



CAS-CIAC TO INDUCT SIX INTO 2024 HALL OF HONOR

On Thursday evening, April 18, CAS-CIAC will induct a class of six individuals into its Hall of Honor. The induction ceremony will take place at the TPC River Highlands in Cromwell. The esteemed Hall of Honor class of 2023-2024 includes Joseph Canzanella, Dave Johnson, Dr. V. Everett Lyons, Jr, Dave Maloney, Dr. Rosie O'Brien Vojtek, and Dr. Steven Wysowski. This is the seventh class of inductees. The induction ceremony is open to the public and tickets may be purchased [online](#).

The CAS-CIAC Hall of Honor was established in 2015 to honor individuals who have made significant long-term contributions to CAS-CIAC. Candidates for induction are considered for their efforts in one of seven categories:

- Education Leadership
- Athletic Leadership
- Friend of Education
- Contribution to Education
- Contribution to Athletics
- Service to Education
- Service to Athletics

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Joseph Canzanella's professional life was dedicated to serving young people as a coach, teacher, principal, official, and athletic director. Through the years, Canzanella worked closely and collaboratively with the CIAC, including as Girls Basketball Tournament Director. He spent more than 30 years as a high school official in the sports of softball, basketball and football. As the citywide athletic director for New Haven his impact was profound. In 2019 he assumed the role of Executive Director of the Connecticut High School Coaches Association, holding that important leadership position until his passing in September of 2023. Joe's personality and enthusiasm for his profession made an impression on all who met him.



Dave Johnson is the highly decorated former athletic director at Bunnell High School in Stratford. Dave was Bunnell's AD from 1981 to 2015. During his 34-year tenure he served the Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors (CAAD) and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference in countless positions including as CAAD President, working on numerous CIAC sports committees, and as CIAC Girls Basketball Tournament Director. Johnson was named the National High School Athletic Coaches Association's (NHSACA) National Athletic Director of the Year in 2011, and was inducted into the CAAD Hall of Fame in 2023.

Dr. V. Everett Lyons began his career in education in 1972 as a language arts teacher in the Berlin Public Schools. He would rise to leadership positions, highlighted by a 25-year tenure as the principal of Bristol Eastern High School. Over the years he would serve CAS in a multitude of roles, including as Association president. In 1994, he was honored with a prestigious CAS Citation. Later in his career Lyons would join the CAS staff as Associate Director, before retiring in 2020. Active in civic affairs, Ev has been a member of the Bristol Lions Club for 25 years, serving in a variety of leadership roles.



Dave Maloney was an important, and longtime, contributor to both the Connecticut Association of Schools and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference. While coaching a highly successful girls basketball program at Branford High School that cracked the national Top 25 rankings, Dave began a long commitment to the CIAC Girls Basketball Committee that led to a 27-year run as CIAC Girls Basketball Tournament Director. In 2007 Maloney joined CAS-CIAC as Director of Student Activities, a position he held until his retirement in 2019. Highlights of Dave's work at CAS-CIAC include initiatives focused on leadership, diversity, anti-bullying, and sportsmanship. Maloney was honored with a prestigious CAS Citation in 2002.

Dr. RoseAnne O'Brien Vojtek left an indelible mark as the 20-year principal at Ivy Drive Elementary School in Bristol. Upon leaving Ivy Drive, Rosie joined CAS as an Assistant Executive Director, serving from 2019-2022. Rosie's efforts at CAS engaged Early childhood, Elementary, and Middle level principals and their schools in a meaningful and authentic way, particularly during the challenging pandemic days of remote learning and communication. Prior to joining the staff at CAS, Dr. Vojtek had gained a well-earned reputation as a tireless volunteer on CAS committees, culminating with service as CAS President from 2016 to 2018. In 2013, Rosie was awarded a CAS Citation, the highest honor given by the Association.



Dr. Steven Wysowski was as a Spanish teacher and multi-time state champion track coach at Bristol's St. Paul Catholic High School, when he first served CIAC by becoming a member of the Indoor and Outdoor Track Committees. Steve would later be named District Teacher of the Year while working at Canton High School. He'd go on to serve as principal at both Coginchaug Regional High School in Durham and Bristol Eastern High School during which time he was honored with a 2011 CAS Citation. Through the years Wysowski served on 13 CIAC boards and committees, including as chairperson for the Indoor and Outdoor Track Committees. Later in his career he would join the CIAC staff as Associate Executive Director. Highlights of his tenure include helping to organize a track officials association and overseeing creation of the CAS-CIAC Hall of Honor.