures as they did during the first session. Also, during the second hour from 11:25 until 11:45 all sub-groups will report out the results to all conference participants. The ideas generated in support of each topic will be sent to all honor society chapters with the hope that many of the suggestions can support chapter initiatives as related to the various topics.

Attached to this memorandum is a form that we are asking you do duplicate and distribute to students in your school that will be attending this conference. We ask that students come to the conference having identified a minimum of 3 ideas/suggestions that support each discussion group session that they will be participating in.

We are fortunate that Associate Director, David Cordts from the National Association of Secondary Principals will be attending our conference. When students are participating in table talk discussions, Mr. Cordts will be holding informational meetings with honor society advisors. This will be a wonderful opportunity to hear what is happening on the national level, to be brought up to date on honor society guidelines and to also participate in a Q & A session relative to specific inquiries you may have that would support your responsibilities as a chapter advisor.

You are encouraged to have your students attending the conference participate in different “table talk discussion groups”. This would insure participants contributing what works well specific to the topic in your school and also help spread new ideas that could support efforts to strengthen your own organization.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please feel free to email me at donwgates@att.net. I would be happy to provide any assistance to ensure that you and your students enjoy a great conference experience.

TABLE TALK DISCUSSION WORKSHEET

Name: _____

School: _____

Topic: _____

1.

2.

3.

(You are being asked to complete this form for each of the five table talk discussions you will be participating in during the conference workshop from 9:30—11:20 am.)

Advisors—please make multiple copies to distribute to conference attendees—each attendee is asked to complete 5 forms (one for each discussion group topic they will be attending) and to bring the completed forms to the conference on May 16th.