



The Connecticut Association of Schools

And



Welcome You To The

2016

Volunteer

Recognition Banquet

March 7, 2016

Aqua Turf Club

Plantsville, CT

Connecticut Association of Schools

2016 Volunteer Recognition Banquet

Cash Bar 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. - Program Begins at 6:00 p.m.

Welcome ***Rick Watson***, Principal
Albert D. Griswold Middle School, Rocky Hill
Chair, CAS Volunteer Recognition Banquet Planning Committee

Greeting ***Donna Schilke***, Principal
Smith Middle School, Glastonbury
President, Connecticut Association of Schools

Greeting ***Rich Adinolfi***, Assistant Regional Vice President
Connecticut ***Horace Mann Insurance***

Introduction ***Steven LePage***, Principal
Plainville High School, Plainville
Distinguished Friend of Education Award

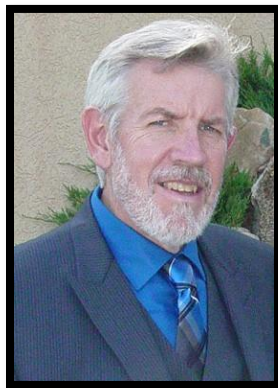
Distinguished Friend of Education Awards

Established in 1983, the Distinguished Friends of Education Award honors a person, organization, or corporation for outstanding service to education in Connecticut

**Presentation
Of Award** **Neil Rinaldi**, Principal, Ellington High School
 William Prenetta, English Teacher, Ellington High School

Distinguished Friend of Education - Individual Category

Robert C. Williams
Ellington, Connecticut



For the past eight years, **Robert C. Williams** has been serving as the volunteer technical director for the Opening Knight Players, Ellington High School's Drama Club. During that time, he has also served as the club's director, master electrician, executive board member, and set designer. His expertise and energy, so eagerly and selflessly shared, have helped elevate the quality of theatrical productions at Ellington High School and strengthen the cultural community in the greater Ellington area. Under his tutelage, the Opening Knight Players have earned five "Best Play" honors and dozens of technical awards at the annual Connecticut Drama Festival. A model of integrity, patience, and goodwill, Mr. Williams has become the second father to hundreds of EHS drama students over the years, many of whom have gone on to successful careers in theater.

Distinguished Friend of Education - Corporate Category

Presentation Of Award

Mark Ambruso, Principal, Windham High School

James Cardin, Department Head, Manufacturing Technology
Windham Technical High School

Alpha Q, Inc.
Colchester, Connecticut

Richard J. Hurley, Vice President & CFO/General Manager



Alpha Q, Inc., a Colchester-based manufacturing company, has maintained a long-standing and vital school-business partnership with Windham Technical High School, providing a wealth of talent, resources and opportunities to the WTHS students and school community. For more than 15 years, Alpha Q, Inc., has donated equipment, manpower, and expertise that have enriched the learning experiences of WTHS students and staff and brought many rewards to the larger community. WTHS students have benefitted from field trips, presentations, work-based learning and long-term employment opportunities; and, staff have received critical professional development on current industry trends and needs. An altruistic and influential corporate citizen, Alpha Q also works closely with other high schools and area colleges to prepare the next generation of skilled workers for careers in the manufacturing industry. It has been hailed as an international leader and trailblazer in developing a globally competitive, 21st century workforce.

Dinner



**Introduction of
Keynote Speaker**

Rick Watson, Principal
Albert D. Griswold Middle School, Rocky Hill
Chair, CAS Volunteer Recognition Banquet Planning Committee

Dianna R. Wentzell
Commissioner of Education



Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell has been an educator in Connecticut for over 25 years. She was appointed as Commissioner of Education by Governor Dannel P. Malloy in April, 2015, after serving as Interim Commissioner since January, 2015. Dr. Wentzell began her career in education as a social studies teacher and later as a teacher for gifted students.

Before her appointment as interim commissioner, she served as the State Department of Education's chief academic officer, overseeing the Bureau of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, and the Standards Implementation Division. Before joining the Department, Dr. Wentzell served as assistant superintendent of schools in Hartford and in district leadership positions with a focus on curriculum, instruction, and assessment in both South Windsor and the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) magnet schools.

Dr. Wentzell has a bachelor's degree in Russian studies from Mount Holyoke College, a master's degree in educational leadership from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Hartford.

Presentation of CAS Volunteer Recognition Awards

Laurie Boske, Principal, Brownstone Intermediate School, Portland



Concluding Remarks

Music Provided By Kim Quinn

Music Teacher at Albert D. Griswold Middle School, Rocky Hill

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Teacher Appreciation and Recognition Programs

***Volunteer Recognition Program Committee
2015-2016***

Committee Chair: ***Rick Watson***, Principal
Albert D. Griswold Middle School, Rocky Hill

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- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <i>Regina Birdsell</i> | Connecticut Association of Schools |
| <i>Laurie Boske</i> | Brownstone Intermediate School, Portland |
| <i>Stephanie Ford</i> | Connecticut Association of Schools |
| <i>Kent Hurlburt</i> | Buttonball Lane School, Glastonbury |
| <i>Scott Jeffrey</i> | Essex Elementary School, Centerbrook |
| <i>Renata Lantos</i> | CAS Executive Facilitator |
| <i>Eric Larson</i> | Burr District Elementary School, Higganum |
| <i>Steve LePage</i> | Plainville High School, Plainville |
| <i>Veronica Wilkison</i> | North Stonington Elementary School |

Emma Hart Willard School, Berlin

Honorees: Kelly Jakiel, Nicole Sliney

Kelly Jakiel is an enthusiastic volunteer who takes the time to support the school community any way she can. She is always seen during and after school working tirelessly to make Willard a better place.

Nicole Sliney is a positive, dedicated worker who has been volunteering at Willard school helping teachers, running errands, and working with students. She is a great supporter of Willard School and does whatever she can to make things a little easier for us all.

Mary E. Griswold Elementary School, Berlin

Honorees: Kim Downes, Peggy Loehr, Gina Munch, Ally Riedel

Mary E. Griswold Elementary School is very pleased to recognize *Kim Downes, Peggy Loehr, Gina Munch, and Ally Riedel* for all of their contributions to our school. They have served in various roles in our Parents' Club and have been active classroom and library volunteers. They have worked at our Holiday Extravaganza, sold pies, volunteered at book fairs, and ran dances. They have arranged for groups to perform at the school, and hosted "Pizza Night" fundraisers. They have served on the Parent Advisory Council to the Superintendent. They have helped us on School Climate Teams and with "Tools for Schools" Walk-Throughs. And that list is not exhaustive. Above all, they continually showed their support for the students at Griswold School. Whenever we needed a hand, they were willing to lend one. We are indebted to them for all that they have done for our school.

