TO: Superintendents and Principals of CAS Member High and Middle Level Schools  
FROM: The Awards and Recognition Committee of the Connecticut Association of Schools  
DATE: October 2002  
RE: OPPORTUNITY TO NOMINATE A LOCAL PRINCIPAL TO BE CAS/NASSP MIDDLE LEVEL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR AND CAS/NASSP HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

The Connecticut Association of Schools is soliciting nominations for the CAS Principal of the Year Program for the year 2003. If, after reading the award criteria below, you feel that a principal in your system is eligible for and worthy of this honor, please complete the attached form, or have it completed by someone within the system who knows the candidate, and return it over the superintendent’s signature NO LATER THAN November 11, 2002. Your nominee will be informed of this nomination and asked to complete an awards application (this application will be due at CAS by January 6, 2003).

The Principal of the Year Program, sponsored annually by the Connecticut Association of Schools, was established to bring recognition to exemplary school principals and to increase public awareness of the importance of the principalship. The program recognizes outstanding principals who have succeeded in providing high quality learning opportunities for students. These administrators have demonstrated excellent leadership commitment to staff and students, service to their communities, and contributions to the overall profession of educational leadership.

Each year nominations are solicited for a Middle Level and High School Principal of the Year. The winners are chosen by the CAS Awards and Recognition Committee, a selection committee consisting of active and retired principals and assistant principals. The selections will be made in February, 2003. Both the middle and high school honoree will be recognized nationally by NASSP and will represent Connecticut in the competition for National Principal of the Year, sponsored by NASSP and MetLife. (NASSP does not include elementary schools.) Each national finalist receives an award and a $2,500 grant. The National Principals of the Year receive an award and an additional $7,500.

All candidates must be members of CAS and NASSP and have three years experience as a school principal.

CRITERIA FOR CAS/NASSP PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

Candidates should demonstrate success in the following areas:

Educational Leadership
- implements strategies for improving teaching and learning by putting programs and improvement efforts into action.
- involves teachers and other staff members in achieving the goals of the school.
- ensures the school climate is positive and reflects high staff and student morale.

Resolving Complex Problems
- maintains awareness of current and emerging issues.
- resolves short-term issues while balancing them against long-term objectives.
- manages time and tasks effectively including delegation to others.

Developing Self and Others
- is committed to continued professional growth.
- teaches, coaches and helps others (students and colleagues).
- demonstrates and fosters creativity and imagination in bringing about positive change.

Community Service
- involves the community in the life of the school and uses community resources for students.
- establishes partnerships with community groups to strengthen programs and support school goals.

The CAS Awards and Recognition Committee reserves the right to reject any and all candidates in a category if they do not fulfill the criteria for the award. In making its decisions, the Awards and Recognition Committee will consider each candidate’s professional qualities as outlined in the application and his/her recommendations, with particular attention to his/her professional contributions to CAS.

Thank you for your attention to this important opportunity to provide state and national recognition to deserving school administrators.
NOMINATION
FOR
CAS PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR: 2003

Candidate_________________________________________Position____________________________________
School____________________________________________District____________________________________
Address____________________________________________Zip________________Phone____________________
Nominator_________________________________________Position_______________________________
District_____________________________________________Phone_________________________________

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AS PRINCIPAL

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As superintendent of schools, I endorse the above nomination.

Signature_________________________________________Date______________________________

Thank you for your nomination!

Please send to:
Connecticut Association of Schools
Awards and Recognition Committee
c/o Karen Packtor
30 Realty Drive
Cheshire, CT 06410

by November 11, 2002