



Here is your invitation to nominate an outstanding
middle level educator as

CAS Middle Level Exemplary Educator

Purpose

Every middle level school in Connecticut has a number of outstanding professional educators, including classroom teachers, counselors and specialists. The purpose of this award is to give public recognition in Connecticut and nationally to a **CAS member middle level educator** who exemplifies the profession. Nominations may be made by any present or former member of the school staff or district central office personnel. The educator chosen will receive recognition in the media, in CAS publications and at a CAS sponsored ceremony in her/his community.

Eligibility

CAS recognizes that outstanding middle level educators create a classroom and school environment appropriate to the needs of the early adolescent. The following criteria will be used to determine the recipient of this award. Please note, however, that past recipients are not eligible.

1. Candidate must be a practicing educator of a **CAS member middle school** who exhibits the following:
 - a. Demonstrates excellence in teaching;
 - b. Demonstrates involvement with students, staff, and parents in and out of the classroom;
 - c. Demonstrates leadership within the profession.
2. The candidate should be in at least her/his fifth year as a practicing middle school educator in Connecticut and in at least the third year in his/her present position.
3. Each of the three areas on the accompanying nomination document must be addressed individually. The total response is limited to six pages (exclusive of Nomination Title Sheet).
4. Nominations must be accompanied by three (3) letters of recommendation, by any persons who are qualified to judge the professional performance of the candidate. Either the nomination or one of the three letters of recommendation **must be from the building principal**. Incomplete nominations will not be considered.
5. Finalists will be asked to write a one to two page reflective essay about his/her beliefs, motivations and/or experiences as a middle level educator.
6. The successful candidate will also be invited to share her/his expertise at a CAS sponsored workshop and/or writing for a CAS publication. The school district will be asked to release the Exemplary Educator for one or two school days for in-service and/or celebration activities.
7. Nominations must be postmarked or delivered to CAS **no later than February 24, 2012**.
8. Nominations should be sent to:

Mr. Earle G. Bidwell
Assistant Executive Director
Connecticut Association of Schools
30 Realty Drive
Cheshire, Connecticut 06410

Timeline Applications will be reviewed in March and finalists will be interviewed in May, 2012



CAS Middle Level Exemplary Educator of the Year Nomination Title Sheet

I nominate the following teacher to be the Connecticut Middle Level Exemplary Educator of the Year:

Name _____ Position _____

School _____

Address _____

Town _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Years in Present Position _____ Total Years in Profession _____

Attach three (3) TYPED letters of recommendation, (limit 2 pages each) by persons other than the nominator who are qualified to judge the nominee's professional performance. One must be from the building principal if she/he is not the nominator.

STATEMENT OF REASON FOR NOMINATION

1. Demonstrates Excellence in Teaching (i.e. How is the curriculum diversified to challenge all levels of ability within classroom; How is student learner assessed using multiple strategies; How are the needs of the student effectively met; How are a variety of instructional techniques utilized in the classroom)
2. Demonstrates Involvement with Students, Staff, and Parents in and out of the Classroom
3. Demonstrates Leadership within the Profession (i.e. Show what contributions and successes the teacher has provided to the team, school, and community through past and present involvements).

Typed Name of Nominator

Signature of Nominator

Position of Nominator

Telephone Number

E-Mail Address

Date Submitted

Application must be postmarked by or delivered to CAS by **February 24, 2012**. Send completed nomination to:

Mr. Earle G. Bidwell
Assistant Executive Director
Connecticut Association of Schools
30 Realty Drive
Cheshire, Connecticut 06410



CAS Middle Level Exemplary Educator of the Year Letter of Recommendation Title Sheet

Name of Nominee _____

School _____

Address _____ Town _____

This recommendation must address specifically the below-listed criteria in sequence. General statements will not suffice. Please limit response to two pages (exclusive of this title page).

