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

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<td>Town                      Zip              Telephone</td>
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<td>Typed Name of Nominator,SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR</td>
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<td>Position of Nominator, TELEPHONE NUMBER/DATe SUBMITTED</td>
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<td>Deadline for submission: February 28, 2006 (delivered to CAS or postmarked)</td>
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Send completed nomination to:

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

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