



CONNECTICUT
ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS

Student Activity Programs

2018 - 2019

CAS Student Activities is pleased to present our line-up of programs for the 2018-19 school year! Our activity series is grounded in the research from 21st century skills that participation in co-curricular activities increases academic achievement, improves communication skills, and helps students make better life decisions! Please review these offerings and select some quality activities to link your work with ours!

*Your Guides,
Dave Maloney and Cherese Miller
CAS Co-Directors For Student Activities
Anna Flores, Program Manager
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OCT 2 **High School Dance Coaches Clinic**

Hamden High School will host the annual dance coaches clinic at 6:00 PM – a must attend event to network with coaches, review the NFHS Spirit Rules, CT Dance Competitions, CT State Championship guidelines, judging and scoring procedures. Both new and veteran coaches will have a unique opportunity to have questions answered from the CAS Dance Committee which will prove to be invaluable. Inquiries to Kathy Swillinger at kscoach32@gmail.com, Dave Maloney at dmaloney@casciac.org or Cheres Miller at cmiller@casciac.org.

SAVE THE DATE: High School Dance Championship, February 23, 2019

OCT 10 **The “Little Leader” Conferences**

Recognizing that young children in 2nd & 3rd grades show great potential for thinking abilities, these “Little Leader” mini-conferences showcase interactive lessons led by teachers, administrators, and high school students designed to introduce young students to finding his/her best way of developing leadership skills. The October 10th conference will take place at Totoket Elementary School, Northford. Additional dates can be arranged by inquiring with Dave Maloney dmaloney@casciac.org or Cheres Miller at cmiller@casciac.org.

OCT 15 & 16 **Look For The Good Presentations**

The “Look For The Good Project” offers a two-week, school-wide gratitude campaign to help K-6 students and teachers express gratitude for themselves, each other, and the people who matter to them. This will be held at the CT Association of Schools, Cheshire, CT. These presentations will feature CEO and Founder Anne Kubitsky sharing the steps to implement the program which has generated over one million messages of gratitude featuring participation by over 44,000 students! Anne will have everything you’ll need to implement your kick off assembly and plan your customized campaign which is totally run by students! Inquiries with Anne at info@lookforthegood.org or Dave Maloney at dmaloney@casciac.org.

OCT 23 **High School Cheer Coaches Clinic**

Cromwell High School will host the annual cheerleading coaches clinic at 6:30 PM – a must attend event to network with coaches, review the NFHS Spirit Rules, CT Cheer Competitions, CT State Championship guidelines, judging and scoring procedures. Both new and veteran coaches will have a unique opportunity to get questions answered from the CAS Cheer Committee. Inquiries to Sherrie Zembrzuski missz14@sbcglobal.net or Beth Sarnacki at BTrch1@aol.com.

SAVE THE DATE: High School Cheerleading Championship, March 1 & 2, 2019

OCT - MAR **High School Debate**

The Connecticut Debate Association (CDA) is the premier high school debate league in Connecticut. CDA has sponsored a regular program of competition for over 30 years. Our debate format is cross-examination policy debate, but we change the resolution for each tournament and limit research so we have more in common with parliamentary debate at the high school and college level. The CDA season begins with a novice scrimmage in September to introduce new debaters to the format. We follow with tournaments one Saturday each month from October through March, followed by a state finals championship tournament. Debaters qualify for state finals by their performance at the monthly tournaments. With as many as 500 debaters participating in some months, we run tournaments at two or three schools on each date to provide space for all, and, with luck, reduce travel time. Each tournament has a varsity and novice division to accommodate different levels of skill and experience. Inquiries to Everett Rutan, Executive Director at ejrutan3@ctdebate.org.

OCT - APR Middle School Debate

The Connecticut Middle School Debate League (CTMSDL) is an organization that hosts competitive interscholastic Parliamentary Debate tournaments for Middle School-aged students throughout Connecticut during the academic year. The year begins with a scrimmage in the early Fall and continues with three tournaments throughout the year at host schools. Middle School Debate is the fastest growing student activity in CT! The CTMSDL follows the Middle School Public Debate Program (MSPDP) format begun in 2002 in Southern California. Motions to be debated are released weeks ahead of scrimmages and tournaments. Debaters prepare both proposition (for the motion) and opposition (against the motion) cases ahead of competitions. Each team is composed of three students. On competition days, teams subsequently debate on both the prop and opp sides of the motion. High School debaters serve as judges whenever possible. Inquiries to Jen Posner, Executive Director at jen.posner@ctmsdebate.org.

