

Advocacy News

Please go to www.nyscatholic.org, click Join the Network to be a part of advocating for Catholics. Please respond to any Action Alerts that you receive via email after joining!

As soon as possible, please encourage all adults in your school community to **CALL** each of the following and tell them to **provide 100% reimbursement to Catholic Schools for Mandated Services and the MTA Payroll Tax.**

Governor Cuomo- 518-474-8390

Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver - 212-312-1420 (district) or 518-455-3791

Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos - 518-455-3171 or 516-766-8383 (district)

Because of the actions of state lawmakers and agency officials independent and religious schools are owed over \$260 million dollars. In schools where every dollar counts we need to be heard and demand that our elected officials take action to begin correcting the past.. We need every voice heard!

Look What's Happening at State Ed.

Mandated Services Reimbursement

The online system is now open for schools to submit their MSR claims. Once a claim is approved, the school will receive a system-generated e-mail notification stating that payment will be made in 7-10 days. This is an estimate based on when the funds become available. It is anticipated that funds will not be available until after the **Feb. 7th submission deadline**. If based on the submissions made by the Feb. 7th deadline funding is not sufficient to pay all claims, payments will be prorated based on available funding. The unpaid balance will be paid when additional funds become available.

Emergency Preparedness Materials for Students

New York State has been impacted by a wide variety of natural, technological, and human-made disasters and emergencies. It is critical that students, staff, and their families be prepared for such events. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), New York City Office of Emergency Management, Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), and the American Red Cross have developed age-appropriate interactive programs to assist in preparing students for a wide variety of emergencies. These materials are available at no cost to schools. **The FEMA Ready Kids** program provides a template for developing a family emergency plan, as well as a variety of interactive puzzles, games, coloring pages, videos, and fact

Leaders ask questions in line with moving forward on the journey... They ask the difficult questions that make us better.

sheets about a variety of emergencies. <http://www.ready.gov/kids/>. **NYC Office of Emergency Management: Explore Ready New York for Kids** program goal is to help children understand three basic steps to prepare for all types of emergencies: make a plan, pack a "go bag," and create an emergency supply kit. This includes an interactive crossword puzzle, word search game, and more. http://www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/get_prepared/ready_kids.shtml.

PBS: Let's Get Ready! Planning Together for Emergencies Sesame Workshop, if full of tips, activities, and other easy tools to help the whole family prepare for emergencies. This web site includes a children's activity book, a template for students to develop a family emergency plan, and guidance to assist parents in preparing for emergencies. <http://www.sesamestreet.org/ready>.

American Red Cross: Masters of Disaster program was developed to assist educators in helping students prepare and recover from a wide variety of emergencies. The program is divided into modules for grades K-2; grades 3-5; and grades 6-8. Modules include Facing Fear, In the Aftermath, Hurricanes, Fire Prevention and Safety, Floods, and more. <http://www.redcross.org/preparedness/educatorsmodule/ed-cd-main-menu-1.html>.

Common Core Standards

The Board of Regents has approved the recommended additions to the Common

Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy and Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, plus a new set of Prekindergarten Standards. These can be found at the following links:

[New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy](#)

[New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for Mathematics](#)

[New York State Prekindergarten Learning Standards](#)

ALERT

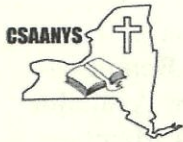


The Nonpublic School Office at the NYS Education Department is NO longer staffed.

If you have any questions that you would normally call that office for please call CSAANYS and we will direct you to the person or office that now handles our needs.

CSAANYS News sponsored by:

tuition management | too-ish-uhn man-ij-muhnt |
At FACTS, we've spent over 20 years defining what tuition management should be. Today, we unveil a new vision for serving your school and families. In addition to better helping families manage costs, we expanded FACTS flexibility for parents and schools that meets your high expectations—and ours. To experience **FACTS Tuition Management** for yourself, visit our website to sign up for a free Webinar or give us a call. www.factsmgt.com | 877.606.2587



CSAANYS News

Catholic School Administrators Association of NYS

525 4th Ave., Troy, NY 12182 • 518-273-1205 • 518-273-1206 fax • www.csaanys.org

csaanys@nycap.rr.com • nysadm@nycap.rr.com

Included in this Newsletter:

- > Annual Dues Invoice
- > Gathering Registration
- > Workshop Flyer
- > EI Online Information
- > Publications Flyer

Don't Forget to check out the CSAANYS website www.csaanys.org regularly for new information.

