

PLEASE POST

An Invitation to Nominate a Middle Level School as Outstanding CAS Middle School of the Year 2005-2006

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 media recognition, recognition in CAS publications and local recognition 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. Nominations may be made by any present or former member of the school staff or by district central office personnel.
3. 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.
4. 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).
5. The winning school must be willing 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.
6. A copy of the strategic school profile **must** accompany the application (not included in the ten page application maximum).
7. A copy of the student/parent handbook **must** also accompany the application (not counted in the ten page application maximum)
8. Applications must be delivered to CAS or postmarked no later than **March 4, 2005**.
9. 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 2005.

CAS Middle School of the Year 2005-2006

Nomination Title Sheet

I nominate the following school to be the Connecticut Middle Level School of the Year 2005-2006:

School _____

Address _____

Town _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Typed Name of Nominator

Signature of Nominator

Position of Nominator

Telephone Number/Date Submitted

Deadline for submission: March 4, 2005 (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 | _____ |

PLEASE POST

An Invitation to Nominate a Middle Level Teacher as Outstanding CAS Middle Level Teacher of the Year 2005-2006

Purpose

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

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

Eligibility

CAS recognizes that outstanding middle level teachers 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 teacher 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 teacher in Connecticut and in at least the third year in his/her present position.
3. Nominations may be made by any present or former member of the school staff or district central office personnel.
4. 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).
5. 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.
6. Each candidate must write a one to two page reflective essay about his/her beliefs, motivations and/or experiences as a middle level teacher.
7. The successful candidate will be expected to share expertise through CAS sponsored workshops and/or "Impact," *The Journal for Middle Level Educators*. Furthermore, the sponsoring school district must agree to release the "Teacher of the Year" for up to 3 school days for in-service and/or celebration activities.
8. Nominations must be postmarked or delivered to CAS **no later than March 4, 2005**.
9. Nominations should be sent to:

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

Timeline Applications will be reviewed in March and finalists will be interviewed in May 2005

Middle Level Teacher of the Year 2005-2006

Nomination Title Sheet

I nominate the following person to be the Connecticut Middle Level School Teacher of the Year 2005-06:

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.

Typed Name of Nominator

Signature of Nominator

Position of Nominator

Telephone Number/Date Submitted

Application must be postmarked by or delivered to CAS by March 4, 2005
Send completed nomination to:

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

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).

CAS Middle Level Teacher of the Year

Letter of Recommendation Title Sheet

Name of Nominee _____

School _____ 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)

Date: _____

Signature of Recommender

Position

Address

Telephone