The Bethany Community School, Bethany

Honorees: Julie Grosso, Susan Thomas

Julie Grosso has volunteered for the past ten years at the Bethany Community School. The past two years she has served on the PTO executive committee as the vice-president. Since 2006, Julie has volunteered at several PTO family fun events, as chaperone, baker, or photographer. She is an active participant in the BOE meetings, and serves as the PTO liaison to the BOE. For the past two years Julie has served as a parent coordinator and facilitator for the school's award winning GEMS, Girls Excelling in Math, and science program. Julie is a Junior Achievement volunteer and facilitator at school's Junior Achievement days, and has chaperoned many events and field trips. Julie credits her two dynamic daughters and encouraging husband for supporting her efforts in her full time career and volunteer work.

Susan Thomas has been an active member of the Bethany Community School PTO since 2006 when her oldest child entered kindergarten. Over the years, she has been a room parent for both of her children and has chaperoned many events and field trips. Sue designed, developed, and maintained the PTO website, including enabling online ordering and event payments. She has also been actively involved in BOE meetings and has served on the Wellness and Security Committees.

Branford High School, Branford

Honorees: Paula Grimm, William Grimm

In the words of the famous Mary Poppins (this year's musical production) Paula and Bill are just "*supercalifragilisticexpialidocious.*" Over the years, Bill and Paula have donated numerous hours, expertise and support to Branford High School's musical production program. Noteworthy is Paula's design and construction of the multitude of costumes and her incredible detail to ticket sales. Bill's gifts lie in his talent as a percussionist; he adds that needed expertise to the choir's CD recordings as well as major concerts. Paula and Bill are the best examples for this recognition because they are the most active contributing members to this high school's community.

Francis Walsh Intermediate School, Branford

Honorees: Tracey Groves, Lynda Mollow, Kristina Torre

Tracey Groves has been PTA Treasurer for the last four years. She has been a book fair volunteer along with plant sale and incoming fifth-grade orientation/pizza party organizer. She has been instrumental in coordinating our biggest fundraiser. Tracey is a tireless and dedicated mom who contributes a great deal to the school community.

Lynda Mollow is an advocate for fitness and school-wide participation for many programs. She created and organizes our school-wide FIT-WEEK, and coordinates our after-school enrichment program for fifth and sixth graders. Lynda's energy, enthusiasm, and willingness to support our students and school is greatly appreciated.

Kristina Torre is instrumental in supporting our Walsh wrestling program. She currently is the Walsh Wrestling Booster Club President, creating and organizing team fundraising events. Kristina also volunteers one morning a week in our school store providing students with a friendly face when they purchase their school supplies.

John B. Sliney School, Branford

Honorees: Arianne Buzzard, Kelly Martens, Christine O'Connor, Jody Rebhun, Martha Rice, Jenny Smith

PTA members, *Arianne, Kelly, Christine, Jody, and Martha* are dedicated and devoted to building community events that establish a strong sense of community at Sliney School. Each devotes countless hours to our school. They have sponsored wonderful events such as: A Fall Festival and Winter Wonderland. Also they are willing to go above and beyond for the betterment of Sliney School. In many ways, they have captured teacher appreciation to be a continuous event rather than an isolated week by doing many thoughtful gestures for our teachers. They have organized a meaningful, well versed after-school program.

Jenny Smith is a parent that chairs Sliney Super Helpers. Under her guidance she is making a formative impact on our community at large by exposing our students to the rewarding experience of community service. Her efforts have expanded our students' ideas of what philanthropy means to them

Mary T. Murphy School, Branford

Honorees: Alicia Chasse, Pam Fusco, Anthony Marchitto, Charles Morro, Sue Sobolewski

Mary T. Murphy volunteer honorees Alicia Chasse, Pam Fusco, Anthony Marchitto, Charles Morros, and Sue Sobolewski have demonstrated selfless service for the good of Murphy School. Their collective efforts have organized and supported school-wide events such as the Fall Festival, Bingo Nights, and the Scholastic Book Fairs. They contribute time, expertise, and resources. They consistently go above and beyond to serve the MTM community. They support a positive school climate by helping to cultivate an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect. They make student activities possible and fun for all families. They share in the overall development of students and have a shared responsibility with all stakeholders.

Mary R. Tisko Elementary School, Branford

Honorees: Karen Acquarulo, Kimberly Iagrossi

Karen Acquarulo is the mother of three wonderful Tisko children, two graduates and one third grader. Karen has also been in charge of many successful fundraisers. Last year she coordinated the fourth grade Adventure Day, a very special off campus event for our graduating class. Karen is always available to help in any capacity, and we are so grateful for all of the time she dedicates to our school.

Kim Iagrossi is the mother of two wonderful daughters, one who has graduated from Tisko and the other a third grader. Kim has always been a very active and involved parent here at our school and in the community. She has run several very successful fundraisers for our school. Kim and her family have been in charge of our school float entry in our town holiday parade for several years which is no small job, and has brought in many winning trophies.

Edgewood Elementary School, Bristol

Honorees: Sarah Arborio, Danielle Holton

Sarah Arborio has been such an asset to Edgewood Elementary School. We absolutely cannot thank her enough for all she has done. Sarah is and has been a positive, cheerful and dedicated member of our Edgewood family for many years. We LOVE her.

Danielle Holton is our FUNDRAISING QUEEN! Her enthusiasm is so appreciated and sometimes contagious. Every interaction with Danielle is welcoming, positive, and cheerful. Thank you, Danielle!

Ivy Drive School, Bristol

Honorees: Linda Needham, Joanne Platt

Linda Needham has been volunteering in Mrs. Newman's class for a number of years. She has helped the students improve their reading skills.

Joanne Platt is a former teacher at Ivy Drive School and has been volunteering in classrooms. She has helped students improve their reading skills and has helped with our kindergarten play.

Both woman have made significant differences in the academic progress of our students!!

Har-Bur Middle School, Burlington

Honorees: Margaret Clavette, Laurie Stickle

Margaret Clavette has served Har-Bur Middle School at treasurer of the PTA for the past three years. She has done a great job and is always willing to help out at any of the open-house nights or other events where we need a volunteer, going the extra mile for the kids and staff at Har-Bur.

Laurie Stickle organized the first ever back-to-school picnic this year--no small task. It was a huge success, and the kids and staff had a wonderful time. This event created much excitement and school spirit to get the school year started off on the right note.

Har-Bur is lucky to have both these wonderful volunteers!

