

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.”
 - An educational curriculum grounded in standards, relevant to adolescents’ concerns, and based on how students learn best, and use a mix of assessment methods*
 - Evidence of instructional methods that prepare all students to meet high standards*
 - Evidence of a safe and healthy school environment*
 - Evidence of appropriate relationships for learning to ensure a caring community of shared educational purpose*
 - Evidence of an organization that governs democratically and involves all staff members*
 - 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.

* Based on “Turning Points 2000” recommendations

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. The winning school will be invited to share exemplary practices and programs with other CAS middle level schools by offering CAS workshops, writing for “IMPACT,” *Connecticut’s Journal for Middle Level Educators* and/or welcoming visitors to their school.
5. A copy of the strategic school profile must accompany the application (not included in the ten page application maximum).
6. A copy of the student/parent handbook must also accompany the application (not counted in the ten page application maximum)
7. Applications must be delivered to CAS or postmarked no later than **February 28, 2006**.
8. Nominations should be submitted to:

Mr. Earle G. Bidwell
Connecticut Association of Schools
30 Realty Drive
Cheshire, CT 06410

Timeline Applications will be reviewed in March and April and two finalists will be visited in May of 2006.

CAS Middle School of the Year

Nomination Title Sheet

I nominate the following school to be the Connecticut Middle Level School of the Year 2006-2007:

School _____

Address _____

Town _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Typed Name of Nominator

Signature of Nominator

Position of Nominator

Telephone Number/Date Submitted

Deadline for submission: February 28, 2006 (delivered to CAS or postmarked)

Send completed nomination to:

Mr. Earle G. Bidwell
Connecticut Association of Schools
30 Realty Drive
Cheshire, CT 06410

| CAS Use Only | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Date received | _____ |
| # of pages | _____ |
| # Criteria addressed | _____ |
| Handbook | _____ |
| SSP | _____ |