

**THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS**  
*The Sixty-Fifth Annual Meeting*  
June 2017

2016-2017 Annual Report  
**HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION**

*Submitted by Michael Foran, Chair, High School Board of Control*

Highlights of the 2016-17 school year include:

- **Redesigned SAT and PSAT:** For several years, the High School Board of Control has invited Alan Bernstein of the College Board to present various workshops on the redesign of the SAT and PSAT to align with SBAC, a workshop that proved so popular that it was followed by additional workshops. This year's workshops included 6 Redesigned SAT Overview sessions and a special session devoted to the use of PSAT at both the high and middle school levels. All sessions were well attended.
- **New England Association of Schools and Colleges:** This year, we scheduled two NEASC workshops. Our first session was in the format of the past several years; however, we redesigned the second session with assistance from NEASC staff to reflect more specific content and also to focus on the accreditation changes for the 2020 schools. The new redesign featured NEASC staff working collaboratively with a number of Connecticut principals who recently had led the accreditation process in their respective schools. This year, more than a dozen Connecticut high schools attended.
- **Alternate High Schools' Convening:** On January 10, 2017, CAS hosted a convening of the school leaders for alternate high school programs in conjunction with the Connecticut State Department of Education. Alternative school and program leaders were introduced to significant data collected by the CSDE about the status of alternative secondary programs in the staff. It is hoped that this initial convening will serve as a foundation for additional work in the future with this subset of educational leaders.
- **High School Arts Awards Banquet:** On April 4, 2017, CAS, along with sponsors Jostens and Bearingstar Insurance, honored 297 students from 149 member high schools at the 22nd Annual High School Arts Awards Banquet. This year's keynote speaker was Professor Jaime Spillane, Director of choral music at UCONN Chamber Singers who interwove performances by the UCONN throughout his remarks. A new format for the presentation of the student awards, a table-centered, personalized approach in lieu of the more formal group procession was met with great positive reaction from the participants.
- **Governor's Scholars Program:** Revisions were made to the application process this year with the submission of the required essay via an online process. As indicated in last year's report, the PSAT results were used to provide greater uniformity within the selection process. Berchem, Moses & Devlin, P.C. continued as the program's sponsor. Student recipients were honored at the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Governor's Scholars Luncheon on May 18, 2017.