Richard D. Hubbard School, East Berlin

Honorees: Rebekka Enes, Kim Impelluso

Rebekka Enes is an annual room parent, 5th Grade Committee member, and habitually employs her baking talents to contribute to any and all school events, activities, and fundraisers.

Kim Impelluso has volunteered for countless school and PTO events, such as the book fair and holiday shopping. She has served as the PTO Fundraising Co-Chair and currently sits as the Grade 5 Committee Co-Chair.

Rebekka Enes and Kim Impelluso have supported Hubbard's classroom and school communities in countless capacities, selflessly offering their time and talents these past years for the betterment of students, staff and families. Both have served as parent volunteers, fundraising volunteers, and field trip chaperones. They have routinely stepped forward given any opportunity to volunteer and support our students. Congratulations Mrs. Enes and Mrs. Impelluso, and thank you for all that you have done to help make Hubbard School such a wonderful place!

Lewin G. Joel Jr. School, Clinton

Honorees: Litsa Aniskovich, Lisa Bushnell, Kiersten Terribile

We are extremely fortunate to have such devoted volunteers. Litsa Aniskovich, Lisa Bushnell, and Kiersten Terribile exemplify the extreme caring qualities we look for in our volunteers. *Litsa Aniskovich* serves as our Friends of Joel (FOJ) Co-President, our frog mascot, assists in parent concerns, Monster Mash, fundraising, summer book exchange, and so much more.

Lisa Bushnell serves as our FOJ Co-Vice President and is a quiet behind-the-scenes parent who volunteers to help with faculty breakfasts, Monster Mash, summer book exchange just to name a few.

Kiersten Terribile has worked tirelessly each year at our book fair! She has organized parents to set-up, operate, and pack-up the book fair, assisted student selection of books, and ordered favorite choices. The administration and staff of Joel school are proud to be associated with such a high caliber of volunteers.

East Granby Middle School, East Granby

Honorees: Sally Mullen, Susan Tracey

Sally Mullen is a volunteer parent coach for Odyssey of the Mind at East Granby Middle School. This commitment involves ongoing meetings, planning, practices, and of course, the competition! Sally has been coaching Odyssey of the Mind for four years. Last year, her elementary team won the Connecticut state finals and fundraised to compete at the world finals in Michigan. What an experience for all! It is always fun to see the creativity and excitement of Odyssey of the Mind!

Susan Tracey has been involved with the Odyssey of the Mind Program since 2013, logging countless hours which have contributed to its success. She co-coached an extremely successful 2014-15 Odyssey of the Mind team that achieved first place in their division at the state competition and went to the world finals, where they placed with respectable honors.

Center School, East Hampton

Honorees: Fred Trinks

Fred Trinks has been a valuable volunteer at Center School in the 2015-2016 school year! Each week, Mr. Trinks has volunteered in one of our fourth grade classrooms supporting the classroom instruction and individual students. Additionally, Mr. Trinks has supported school-wide events giving up his time to assist in school celebrations. Mr. Trinks also connected our building with his employer that reimburses the school for his time allowing us access to additional resources. His commitment to our building is to be both commended and celebrated!

Memorial Elementary School, East Hampton

Honorees: Belinda Trinks

Memorial Elementary is fortunate to have parent volunteers who selflessly devote their time and talents in countless ways to enrich the educational experiences of our children. This year, we would like to recognize Belinda Trinks for her invaluable contributions. Always with a smile and a kind word for all, Belinda brings energy and enthusiasm to the Memorial School community and works tirelessly to promote parent

partnership. On any given day, we can find Belinda assisting in a classroom, organizing school wide "Cheetah Pride" spirit events, or providing enrichment opportunities to students. When asked why she chooses to volunteer at Memorial, Belinda commented, "Teachers are such a precious resource, and students are our future. I believe that volunteering in any way, shape, or form fosters a strong support system that is beneficial to all." We are grateful for Belinda's dedication and diligence, and we are proud to honor her extraordinary commitment and volunteerism.

Lillie B. Haynes School, East Lyme

Honorees: Kate Caristo-Scalora, Liz Dumond, Liz Gomez, Taryn Hamre, Rebecca Stebbins, Judy Terpstra

Kate Caristo-Scalora is the Secretary of the PTA and has been the "go to person" for most communications with the PTA and school.

Our PTA President *Liz Dumond* is one incredible parent volunteer who "stepped up" this year to serve as the leader of this important student support team.

Our exciting and highly engaging Student Jog-A-Thon was the creation of parent *Taryn Hamre*. Taryn has inspired students in all three elementary schools in our district to participate in this annual event for both health and fun outcomes.

PTA Treasurer *Liz Gomez* has been instrumental in redefining the accounting process for all revenue and expenditures which has required an inordinate amount of time, effort and care.

As our school's invaluable advocate and spokesperson to the Boards of Education and Finance, *Rebecca Stebbins* has championed financial support for children at our school and throughout the district.

Judy Terpstra serves as the Vice President of our PTA and has been the Secretary in the past.

Ellington High School, Ellington

Honorees: Robert Williams

Ten years ago, *Robert Williams* took on the voluntary position of Technical Director of the Opening Knight Players, Ellington High School's Drama Club. Having volunteered for years with the Suffield Players, Bob brought an expertise for the job which entailed the supervision of all the technical crews including lights, sound, props, and sets. Since then he has volunteered at least 15 hours per week but up to 40 during show times, an extraordinary commitment. He has also served as director, master electrician, executive board member, and set designer for our club. Most fortunately for the students of Ellington, Bob teaches integrity, cooperation, and patience through his consistent role modeling. Ultimately, Bob Williams has become a second father to over hundreds of Ellington High School drama students who have been enriched through his work, many who have gone onto success in the professional theatrical world.

Fairfield Ludlowe High School, Fairfield

Honorees: Debby Dwyer

Debby Dwyer has long been committed to Fairfield Ludlowe High School. Since retiring as our College and Career Center Director, she has been a tireless helper, lending her knowledge of our school and community. Prior to each graduation, Debby's decorating and organizational prowess help set up the stage and seating arrangements for our guests. She is not afraid to sweat it out in collecting all the graduation gowns from faculty on what is usually one of the hottest days of the year. Debby also comes in to prepare teacher packets with valuable information prior to our first faculty meeting. She is always sensitive to the needs of new staff and other groups. Debby also helps secure hundreds of job sites for our seniors as they go out for internships. She assists our current College and Career Center Director with student applications, matching of sites, and verifying that all the paperwork is in order. Without her, these important events just wouldn't function as smoothly!

