

**Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS)  
56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Thursday, May 8, 2008  
CAS Conference Room**

**President's Report**

**Good Morning!**

**It has been my distinguished honor to serve as CAS President for the past two years. As I stand here this morning and as I have attended many CAS functions I am very humbled ... you are my everyday professional mentors and heroes. Your commitment to children and dedication to academic excellence are unparalleled. Your tireless work ethic is exemplary. With the changing of our roles, and the changing of our societal pressures, our job is becoming more complex. Therefore, for me and for all of the children K – 12 in all of the Connecticut schools – thank you! As principals we are teachers – it is fitting that this week is Teacher Appreciation Week..... you are the BEST!!!!**

**It has been a busy year and a positive/productive one. I think that we need to first recognize all of the staff at 30 Realty Drive – who continue to be the leadership for principals in our State and who are held in highest regard throughout the United States..... Mike Savage, Mike Buckley, Paul Hoey, Regina Birdsell, Lou Pear, Earle Bidwell, Dennis Carrithers, Pat Llodra, Ann Malafronte, George Hall, Joe Tonelli, Matt Fischer, and of course Karen Packtor.... And for all of their support staff..... thank you for your continued efforts - well-done!!! To all of the CAS Board of Directors – Ev Lyons, Don Macrino, Dave Russell, Kit Bishop. Janet Garagliano, Bill Barney and Bob Hale – thank you for meeting to plan our present and our future. And I wish the new board, with Ev at the helm, my very best.**

**The State of Our Organization:**

**Our Mission...The Connecticut Association of Schools provides exemplary programs and services that promote excellence in the education of all children.**

**Our Direction...**we have had our CAS Board of Directors' goals in place for two years; we have our committees and people working on the goals; and we have raised consciousness that CAS is a working, collaborative and goal-oriented organization... from communication, public awareness, participation from all state principals....we are thriving.

**Our Needs...** to help with the membership processes and our internal technology; and professional development for the group. Our facilities, equipment and programs have been funded for the advancement of the organization... and our budgets will continue to need to reflect our growth, our strengths and needs in the future.

**Our Accomplishments...** From the success of our Principal Center, IMPACT magazine, CAS Bulletin, the mentoring program, the annual conventions, our balanced budget and future financial status..... All good “stuff”!!!!

The UCAPP program has been very, very successful and will be the key to the continuation and involvement of our new building administrators. The positive impact and potential are unmatched. This will be the starship of CAS for the involvement of principals in the State.

CAS/CAPSS/CABE Position on Secondary School Reform Proposal... our support from Commissioner McQuillan...

CSDE/CAS Executive Coaching is the best new initiative we could have within our State.

Mentoring of aspiring and future administrators – unbelievable.

When I became president of CAS two years ago there were two areas I mentioned of personal concern: membership throughout the state and

**younger educators to enter building administration...with your diligence and support I think we have made great strides in these two areas.**

**As we close this academic year, and as I end my term as CAS President, we are in great shape. I encourage all of you to celebrate all of your students' and schools' successes. Think of all of their academic and social accomplishments. We wish all of our retiring administrators much appreciation and good wishes.**

**Thank you for your support, collaboration and insights.....If I can ever help any of you in any way please let me know. I do plan to continue to be active in our organization even if I am closing school as my 40<sup>th</sup> year in education... I ain't goin' anywhere ..... Have a great closing and a great summer vacation!**

**At last fall's convocation I spoke of goals as dreams with timelines... I wish for all of you to have happy and successful timelines in your personal and professional lives.**

**SUCCESS**  
**(Ralph Waldo Emerson)**

**To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.**

**Fellow principals... it is you who have succeeded!!!!**