- On the Resources for Principals page you will find the surveys, enrollment and retention resources, and much more.

Your CSAANYS Executive Board representatives regularly receive e-alerts and updates, let your rep. know if you are not getting these emails.

NYS Budget Impact on our Schools

Mandated Services and CAP Reimbursement: A total of \$103,377,000 is available.

- \$74,157,000 for MSR
- \$26,220,000 for CAP
- \$3,000,000 in restoration funding. It is unclear if this will be applied to MSR or CAP.

MTA Payroll Tax: Only public schools will continue to receive reimbursement. The Senate Republican Majority had proposed exempting public and religious/independent schools from the tax. The exemption however would create a deficit in the MTA budget, which lawmakers couldn't absorb without fare increases or reduction of services.

Instructional Material Aid Flexibility: Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year all schools may now utilize the funds available for textbooks, software, and hardware to acquire any of the instructional materials available in each of the categories including library materials. Library funds can only be used for library materials. The equitability provisions under the textbook loan statute have been retained. Conversations with SED are underway to determine how communicating this change with the LEA's will take place.

Save the Date!

The annual CSAANYS Gathering will be Sunday, November 13, 2011 at the Albany Marriott Hotel. Registration form included in this newsletter.

This year the Keynote Presentation will be given by Donna Moss, her topic is No Guts, No Glory, What it Takes to be a Catholic School Administrator in the 21st Century. Donna is the principal of Cathedral School in Raleigh, NC. She is a nationally recognized speaker on Catholic Education, who was recently featured at the NCEA Convention.

The CSAANYS Executive Board has chosen the 2011 *Lighting the Fire for Catholic Education Award*
Honorees:

Sr. Stephen Gerard Miick, OP
Archdiocese of New York

Dr. Rosemary Henry
Diocese of Buffalo

Mr. Thomas Gould
Diocese of Albany

Please join us in celebrating with our honored guests.

Have a Brown Bag Lunch with Parents

Trying to think of ways to enhance communication with parents? Build relationships? Control the rumor mill? And get a read on what is happening in the community? Consider this a no-lose idea.

Host a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly brown bag lunch. Encourage parents and community members to join you for a bring your own lunch. Through these informal conversations you will be able to find out how the community is feeling about the school. A lunch like this will also give you the opportunity to discuss

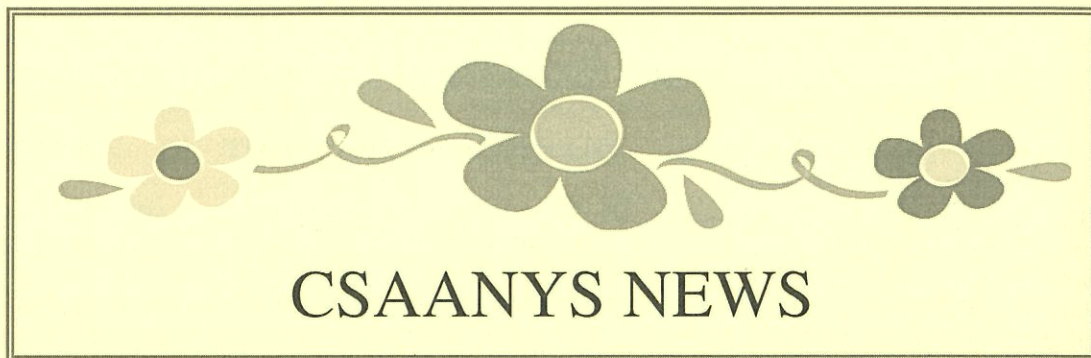
matters that may be of concern to you or the faculty. You can talk about areas of great success and topics where the staff may be struggling, for example cyberbullying, or bus behavior. You will be able to talk about the steps you are taking to remedy areas of concern and ask for input. A lunch format like this also allows you to share the successes the students are having, you can share awards and honors as well as school wide achievements.