Buttonball Lane School, Glastonbury

Honorees: Becky Butera, Holly Howley, Leigh Petras, David Salazar

Becky Butera is many things to our school, and has volunteered in many capacities. One of her roles includes serving as the parent representative of our School Safety Committee.

Holly Howley and David Salazar are two wonderful volunteer editors for our Newspaper Club. They put in many tireless hours teaching kids to write! Their efforts with the children culminate with the *Buttonball Lane Courant*, a publication put out twice a year.

Leigh Petras is one of our parents responsible for many of the events and activities at our school, including the book fair. She works diligently to ensure the smooth operations of one of our biggest fundraisers.

Eastbury School, Glastonbury

Honorees: Lisa Collette, Erin Dunn, Ellyn Kirk, Wendy Marques, Erika Schwartz

Our parents play an integral role in the partnership of Excellence at Eastbury. We recognize five parents; their biggest roles are acknowledged here.

Lisa Collette: Fun Fair, School Store, Valentine Flowers, Field Day, and classroom volunteer for her two children with another starting next year.

Erin Dunn: PTO Vice President of Committees, Fun Fair, Restaurant Night, Teacher Appreciation, Art Show, Fifth Grade Committee, PBIS Team, Room Parent and supporting many other events.

Ellyn Kirk: PTO Board as Communications Chair, Fun Fair, Room Parent, and additional classroom events.

Wendy Marques: PTO President, Fun Fair, After School Enrichment, Chess Club, Landscaping Committee, and classroom volunteer for various events.

Erika Schwartz: Leader of the Book Fair, Fifth Grade Committee, Field Day volunteer, Teacher Appreciation week, classroom play volunteer for two years, and classroom volunteer.

All with multiple children, and we are grateful for the level of excellence they have given over many years!

Gideon Welles School, Glastonbury

Honorees: Kristen Brink, Jeanne McKinney, Christine Motl, Kirsten Paluska, Lisa Rainey, Mike Rosenbush

The contributions of *Kristen Brink, Jeanne McKinney, Christine Motl, Kirsten Paluska, Lisa Rainey and Michael Rosenbush*, to Gideon Welles School are immeasurable. These honorees' volunteer spirit is reflected through the outstanding student events, clubs, activities program, and drama production they have supported. Students directly benefit from the tireless energy and effort they provide to our programs and events that they coordinate to connect students to our school in fun and exciting ways. As chairpersons of numerous events, they have raised thousands of dollars for programs and initiatives of Gideon Welles School. Additionally, they have built sets, run student activities, supported the library, and volunteered at countless events. Their support of our school and district affords students significant experiences and opportunities. They are people of incredible character and dedication. Gideon Welles School is fortunate to reap the benefits of their energy and hard work.

Hebron Avenue School, Glastonbury

Honorees: Candice DeJianne, Kathy McGuire, Wendy Smith

Candice DeJianne is involved in many activities at Hebron Avenue School. She is a member of our PTO Steering Committee and has provided leadership for many school functions. These activities include PTO Communications, PTO Hospitality, Room Parent Liason, and the Welcome-Back Bash. Candice is also a consistent volunteer in our school library.

Kathy McGuire is an active volunteer in our school. She is a member of our PTO Steering Committee and is always willing to do anything to help. Kathy takes the lead on school events such as our Kindergarten Balloon Day, Parent Nights, and PTO Membership.

Wendy Smith has provided outstanding leadership not only in our school, but to our entire district. Wendy was instrumental in bringing the Lego Leagues and Robotics Competitions to our town. Because of her, students across our town are able to participate in these wonderful opportunities. Wendy has also co-chaired our science fair for the past several years making this a memorable event.

Naubuc School, Glastonbury

Honorees: Karen Johnson, Jamie Rodriguez, Jeannette Valenches

Karen, Jeannette and Jamie have each contributed greatly through the years to both Naubuc School and to our community. Although they each provide support in a variety of ways, perhaps their most unique and popular creation has been our Trunk or Treat PTO event, a revamping of an old holiday celebration, re-imagining it into what has become one of our most popular community gatherings. To prepare for Trunk or Treat, families creatively transform their cars and mini-vans into wonderfully themed displays that are linked together to form a safe and festive venue for fun, games, and trick or treating. This combined with indoor stations and activities has launched a new tradition at our school. Together, these amazing volunteers have been tremendous advocates for the school, our students, and our families. They are a big part of what makes Naubuc special.

Hopewell School, South Glastonbury

Honorees: Michelle Dauch, Nadine Quigley, Claudine Sullivan

Michelle Dauch has made countless donations to Hopewell including food, raffle items, and most importantly her time as a volunteer. She has been a committed room parent and an essential organizer for the Fun Fair as well as volunteering frequently for other school events and field trips.

Nadine Quigley has been the volunteer coordinator for the library for the past two years. She also volunteers for events such as school pictures, boot camp, and room parent. Nadine is coordinating the fifth grade t-shirts and is one of the coordinators for the March enrichment classes. Nadine ran one of the programs at the fifth grade harvest home and even dressed up as a pilgrim.

Claudine Sullivan has devoted many hours on various committees such as Family Bingo Night, Fun Fair and Teacher Appreciation Week. She has served as a room parent countless times and as a member of the Hopewell PTO board for years, most recently as Vice President. She has also served as Hopewell's communications representative, devoting much time to the Hopewell PTO newsletter and updating the PTO website.

Guilford Lakes Elementary School, Guilford

Honorees: Kathy Carney, Sarah Celotto, Kim Mastriano-Guile, Kim Mastriano-Guile, Kerry Rosa, Gretchen Stegina

Each of the women has served as a member of our school's PTO Board. Through this work, these women have helped to build collaborative relationships with families and staff. Guilford Lakes is very thankful to have such dedicated volunteers.

Environmental Sciences Magnet at Mary M. Hooker School, Hartford

Honorees: Frank Figueroa, Lilly Rosario, Patty Zemsta

At the Environmental Sciences Magnet School at Mary Hooker in Hartford, Connecticut, students and faculty are supported by an amazing group of parent volunteers. Their generous donation of time and talent has enabled the school to offer additional services and activities which include enrichment, extracurricular activities, and academic support. Today we celebrate our parent leaders who have provided many hours of service. Their work on our PTA, School Governance Council, and within our library and classrooms, provides an invaluable support which benefits all children. We are blessed to have such dedicated parents as *Frank Figueroa, PTA President, Lilly Rosario, PTA Vice President, and Patty Zemsta, Governance Council*. Thank you.

