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June 20, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS APPOINTS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CHESHIRE -- Mr. Glenn Lungarini, principal of Pomperaug High School in Southbury, has been selected as the next executive director of the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS). Lungarini will replace Dr. Karissa Niehoff who has been leading CAS for the past eight years and will be assuming the position of executive director of the National Federation of State High School Associations on August 1. Lungarini comes to CAS after serving 19 years in public education as a coach, teacher, department chair, athletic director, assistant principal and principal. He was chosen from among four finalists following a rigorous selection process which included two in-person interviews, a writing sample and a mock media interview.

“While the four final candidates were all highly qualified leaders and the decision was a difficult one, we are excited to bring Mr. Lungarini on board to continue and expand on all the great work that Karissa has undertaken and achieved during her 8-year tenure,” said Dr. Rosie Vojtek, CAS President and chair of the selection committee. “Mr. Lungarini’s extensive experience as a coach and athletic director make him exceptionally well qualified to handle the challenges of running the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC), our largest and most high-profile division. Additionally, having taught at the elementary, middle and high school levels, he has a deep understanding of the needs of students across the K-12 spectrum. We are thrilled to have him as CAS’ next leader!”

Lungarini began his career in 1999 as a health and physical educator at Cross Street School in Naugatuck, CT, and went on to teach physical education at both Rochambeau Middle School and Pomperaug Regional High School in Southbury, CT. In 2007, Lungarini was appointed assistant principal and athletic director of Oxford High School, his childhood hometown. During his five-year tenure at Oxford High School he also served as English department chair, health and physical education department chair, and facilities coordinator. In 2012, he was named principal of Seymour High School where he served for two years. In 2014, Lungarini’s educational journey came full circle as he was appointed principal of Pomperaug High School. On August 1, 2018, Lungarini will succeed Dr. Niehoff as CAS Executive Director.

“I am honored and excited to accept the position as the next executive director of CAS. Throughout the selection and hiring process, my interest in the work of the association and my passion for its mission have continued to grow,” said Lungarini. “I am eager to start working with fellow practitioners as I carry forward Dr. Niehoff’s commitment to improve opportunities and outcomes for all Connecticut learners. Together we can push the limits of success to achieve outcomes beyond our current beliefs.”

In addition to his broad range of teaching and administrative experiences, Lungarini has also enjoyed an extensive athletic career. His coaching career has included experiences with boys and girls at the middle school, high school, and Division I collegiate level. The former Yale Bulldogs' hitting instructor, Lungarini also enjoyed a stellar college career at Eastern Connecticut State University. His resume includes first baseman and number four hitter on the 1998 Division III national championship team. He was named All-ECAC, All-New England and all-conference at first base. He held the New England Division III record for chances and held the ECSU record for chances, putouts, home runs in a game and total bases. He also earned two consecutive team Gold Glove Awards at ECSU ('97 and '98). Lungarini served as an assistant coach at Yale for seven years and is an outstanding teacher of the game.

Lungarini continues to grow as a learner as he pursues his doctorate in educational leadership at Northcentral University. He has led professional development workshops on student-centered learning, block scheduling, qualitative assessment measurement, and infusion of critical thinking, innovative problem solving skills.

Lungarini's previous work with CAS-CIAC has included services on the following boards and committees:

- CIAC Board of Control – Class S Representative (2012-2014)
- CIAC Board of Control – Class L Representative (2014-2016)
- CIAC Eligibility Review Board (2017-2018)
- CIAC Co-op Committee (2017-2018)
- Cheerleading Committee (2012-2018)

Lungarini received a Bachelor of Science in physical education at ECSU in 1998, a Master of Science in exercise science and physiology from SCSU in 2006, and an O92 administrative certification from Sacred Heart University in 2006. His family includes his wife Marcy and daughters Sofia and Emily.

The Connecticut Association of Schools

Established in 1953, CAS is a non-profit educational organization working with Connecticut's school leaders to improve elementary and secondary education in Connecticut. CAS' core mission - to promote excellence in the education of all students - is achieved through advocacy, professional development, recognition and student programs. CAS represents nearly 900 of the state's public and parochial schools and is affiliated with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the Association for Middle Level Education, and the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

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