CRITERIA

The candidate:

- A. Demonstrates Excellence in Teaching (i.e. How is the curriculum diversified to challenge all levels of ability within classroom; How is student learner assessed using multiple strategies; How are the needs of the student effectively met; How are a variety of instructional techniques utilized in the classroom)
- B. Demonstrates Involvement with Students, Staff, and Parents in and out of the Classroom
- C. Demonstrates Leadership within the Profession (i.e. Show what contributions and successes the teacher has provided to the team, school, and community through past and present involvements)

Typed Name of Recommender

Signature of Recommender

Address

Position of Recommender

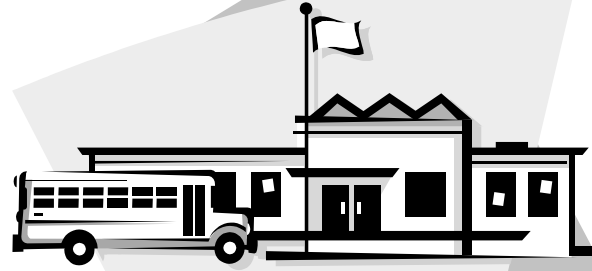
Telephone Number

E-Mail Address

Date Submitted

Here is your invitation to nominate an outstanding CAS middle level school as

CAS Middle School of the Year



Nominations may be made by any present or former member of the school staff or by district central office personnel

Purpose

To give public recognition in Connecticut and nationally to an outstanding **CAS member middle level school** that represents the best in the profession.

The school chosen will receive recognition in the media, in CAS publications and at a CAS sponsored ceremony in their community.

Eligibility

The following criteria will be used to determine the recipient of this award.

1. The school must be a **member of CAS** and exhibit the following “Best Practices.”
 - Evidence of a safe and healthy school environment
 - Evidence that the school involves parents and the community in supporting student learning and healthy development*
 - Student services that go beyond those that are part of a typical school, i.e. clubs, activities, support services, extra help for those who need it
 - Evidence that the school’s educational programs are consistently being reviewed and improved.
 - A researched based curriculum with appropriate assessment grounded in standards
 - Instructional methods and strategies designed to prepare students to meet high standards
 - Teaming practices that drive instruction
 - Personalization of the school environment
 - Collaborative leadership and professional learning communities
2. Previous winners may not apply for a period of five years and must clearly show significant change from the previous application. Finalists {schools receiving site visits} must wait until the third school year following the visit before re-applying. Schools not selected as finalists are welcome to re-apply at any time.
3. Each of the eight criteria listed above must be individually addressed in narrative form. The total response must not exceed 10 pages (12 point font/single spaced).
4. A copy of the strategic school profile must accompany the application (not included in the ten page application maximum).
5. A copy of the student/parent handbook must also accompany the application (not counted in the ten page application maximum)
6. The application will be judged solely on the printed application and requested documents. Please do not reference or send additional materials
7. Applications must be delivered to CAS or postmarked no later than **February 24, 2012**.
8. The winning school will be invited to share exemplary practices and programs with other CAS middle level schools by offering CAS workshops, writing for CAS publications and/or welcoming visitors to their school.
9. Nominations should be submitted to:

Mr. Earle G. Bidwell
Assistant Executive Director
Connecticut Association of Schools
30 Realty Drive
Cheshire, Connecticut 06410

Timeline Applications will be reviewed in March and April and two finalists will be visited in May, 2012.



CAS Middle School of the Year *Nomination Title Sheet*

I nominate the following school to be the Connecticut Middle Level School of the Year 2012-2013:

School _____

Address _____

Town _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Typed Name of Nominator

Signature of Nominator

Position of Nominator

Telephone Number

Address

E-Mail Address

Date Submitted

Deadline for submission: **February 24, 2012 (delivered to CAS or postmarked)**

Send completed nomination to: Mr. Earle G. Bidwell, Assistant Executive Director
The Connecticut Association of Schools
30 Realty Drive, Cheshire, Connecticut 06410

For CAS Use Only:

Date Received _____ Criteria Addressed _____

No. of Pages _____ Handbook _____ SSP _____