Burr District Elementary School, Higganum

Honorees: Azra Hussain, Bridget Marshall, Elize Nizet, Karen Therrien

Burr District Elementary is pleased to honor our tireless volunteers. Thank you to *Bridget Marshall* for the work that you do to help organize PTO events to the benefit of all. Burr Elementary School honors *Azra Hussain and Karen Therrien* as representatives of the amazing work of our classroom volunteers. Their efforts and the efforts of all of our parent volunteers help to improve the instruction for the children of Burr District Elementary. Finally, a special thank you to *Elise Nizet*, a frequent substitute at our building that in her spare time, knits hats, and makes puppets for children she think need a little extra love in their lives.

Haddam Elementary School, Higganum

Honorees: Marie Cook, Robin Munster, Doreen Staskelunas

Haddam Elementary School is proud to honor our hardworking parent volunteers. This year's honorees are: *Marie Cook, Robin Munster, and Doreen Staskelunas*. They have each been an integral part of our school for more than five years. Our honorees are dependable and willing to help at a moment's notice, never asking or expecting to be recognized. They have volunteered to chair committees and/or in classrooms to support our students. It is clear that they want to make our school the best it can be for every child, not just their own. The entire Haddam Elementary community extends our deepest appreciation for the work that these three honorees have done over the years. As they move on with their children to middle school, we will miss their talent and energy!

Killingworth Elementary School, Killingworth

Honorees: Karen Castelli, Alisha McNamara, Katy Steinhilber

Karen Castelli and Alisha McNamara are new to the PTO this year serving as co-presidents. They have taken on this role with a passion that has been noticed and appreciated by all. They readily involve themselves with fundraising events, family nights, cultural arts assemblies, and other various tasks. We look forward to continuing our working relationship with these two remarkable women.

Katy Steinhilber has been serving on our PTO as Yearbook Chair, Book Fair Co-Chair, and Student Directory Chair, as well as volunteering in several other capacities as needed throughout the past four years. Katy will be leaving Killingworth Elementary School as her son moves on to the middle school next year. We will miss her enthusiasm and professionalism in all of the areas she has served our school, students and staff. Thank you Karen, Alisha, and Katy for helping to make our learning community such a positive place to be for our students and staff.

Lyme Consolidated School, Lyme

Honorees: Dana Evans, Kara Lech, Shaleigh Reynolds

We are pleased to honor our PTO volunteers for their dedication and enormous contributions to Lyme Consolidated Elementary School. They all go above and beyond to support our learning environment and work tirelessly to raise funds to provide enrichment opportunities for all of our students. All three honorees have served as a member of the PTO leadership along with many other roles and responsibilities that they took on for at least the past six years. Their contributions to our school are immeasurable. The Lyme School staff would like to congratulate and thank *Dana, Kara and Shaleigh* for all that they have given to the students of Lyme Consolidated.

Elmer Thienes-Mary Hall School, Marlborough

Honorees: Kimberly DiSomma, Carrie Packer, Karen Sawyer, Dawn Tavolieri, Nancy Visco

The Elmer Thienes - Mary Hall Elementary School PTO continues to be instrumental in supporting students, staff and families at our school. There are many, many things that would not be possible without the assistance provided by these amazing women. From purchasing school supplies for staff members, to supplementing field trips, guest authors and visiting artists, to hosting numerous activities for families, the PTO is an integral part of our school and the community. It would be challenging for students to select their favorite PTO activity that takes place over the course of the school year. From the Halloween Trunk-or-Treat to the annual Family Movie Night to our twice per year book fairs and ice cream socials, the PTO not only raises funds, but also provides opportunities for families to come together in fun-filled and safe events. We are incredibly excited about the recent PTO commitment of \$20,000 to provide assistance with our soon-to-be installed early childhood playscape.

Masuk High School, Monroe

Honorees: Dawn Barbieri, Mark Christo, Kathy Moraveck

Dawn Barbieri has been a member of the Masuk PTC for the last five years, and president for the past two. She coordinates many activities to benefit the students and teachers, and also employs her artistic talents as chair of Masuk's annual post prom.

Mark Christo is the father of three standout student athletes. He has served as a member and president of the Masuk All Sports Booster Club, helping supplement Masuk athletics for the last five years. He has been a staple at all sporting events, working concessions to support the student athletes of Masuk High School.

Kathy Moraveck has been a key member of the Masuk PTC for the last six years. She developed a relationship between Catalyst Prep and Masuk High School, to provide valuable SAT tutoring to students while raising money for the PTC. Kathy also serves as the chair of the annual Prom Fashion Show Fundraiser.

Monroe Elementary School, Monroe

Honorees: Sue Dixon, Gary Kunschaft, Eleanor Macfarlane, Patricia Sampieri

The volunteers honored from Monroe Elementary have served our school since their children entered our building in kindergarten.

Sue Dixon and Eleanor Macfarlane have been loyal supporters of our P.T.O. as their children progressed through the school. Volunteering at our annual Great Pumpkin Fair, marching in the Memorial Day Parade, supporting Pizza Bingo and Girl's Night Out are some of the activities they have helped to make successful.

Gary Kunschaft was responsible for establishing the Father's Club, which helped mobilize our fathers to organize events at school for our students and their dads. Many children enjoyed movie nights and boys night out under his direction.

Patricia Sampieri has held various positions in the P.T.O. and chaired many fundraisers. Throughout her tenure, she was always behind the scenes assuring that each activity ran smoothly.

New Fairfield High School, New Fairfield

Honorees: Robin Kamps, Jennifer Sperazza

Jennifer Sperazza is the President of the New Fairfield Local Prevention Council. She has worked tirelessly over the last eight years to bring programs to our district in order to ensure the health and well-being of the students our town.

Robin Kamps is the President of the New Fairfield Parent Teacher Organization, a volunteer in the College and Career Center, as well as an active supporter of our athletic program. She has donated countless volunteer hours to these programs.

Green Acres Elementary School, North Haven

Honorees: Kathryn Ciak, Tracey Falasco

Both Kathryn and Tracey have been PTA members and officers at Green Acres for the entire time of their children's attendance. They went above and beyond for every PTA function and fund raiser that took place. They have chaired the book fairs, yearbook committees, fundraising committees, school socials, fifth grade committees. They could both be seen at the school even at 10:00 p.m. doing something fun for the students or staff. They both have worked tirelessly for the good of the entire school community.

North Haven Middle School, North Haven

Honorees: Pamela Begin, Julie Bossenberry, Hannah Jacob, Susan Kissel, Mara Malafrente

This year's North Haven Middle School's volunteers are being honored for their efforts as the governing body of our Parent-Teacher-Student-Association. Their efforts in fundraising and providing for the students and families of North Haven Middle School is constant throughout the school year. In this day and age when families are so busy with outside commitments for sports teams and various family obligations, it is truly overwhelming to continually receive such support and commitment from this group of women. Our honorees have shown how important the success of North Haven Middle School and its students means to them. They are an example of how much the community of North Haven cares for its students. On behalf of the students and faculty of the school, we thank our volunteers for all they have done, and will continue to do, for NHMS. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor!

