

CSAANYS NEWS

December 2009
January 2010
Volume 37, Issue 9

*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year
from the CSAANYS Executive Board and
Staff.*



Christmas is Coming along with Year End Giving

Just when it seems you can't get any busier....you do. If you analyze the mail you're getting at home this year, you'll notice there are two types - Christmas cards and envelopes from organizations asking for a year-end contribution. Typically, we open the Christmas cards, and are very selective about what "gift requests" we open. So let's think about the Christmas cards you send to supporters of your school, why not combine the card with a donation request? Send your annual Christmas card, but also include a P.S., saying that if the recipient finds themselves in the spirit of giving gifts this season, then *your school* would appreciate a donation. You can even enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. You know your card/appeal will be opened, people usually read the P.S. first, and you've made it very easy for them to get the gift back to you. Don't forget to make sure it's a Christmas Card - with a religious message. © Michael V. Ziernski, SchoolAdvancement, 2007

Oh, Father,

When your precious Son became a tiny baby in a stable in Bethlehem in poverty and simplicity, you changed our world. As we imagine those surroundings, we join with the shepherds and the wise men in wonder and praise. We thank you for our material lives, praise you for our spiritual lives, and trust in you for our eternal life. Amen.

Gearing up for Catholic School's Week

It is never too early to begin thinking about how Catholic school's week and how marketing for enrollment go together. Instead of sending adults out to parishes to talk about your school, send the students - the younger the better! Consider the ages in your building, then start looking at how well your BEST advertisers are in front of an audience. A first grader that reads or speaks beautifully paired with his or her parent has much more of an impact on the congregation than the lone adult. Children of all ages speaking from the heart about their Catholic school experience will have a much greater impact. Also, make sure you choose the mass that is attended by the most families!!

The ING Unsung Heroes® program provides grants to K-12 private and public school educators to help them utilize new teaching methods and techniques that improve learning. One hundred finalists will be selected to receive a grant of \$2,000 each. Additional prizes are also given. The application deadline is April 30, 2010. For more information and application [CLICK HERE](#) or go to <http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/CorporateCitizenship/Education/INGUnsungHeroes/index.htm>.

*The Catholic School Administrators Association of
New York State*

525 4th Ave.
Troy, NY 12182
518-273-1205
518-273-1206 fax
www.esaanys.org
nysadm@nycap.rr.com or csaanys@nycap.rr.com

www.csaanys.org
username: memberio
password: noah

Case
sensitive

Has everyone in your school community joined the Catholic Advocacy Network? Remind people to join today! Go to www.nyscatholic.org, click Join the Network. Your voice is needed in our advocacy efforts!

NEW from the New York State Education Department

NYSED has released the New York State Preliminary Draft of Mentoring Standards for public review and comment. To view a letter from Deputy Commissioner Joseph Frey, the preliminary draft standards and the web response form click on this direct link <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/memos/memo110609.html> . The deadline for comment is January 15, 2010

2010 Olympics of the Visual Arts(OVA)

OVA provides an opportunity for students to participate in individual or group artistic problem solving. A new series of challenges is posed every fall. Students create long-range solutions at their schools, and travel to the Albany area to compete in a day-long celebration of creativity. There are awards for each of the "problem categories" at every level. Artistic problem solving is a great way to get students learning, experiencing and creating! The Olympics of the Visual Arts will be held at the Saratoga Springs Civic Center, Saratoga Springs, New York on Thursday, April 15, 2010. Registration forms must be postmarked by February 15, 2010. For more information or to register, visit <http://www.nysata.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=87223>

A Consumer's Guide to Reading Comprehension Assessments for Adolescents

Measure for Measure: A Critical Consumer's Guide to Reading Comprehension Assessments for Adolescents
This guide draws together evidence on nine of the most commonly used, commercially available reading comprehension assessments for use with adolescents. It provides a critical view into the strengths and weaknesses of each. Authors Lelia Morsy, Michael Kieffer, and Catherine Snow focus on the utility of assessments for the purposes of screening groups of students to identify those who struggle and diagnosing their specific needs. The guide is available at http://www.carnegie.org/literacy/tta/pdf/tta_Morsy.pdf .


Education Law- Sect. 809 Instruction in the Humane Treatment of Animals

School districts are reminded to review Education Law Section 809 - Instruction in the Humane Treatment of Animals on an annual basis. The provisions of the law can be accessed on the Department's website at <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/sci/news.html> Certain specified types of lessons or experimental studies on live vertebrate animals require submission of an application for a waiver from the Commissioner of Education. Information regarding the §809(5) Treatment of Live Vertebrate Animals and the waiver process, including an application form can be accessed at http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/science/809_5waiver.htm

Changes to the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English

The State Education Department's Office of State Assessment has issued a memo regarding changes to the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English. The first administration of the new three-hour, one-day Regents Comprehensive Examination in English will take place in January 2011. This examination will replace the current two-session examination that will continue to be administered during each Regents examination period prior to January 2011. Additional information, including test specifications, is included in the memo <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/retest/specs-cr-eng.pdf> (pdf)

