



Connecticut Principals Meet with Members of Congress, Advocate for Support for Public Education

Principals from Connecticut recently visited the nation's capital, joining nearly 400 K-12 educators and leaders from across the country for the National Association of Elementary School Principals' ([NAESP](#)) National Leaders Conference and the National Association of Secondary School Principals' ([NASSP](#)) Advocacy Conference. The joint conferences allowed for deeper peer connections and helped school leaders recognize how they're uniquely positioned to demand better education.

Representing Connecticut were:

- Michael Litke, Naubuc School, Glastonbury
- Scott Nozik, West Hill Elementary School, Rocky Hill
- Vickie Reed, Highland School, Wallingford
- Al Sackey, Nathan Hale Middle School, Norwalk
- Beth Smith, Shelton High School
- Jill Hale, CAS Assistant Director for Elementary Programs and Services
- Glenn Lungarini, CAS Executive Director
- Karen Packtor, CAS Assistant Executive Director

Educational leaders from across the country advocated on behalf of principals, schools, and students to ensure that lawmakers support public education and do what's right for American education. Connecticut's principals took the needs of Connecticut's schools directly to congressional leaders to discuss pressing issues, including school safety and federal education funding.

The Connecticut team visited the offices of Senators Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy and Representatives Joe Courtney, Rosa DeLauro, Jahana Hayes, Jim Himes, and John Larson. The staff of each of these legislators met with the CT team and discussed educational concerns across the country and specific to Connecticut. The delegation members advocated for increased funding for ESSA and other federal grant programs, amending the Higher Education Act to strengthen principal recruitment, expanding access to early childhood education, and boosting school-based mental health services.

“Principals can provide key insights on the issues that affect our nation's schools, such as school safety and social-emotional learning,” said NAESP's executive director, Dr. L. Earl Franks, CAE. “By sharing their expertise with lawmakers, school leaders have the power to shape legislation impacting these critical issues.”

See more of the action on Twitter at [#naespNLC](#) and [#PrincipalsAdvocate](#) or check out our [photo gallery!](#)