North Stonington Elementary School, North Stonington

Honorees: Samantha Attanasio

North Stonington Elementary School is honored to name Samantha Attanasio our CAS Volunteer of the Year. Samantha is appreciated for the many hours she has dedicated to our school which includes supporting the library/media program where she volunteers two days weekly. Each year, she sets up hundreds of art pieces for the annual NSES Art show as well as takes the work down the next day, and wraps it up so it safely arrives home. Samantha also worked as a set designer and created costumes for our Drama Club. As a mom of a fifth grade student, Samantha has taken on the lead role of organizing fund raising events and activities for our fifth graders as well as planning promotion events for the end of the year. Every action or task she undertakes, Samantha shows how much she cares about our students and the entire school community. Thank you, Samantha.

Nathan Hale Middle School, Norwalk

Honorees: Alison Aymerich, Robyn DiBlasio, Michele DiMasi, Marla Sterling, Rose Thorne, Drew Todd, Dean Vaccaro

The Nathan Hale Middle School PTO has done an absolutely incredible job this year supporting students, staff, and the school community in making sure that our students have what they need to have a successful year. Our PTO has worked tirelessly, in order to ensure that there are funds to support the various activities that take place in our school. Our PTO, led by our President-*Dean Vaccaro*, Vice President-*Robyn DiBlasio*, Recording Secretary-*Rose Thorne*, Treasurer-*Michele DiMasi*, Co-Treasurer-*Alison Aymerich*, Community Liaison-*Drew Todd*, and Teacher Representative-*Marla Sterling*, have helped support student learning and growth by purchasing a planner for each student, giving scholarship money out to teams for trips, and funding anything else the teams need, as well as supporting the principal in his efforts to move the school forward. We would like to say a big thank you to all of you for your time and commitment to Nathan Hale Middle School.

Plainville High School, Plainville

Honorees: Nancy Gennett

Nancy Gennett was born and raised in Plainville, Connecticut. After earning advanced college degrees in occupational therapy and counseling, she spent her 43 year career helping others as an occupational therapist and counselor to those afflicted by mental health ailments and addiction. Since retiring, Nancy has continued to serve Plainville in numerous voluntary capacities. Nancy served as a mentor to five students over the last four years, meeting with each student once per week throughout the academic year. She has served as the community liaison to the Plainville Coalition for Positive Youth Development since 2011, helping to develop and host several youth and family support centered programs for our community. Nancy has also been a critical member of our school's Student Success Plan Committee and was instrumental in helping to plan our Annual Career Day for the last three years. Nancy also volunteers with the Plainville Family Resource Network and is most deserving of this honor.

Brownstone Intermediate School, Portland

Honorees: Shari Ciarleglio, Michele Jagoda

Shari Ciarleglio has been involved with the PTO at her daughter's previous school, and this year she joins us at Brownstone. She spearheaded the Square-1 Art fundraising program for the building. When the deadline for the artwork was fast-approaching, Shari collaborated with our art teacher and organized an after school push to complete the projects in time for submission.

Michele Jagoda has organized the entire district's SCRIP fundraising program for many years. She works with multiple PTO groups and sends out order forms to the schools on a regular basis. This program has raised thousands of dollars for the schools over the years.

Brownstone is lucky to have such dedicated parents and we are pleased to recognize Michele and Shari this evening!

Quaker Hill School, Quaker Hill

Honoree: Kim Rouisse

Kim Rouisse has truly made Quaker Hill Elementary School an even greater place to be. Kim has been our school's PTA president for the past three years. She provides a breakfast for staff at the beginning of each school year and is instrumental in fundraising efforts that provide cultural enrichment for our students. Beyond that, Kim organized our first Literacy Night in March and helped plan a carnival as an incentive to

celebrate Quaker Hill students' Summer Reading. Once again, she went above and beyond creating a carnival atmosphere, complete with carnival foods, and games. The whole Waterford community benefits from Kim's endless hours of volunteering her time and effort. This summer, Kim began a Challenger Baseball League in the district for athletes who are differently-abled, culminating with a trip to Fenway Park to be coached by real Red Sox players! As you can see, Kim goes above and beyond giving so much of her time and energy to benefit the Waterford community!

Albert D. Griswold Middle School, Rocky Hill

Honorees: Kristine Ellegard, Susan Gudat, Karla Harding, Amy Keithan, Rosemary Lentini, Kimberly Quinn, Laura Simeone, Marissa Violette

The volunteer honorees listed have been instrumental in the creation and implementation of the Best Buddies program at Griswold Middle School. GMS established a Best Buddies Chapter in an effort to continue to support the social and emotional growth and development of our students. Best Buddies is dedicated to creating opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Typical peers are paired with non-typical peers to foster and build relationships. These relationships create an awareness of and empathy for the challenges that the children with intellectual and developmental disabilities face on a daily basis. All students in our chapter meet as a group once per month for a chapter meeting and chapter activity. Buddy pairs also have opportunities to meet several times per week to nurture and sustain these newly created friendships.

Myrtle H. Stevens Elementary School, Rocky Hill

Honorees: Marcie Addy, MaryAnn Beliveau, Stacey Uccello, Melissa Tavares

Marcie Addy and MaryAnn Beliveau serve as the Stevens School PTO co-presidents. *Stacey Uccello* is the treasurer, and *Melissa Tavares* is our PTO teacher representative. Collectively, this group has volunteered hundreds of hours of their own time for our school. Through their efforts, our students have been provided with an array of activities, assemblies, and events, and our staff has been provided with an incredible amount of resources and support. Stevens School is fortunate to have such dedicated and hard-working volunteers like Marcie, MaryAnn, Stacey, and Melissa.

West Hill Elementary School, Rocky Hill

Honorees: Lauren Gallagher, Katrina Scelza

It's difficult to select just a few volunteers for recognition because schools require the support of many helping hands. However, the contributions made by Lauren and Katrina this year stood out, not only because of the many hours they volunteer at our school, but also because of their courage. As parents relatively new to our school, Lauren and Katrina stepped up and volunteered to serve as PTO co-presidents. Despite their newness to the school and the PTO, Lauren and Katrina have been instrumental in maintaining a tradition of excellence at West Hill School. In fact, due to their leadership, students, parents, and staff have enjoyed, and benefited, from a number of new initiatives. Special projects, such as our Fossil Fridays and Trout in the Classroom, help bring learning to life. We are extremely happy that Lauren and Katrina were willing to take such a personal risk. Their selflessness goes beyond running meetings and fundraisers, as they are now part of the fabric of our school.

