CAS Announces the 57th Annual Meeting!

"No frills" business meeting to be conducted in 2 hours

We are pleased to announce that we will hold our 57th Annual Meeting on Friday, May 22nd at the CAS Central Office in Cheshire. Please mark the date on your calendars!

As many of you are aware, attendance at the annual meeting has steadily declined in recent years. Each year, changes are implemented in the hopes of reversing this trend, but with little or no success. This year's event will be a "bare bones" meeting - just two hours in length - stripped of many of the "extras" that have been included in past years. No formal meal will be served; however, coffee and pastries will be provided at the outset of the meeting, which will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn by 10:30 a.m. We hope that this shortened format will result in a more streamlined event which will be easier to fit into your already very busy schedules.

NOTE: Following the adjournment of the business meeting, members are invited to attend the individual membership meetings hosted by the elementary, middle and high school divisions. It is especially vital that high school members remain to vote on proposed CIAC bylaw changes.

Join us on May 22nd to review highlights of 2008-2009 and chart a course for 2009-2010!

Register online at http://www.casciac.org/amregister

In its third year operating under the new organizational structure, CAS-CIAC has had a busy and productive school year. The CAS Board of Directors, under the seasoned leadership of Bristol Eastern High School Principal Dr. V. Everett Lyons, adopted an ambitious set of goals which has furthered our progress in the areas of outreach and educational leadership. The CAS/CSDE Executive Coaching Initiative, which is now in its second year, is burgeoning. CAS is now providing direct, sustained professional support to sixty-four schools in twenty-two low-performing districts. CAS' partnership with UConn in managing the 12-credit clinical component of its administrator preparation program (UCAPP) continues to flourish since its inception in 2004. All eight UCAPP cohorts are now being overseen by CAS. Through this partnership, CAS is currently supervising more than 90 aspiring administrators throughout the state. In the fall, CAS hired a director of marketing, Stephanie Ford, who, in addition to assuming the director of development's responsibilities, is also handling public and media relations. She is a wonderful and much-needed addition to the Central Office Staff.

CIAC Board of Control Chair George Synnott, principal of Berlin High School, has led the CIAC through a relatively quiet year. The board approved one proposed bylaw change which will come before the CIAC membership for approval at the annual meeting. The proposed change to the CIAC Eligibility Rules (Article IX) affects students who transfer in or out of a school of choice. The Exemplary Interscholastic High School Athletic Program Evaluation Model continues to grow and is now being utilized by more than fifteen schools/districts. During the 2008 year, thanks to the industrious leadership of newly appointed Unified Sports® Director Lou Pear, the CIAC-Special Olympics Unified Sports® Program achieved unprecedented participation gains, with a 66% increase in athlete participation over 2007. This growth is due in part to the success of the new Special Olympics Young Athlete Program serving children with intellectual disabilities ages two to seven.

Additional information, including the proposed revisions to the CIAC By-Laws, will be available shortly.