Nov 9 & 10 “The High School UN-Conference”

High school student leaders and their advisers will convene at North Haven High School for 27 hours of intensive leadership training. Noted author, speaker and youth mover, Brandon Lee White, will lead the impressive line-up which will include break-out sessions that require collaboration, communication, diversity awareness, problem solving, and decision making; all tailored to bring out the unique talents and leadership skills to the fullest. Inquiries to Cherese Miller at cmiller@casciac.org or Robin River at rriver@north-haven.k12.ct.us.

DEC 2018 Discover & Lead: Conferences For Young Men & Women of Color

Personal development requires that we must engage in situations and with presenters who will expand our knowledge revealing our mindsets, skills, and new information. These conferences will “discover and lead” participants through a series of exercises designed to explore and uncover a new vision of self with positive possibilities for the future. Inquiries to Cherese Miller at cmiller@casciac.org.

JAN 3 - 11 Elementary Student Leadership Conferences

These annual conferences provide students in grades 4-6 with a unique opportunity to develop leadership skills. Participants will be engaged in hands-on activities designed to foster 21st century leadership skills. The four strands are creative problem solving, communication, decision making, and productive thinking.

The 2019 conference dates are: Sacred Heart University January 3, Naugatuck Valley Community College January 8, Asnuntuck Community College January 10, and Three Rivers Community College January 11. Inquiries to Cherese Miller cmiller@casciac.org or Jill Hale jhale@casciac.org.

JAN 4 & 16 Middle Level Student Leadership Conferences

These annual conferences at Sacred Heart University and Trinity College will demonstrate the use of multiple-talented approaches to help middle level learners develop four important leadership skills – productive thinking, communication, creative problem solving and decision making. The breakout sessions will be led by top notch teachers, counselors, high school students and administrators. Inquiries to Donna Schilke dschilke@casciac.org.

FEB The Battle Of The Fans

Does your high school’s student section demonstrate the best mix of spirit, creativity, and sportsmanship? CAS Student Activities and CIAC invite you to produce a short video which displays positive fan behavior, school spirit, and a “Class Act” overall approach to the value of education-based school athletic programs. It’s never too early to start collecting video footage from Fall sports to pep rallies to other service related initiatives leading up to and throughout the winter athletic season. Inquiries to Cherese Miller at cmiller@casciac.org or Joel Cookson at jcookson@casciac.org.

MAR - APR **CAS-CIAC Endowment Grant Program**

Through the generosity of our sponsors, the CAS-CIAC Endowment and Flanagan Grant Program is able to annually provide grants to new or existing projects that meet the endowment's and fund's requirements and would not otherwise be afforded by CAS member schools. In order to ensure the best use of funding, programs must be sustainable through future Board of Education budgets, have a broad and far-reaching impact, and address a need within the school, district, and/or athletic league. Awards made by the CAS-CIAC Endowment and Flanagan Grant Program may be used to expand existing programs in new and innovative ways, or develop other worthy projects or programs. Member schools may look for the annual RFP in late February for the highly competitive application process. Inquiries to Cherese Miller cmiller@casciac.org.

MAR - JUNE **KIDSMARATHON**

KIDSMARATHON, an amazing life fitness program, features an 8-10 week nutrition and running regimen for students ages 5-12, running incremental distances which culminate in regional, final mile celebrations in May and June witnessed by hundreds of parents and fans modeled after the Olympic Marathon. CAS will partner with the Rod Dixon Foundation for the 10th consecutive year as over 5,000 runners are expected to participate in the popular program. The mantra is "Finishing Is Winning – Winning Is Finishing" and complements the curriculum in PE / Health for our schools. Inquiries to Cherese Miller cmillerc@sciac.org.

APR 26 **School Secretaries & Administrative Assistants' Conference**

This annual conference at the Aquaturf Club, Southington is designed to support the daily work of school secretaries and administrative assistants and their important contributions to a school's positive culture and learning environment. Included will be up-to-date information on issues such as legal issues, electronic communication devices, student records retention, special education, state and federal laws and regulations and receive practical suggestions to help secretaries do their job even better. Inquiries to Jill Hale at jhale@casciac.org or Bobbi O'Connor at boconnor@casciac.org.

MAY TBA **CAS National Honor Societies State Conference**

This annual conference is an ideal opportunity for NHS Student members, Faculty Council and Advisers to come together to create enthusiasm for scholarship, stimulate a desire to render service locally, and enhance and promote leadership activities while focusing on student character building strategies. Inquiries to Cherese Miller at cmiller@casciac.org.

SAVE THE DATE: 21st Annual NHS State Conference TBA.

MAY 11 **High School Robotics Championship**

The annual CAS – NE FIRST Robotics State Championship is the ultimate "Sport of the Mind" where imagination and innovation come together as over 30 high schools will vie for the coveted state championship. By combining the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology, teams are challenged to design and build a robot to perform specific tasks against a field of competitors. Inquiries to Cherese Miller cmiller@casciac.org.