Bungay School, Seymour

Honorees: Christopher Cummings, Kathleen Furino, Nancy Staab

Bungay School would like to recognize Nancy Staab, elementary guidance counselor, for her direction in implementing and overseeing the formation of Bungay School's High School Mentoring Program along with teachers, Katie Furino and Chris Cummings, who volunteer their time before and after school to ensure a program that encourages a positive relationship with an older role model and friend. By collaborating after school hours, Mrs. Staab, Mrs. Furino, and Mr. Cummings kick start the program by interviewing high school mentors to discover how they will work with their young counterparts, how their likes and dislikes will fit with younger students, and ensure that schedules will allow them to be a consistent companion to their mentee. Thanks to our volunteers, the mentor volunteer program has proven to be highly rewarding and has oftentimes encouraged lasting friendships. They are all to be commended for volunteering their time and effort before and after school for this highly successful endeavor.

Chatfield-LoPresti Elementary School, Seymour

Honorees: Dawn Adams, Tony Bunosso, Neila Faulkner, Missy Orosz, Tara Petrino, Maria Reiter, Adrienne Tomlinson

Chatfield-LoPresti School would like to recognize our long-time PTA volunteers who have served the CLS community for the past several years. Under their leadership, we have merged two schools-Anna L. LoPresti School and Paul E. Chatfield School-and now have a robust PTA with over 20 members in attendance at our monthly meetings. This dedicated group organizes, plans, and facilitates family events throughout the year which strengthen our family and school partnership, such as Harvest BINGO, family movie nights, and our annual spring dance. The Field Day in June has become our signature event with over 100 volunteers assisting our students to have a fun-filled day. The monies gained through the multitude of fundraisers are given back to our students via funds for field trips, school-wide cultural assemblies, and CLS T-shirts provided annually to all students and staff members. We are grateful for their many contributions and this year's latest addition - a new marquee!

Sunnyside School, Shelton

Honorees: Vivian Kudej, Jessica Scerbo, Shellie Setum

Sunnyside School would like to honor this extraordinary group of volunteers for going above and beyond in all they do for our school and community. Our volunteers work diligently and support Sunnyside School in a variety of ways. Whether it is coordinating our holiday fair, planning cultural events, or thinking of new ways to acquire funding, these volunteers give 100% of themselves. Their love and interest in cultivating a positive school climate shines through by their actions. They support school trips, give teachers a monetary allotment to be used in their individual classrooms, ensure the school is decorated according to the season or event, support our PBIS initiatives, and are actively involved in the betterment of our building. These individuals work diligently on community outreach. They attend city meetings and work closely with city officials and school administrators. Their newly revamped website and social media efforts keep everyone informed of events and activities.

Dorothy Goodwin Elementary School, Storrs

Honorees: Julie Klimkiewicz, Kathleen Peirsman, Kristen Ricci, Kristen Zadnik

Goodwin Elementary School is a diverse school that is proud of its association with the University of Connecticut. Our volunteers work tirelessly to create a welcoming environment for our multicultural community. These four volunteers have had a significant impact on our school and the education of our students. Many hours have been spent in classrooms supporting teachers and students in projects such as

Rocket Day, Egg Drop Day, Waterslide Day, Field Day, Trestle Tree Night, our Ropes course, and Mileage Club. They have also significantly contributed to our successful PTO sponsored events such as our Welcome Ice-Cream Social, Scholastic Book Fair, Whale Bash Fun Fair, Harvest Festival, International Pot Luck Dinner, Thanksgiving Feast, and Silent Auction. They have provided staff appreciation lunches to our teachers and paraprofessionals which is greatly appreciated and creates a strong sense of community.

Blackrock School, Thomaston

Honorees: Alisha Brammer, Tanya Galpin

Alisha Brammer and *Tanya Galpin* have provided a service to our students by contributing their time, talent, and demonstrating a dedication to our educational community that goes above and beyond. They both have truly made a difference!

Thomaston Center School, Thomaston

Honoree: Mark Elinson

Since 2010, *Mark Elinson* has volunteered his time and resources as sound and lighting technician for three annual performances at Thomaston Center School; each of those performances has included hours of time and expertise in managing equipment during rehearsals and performances. Mr. Elinson was also instrumental in procuring more than \$6,000 worth of grants for sound and lighting equipment for the Thomaston Center School Auditorium. Additionally, Mark Elinson has volunteered with many other school events such as our Haunted Hallways, Field Day, and the District Music Day. Mr. Elinson contributions to the Thomaston community is greatly appreciated.

Frenchtown Elementary School, Trumbull

Honorees: Meredith Chamberlain, Zdenna Quinn, Mathias Rysse

Meredith Chamberlain has been our Chairperson for Teacher Appreciation Week activities and the Welcome Back Luncheon for many years. She also has been involved with our Holiday Boutique, the PTA Banquet, Trumbull Arts for Youth, and BooHoo Breakfast. Meredith volunteers wherever she is needed.

Mathias Rysse has been involved in our Fathers' Club for many years. He is an integral part of movie nights, our annual Super-Bowl Breakfast and Raffle, Popsicle Day, and many other Fathers' Club activities. He was instrumental in securing us a company grant from where he works.

Zdenna Quinn formed our Mums Gardening Group several years ago which keeps our flower beds in front of the school looking wonderful along with our new Peace Garden. She recruits volunteers as needed. She has also been involved in the PTA Directory and Reflections and helped with the installation of the Peace Pole and Ben's Bell.

Without these three dedicated volunteers Frenchtown would not be a shining star!

Tashua School, Trumbull

Honorees: Edna Borchetta, Gene Borchetta, Tracie Marko, Samantha Nagy, Jennifer Neumeyer, Sara Scrofani, Karli Smith, Kate Targowski

Tashua Elementary School would like to recognize *Edna Borchetta*, *Gene Borchetta*, *Karli Smith* for chairing our Spring UPRoar Auction. Due to their efforts, along with the generous contributions of our school community, we were able to redesign our computer lab and media center into a student-focused learning commons. Our new learning space invites students to engage in inquiry-based learning. We are extremely fortunate to have such dedicated and committed individuals volunteering at our school.

It is with great appreciation that we recognize *Tracie Marko*, *Samantha Nagy*, and *Sara Scrofani* for supporting our school through countless hours of volunteering. Under Sara's leadership, these parent

volunteers have worked collaboratively to design and update our school website. As a result, our website is full of valuable information for our school community to access in order to keep abreast of all of the wonderful events and activities that are happening at our school. Their ongoing involvement has helped us to keep everyone in our school community well informed!