January 2010 Testing Schedule

The January 2010 NYSED Testing Schedule is now available at: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/schedules/504-0110.pdf> ( 81.01KB)

Teachers TV: Online Professional Development

New training sessions focus on using Teachers TV as a resource to support professional development, as well as a training tool for use with new and existing staff in schools. For more information visit <http://www.teachers.tv/training>

USDOE Webinar on ARRA and the Impact on Nonpublic Schools

The U.S. Department of Education will conduct a webinar on December 15, 2009 from 2:00 p.m.- 3:30 p.m. on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) <<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/index.html>> with a focus on the equitable services provisions under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); Title I, Part A - Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged; and Title II, D - Enhancing Education through Technology under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Staff from the Offices of Non-Public Education, Special Education Programs, and Elementary and Secondary Education - Student Achievement and School Accountability Programs, and School Support and Technology Programs - will address the obligations of state and local educational agencies in providing equitable services to private school students, their teachers, and, in some cases, their families under these programs. Topics will include: timely and meaningful consultation, allowable activities, funding, and suggestions for effective implementation of these programs at the local level. The presentation will begin with a discussion on IDEA (15 minutes), followed by Title II, D (20 minutes), and then Title I (35 minutes). Time will be provided at the end of the presentation for questions and answers.

Registration is required to participate in the webinar. To register for the webinar, please visit the Department's webinar page <<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/web-conferences.html>> and scroll down the "Web Conference Schedule" table, and click on the "Register" link. After you have registered, you will receive an automatic email confirmation that contains the link and the conference call-in number for the webinar.

Audio for the webinar will be provided by phone, so participants will need access to a computer with an Internet connection to view the webinar and to submit text questions as well as a separate phone line to access the audio portion of the webinar. Questions can be submitted by text-only at any time during the webinar. Close captioning will also be available during the webinar.

Answering that age old question...

Can Regents exams or NYS Tests be averaged into final quarter or year averages? In a simple word NO. Classroom assessments and Regents exams are different scales of measurement that cannot be combined without a data transformation (of the classroom grades since the Regents results are using an established scale). Even though Regents use a 0-100 range, Regents scores are scale scores, not percents. See: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/concht/scoring-regents.htm>

In addition, the content of courses are not completely aligned with the constructs being measured in the Regents exams. Your classroom assessments measure the content, the state assessments measure skills/proficiency that are not connected to a specific course curriculum. For example, Regents ELA only measures 3 of the 4 NYS Learning Standards; your courses should cover all 4 and in greater depth than what is measured on the state tests.

SEXTING

An Associated Press-MTV poll finds lots of young people are sharing sexually explicit photos, videos and chat on their cell phones or online. Over 1 in 4 teens and young adults say they've done it. Our schools need to be proactive in policy development rather than working in reaction mode. Policy development should include a representative from the technology department and legal authorities. There are a few things that need to be considered when dealing with sexting.

- Procedures for investigations—the proper legal authorities will assist you in developing protocol for investigating sexting to avoid potential criminal (possession of child pornography) or civil liability.
- Discipline policies should be written to balance the school's ability and right to discipline with student rights.
- Policies that prohibit sexting must clearly define the behavior and the consequences for students engaging in the act.
- The policies should include the investigation procedures administrators will follow when collecting evidence
- The policies should also include the administrators/teachers responsibilities under current federal and/or state laws with regards to mandated reporting requirements.

Lastly don't forget to educate EVERYONE on the dangers of sexting and the school's policies. Students and parents need to be warned about the potential consequences and criminal liability of engaging in sexting. Use all means, websites, twitter, facebook, etc. to educate the seriousness of sexting. If you have a policy and would like to share it please email Carol at csaanys@nycap.rr.com

CSAANYS GATHERING

The 2009 Gathering was a great event. We had the pleasure of hearing John Angotti sing and Jerry Galipeau discuss our Mission to Evangelize.



For the first time the CSAANYS Executive Board gave the "Lighting the Fire for Catholic Education Award" The 2009 Honorees were Sister Mary Anne Brawley, past Executive Director of CSAANYS, Sister Edwardine Weaver, member of the founding Executive Board of CSAANYS and Bishop Costello, of the Diocese of Syracuse. Please check the CSAANYS website in the spring for the 2010 nomination form for the next "Lighting the Fire for Catholic Education" honorees.



Andrew Woods



Linda Dougherty



Sr. Eileen Barrow



Sr. Mary Anne Brawley



George Teasdale



Diane Phelan

The Door prize winners were chosen by random draw. The winners went home with a wine bag or \$100 amex card, or digital camera, or mini video camera, or a GPS. All the administrators that attended were also given their choice of John Angotti's new Christmas CD or Jerry Galipeau's book.