Washington Elementary School, Waterbury

Honorees: Ingrid Anderson, Linda Delgado, Lori Lane Kee, Erica Nieves, Bhanmatie Ramdath, Radika Ramal, Maria Rosario,

Unsung heroes..that is what these women are. Everyday without fail, they assist on the playground to insure safe and orderly arrival. Without fail, like the post office, neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these women from the completion of their appointed rounds....keeping our children safe! We are so lucky to have such a caring, dedicated group of parents as part of our Washington School family.

Waterbury Arts Magnet School, Waterbury

Honorees: Adriane Guerin

It is with great pleasure that we nominate *Adriane Guerin* for the 2016 Volunteer Recognition Award. Mrs. Guerin is a hard worker who is committed to supporting our school and community. She has always been actively involved in her children's education and has strong community outreach skills and a welcoming demeanor. Being our PTSO co-president, she has always made herself accessible to all who may need her. I have worked with Mrs. Guerin on school functions, which are always a great feat and often involve large gatherings of families. In her role as the PTSO co-president, Mrs. Guerin spearheads activities that take place in our school; i.e., fundraisers, book fairs, school dances, Starlight Recognition Ceremony, and our Graduation Night Celebration. With all that she has done over the years for her children and our school, Mrs. Guerin's commitment to education and leadership makes her a prime candidate for this honor. We are truly better for her efforts!

Suffield High School, West Suffield

Honorees: Alison Greene, Janine Liddell, Ginger Marquis, Christine Smith

Alison Green, Janine Liddell, Christine Smith and Ginger Marquis represent the backbone of leadership for our FFA family, friends, and alumni organization. This organization supports the many activities our high school-based agriculture leadership organization plans and implements each year. The leadership of these women has helped to raise thousands of dollars for FFA scholarships, trips for students to attend the National FFA Conventions, and have provided money to assist teams to compete at state and national activities. They have raised money to defray the cost of FFA official dress and provided countless pizzas for students to keep nourished at after school and evening events. The mission of the FFA is to develop premier leadership, personal growth, and career success. Janine, Alison, Christine and Ginger are devoted to assuring that the mission of the FFA is amplified through the Suffield FFA family, friends, and alumni chapter. Thank you for your heart for service and dedication

Westbrook Middle School, Westbrook

Honorees: Elizabeth Eagan, Paul Eagan, Shari Halvorsen, Tiffini Hovey, Melissa Perregaux, David Perregaux, Jennifer Waldron

Elizabeth Eagan is an art teacher in our school who devotes many hours of her personal time to designing and creating the sets for our yearly drama production. In addition, she helps to decorate the eighth grade dance and always volunteers for all of the PTO events. Liz lends a helping hand wherever she is needed!

Paul Eagan is the husband of one of our teachers. He volunteers his time to help create sets for our yearly drama production. Paul is a huge supporter at all of our PTO events as well.

Shari Halvorsen volunteers her own time to support our drama production selling tickets and organizing seating charts. She helps out whenever needed. Her time and energy supporting our school community is valued.

Tiffini Hovey volunteers her time beyond the school day to support several school initiatives such as facilitating parent survey sessions and attending parent/teacher conference evenings to help parents. Her time and support is greatly valued.

David Perregaux has volunteered in our science classrooms by providing students with educational experiments that provide the WOW factor. We appreciate his time and planning to help our students.

Melissa Perregaux has been a volunteer for several years at our book fair. Her children no longer attend the middle school yet she continues to volunteer her time and energy supporting our school and students.

Jennifer Waldron has been very involved as PTO President organizing our large fundraisers. Her time and energy to support students and school is greatly appreciated.

Sage Park Middle School, Windsor

Honorees: Connie Asteriades, Patricia Stackhouse, Trish Tappenden, Susan Toegel

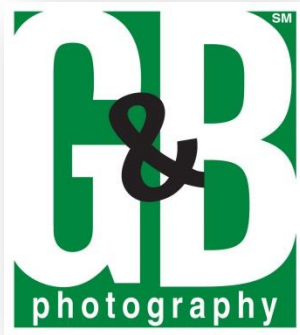
Each of our volunteers is an active member of our Parent Teacher Organization. They are officers in the PTO, they run school fundraisers, and they volunteer in our library. This year the PTO sponsored a school t-shirt design contest where students designed a logo and then t-shirts were sold to our students and staff. The PTO also provides scholarships for field trips. Our school is a better place because of the work these ladies do. We thank them for all they do!

Alcott Elementary School, Wolcott

Honorees: Vanessa Jones, Katrina Murphy

Vanessa Jones has been an extremely involved parent volunteer for years as she has had four boys attend Alcott School. She has served as a room mom in which she organized classroom activities and events. Vanessa has been instrumental in so many school wide events. She has worked at numerous book fairs, helped with the distribution of our fall fundraiser, organized many fifth-grade banquets, and volunteered at our annual "Duck Race" and "Evening with the Stars" family events. Mrs. Jones has been an asset to the Alcott community for years.

Katrina Murphy serves as "central command" at Alcott School. Whether busy scheduling events in the district-wide calendar, distributing flyers and vital PTO information, or volunteering at various school wide events, Kate is a necessary part of every successful Alcott function. She had served as a PTO president, volunteered for many years, and is now willing to share her ideas and expertise to the newcomers!



G & B Photography, our exclusive photographer and sponsor for all CAS events will provide their photography services and pictures to CAS and all CAS-member schools at no charge. G & B will be photographing each award winner and providing the awardees with a custom titled photograph.

After this event, you will receive a package from G & B containing the pictures and instructions to go online and download additional images from this event. A press release will be sent to you separately from the CAS Office. Use the images for additional recognition in your local publications and on your website. Through CAS, G & B is investing in Connecticut's youth.

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The Connecticut Association of Schools is proud to celebrate the Annual CAS Volunteer Recognition Banquet which honors Elementary, Middle, and High School Volunteers. This exciting program publicly acknowledges the work of parents and other volunteers in our schools, and is consistent with the mission and beliefs of the Connecticut Association of Schools.

CAS realizes the important role that school volunteers play in helping our schools in a manner in which children learn best. CAS wishes to thank all of the honorees for the contributions they have made in schools across the state, volunteering their time, talents and expertise.

Congratulations to each of you being publicly recognized for your commitment and dedication to quality education in each of your communities.

Dr. Karissa L. Niehoff

Executive Director

Connecticut Association of Schools