One great thing about brown bag lunches is you can head off the rumors that can really dampen the image of a school. By getting the truth out the

strange fiction that sometimes takes over has no where to put down roots. Brown bag lunches are a free source of communication with the parents and community members. By using a technique such as this you are allowing the parents to join you for conversation, which makes everyone feel more engaged and attached to the school. In addition it makes student success a team effort because they are getting to know you and the school better. Give it a try!

CSAANYS NEEDS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS TO REPRESENT

**BUFFALO SECONDARY
ROCHESTER ELEMENTARY
SYRACUSE SECONDARY
STATEN ISLAND ELEMENTARY**
Call Carol today!!



O God of all beginnings
and endings,
We praise and thank you
for the gift of this school
year.

It has been a time filled
with grace and blessings,
With challenges and oppor-
tunities, joys and sorrows.

The days have passed
quickly, O Lord.
The weeks, the months, the
seasons, the holidays and
holy days,

The exams, vacations,
breaks, and assemblies,
All have come forth from
your hand.

While we trust that your
purposes have always been
at work each day,

Sometimes it has seemed
difficult to understand and
appreciate
just what you have been up
to in our school.

Give us the rest and re-
freshment we need this
summer.

Let our efforts of this past
year bear fruit.

Bring all of our plans to a
joyful conclusion,
And bless us, according to
your will,

with the fulfillment of our
summer hopes and dreams.
Watch over us in the weeks
of rest ahead,

and guide us each day as
you have done this past
year. Help us return to
school with a new spirit and
a new energy.

May we continue to grow
in age, wisdom, knowledge
and grace

All the days of our lives.

Amen.

Author Unknown

One of the responsibilities of CSAANYS is to represent you. One way Carol does this is by being a delegate to the New York State Council of Educational Associations—NYSCEA, www.nyscea.org. This association is the umbrella organization consisting of professional educational organizations. The group meets three times a year to learn from NYSED the latest news, initiatives, and information.

At the May meeting Dr. John B. King, the current Senior Deputy Commissioner and newly elected Commissioner of Education attended. Dr. King spoke about the Regents reform agenda, as well as the Common Core State Standards - CCSS. With regards to CCSS he encouraged schools to submit ELA and math units and lessons that are aligned with CCSS, email units to emscurric@mail.nysed.gov. This summer the units will be available online. In addition there will be network team

training. This training is geared to be turnkey in nature. CSAANYS will keep you up to date on the network training.

David Abrams, Assistant Commissioner for Assessment Policy, Development and Administration also addressed the group. He emphasized that all the 2011-2012 assessments will still be based on the 2005 standards, and beginning with the 2012-2013 school year the CCSS will be transitioned into the tests. Abrams discussed changes that will be coming in the future including computer based testing.

Larry Paska, Coordinator of Technology Policy also addressed the group. He discussed online learning, internet safety and social networking policy. The PowerPoint for his talk is available in the member news section at www.csaanys.org.



Gathering 2011

Sunday, November 13, 2011
Albany Marriott Hotel
Wolf Road, Albany

For \$65.00 you will get an awesome professional development program, snacks, a delicious dinner, mass and breakfast.

Registration attached or online at www.csaanys.org
Hotel information is on the website too!

CAIRS 2011

November 14 & 15, 2011
Albany Marriott Hotel
Wolf Road, Albany

\$90.00
\$125.00 with Monday Dinner

Registration Link:
www.nvscirs.org

Hotel and Transportation Information
www.nvscirs.org

RECRUITING GENERATION Y TEACHERS

The time has come to adapt the teacher recruitment process to meet the habits of generation Y teachers. Generation Y teachers were born between 1982 and 1995, these teachers are tech-savvy and recruitment requires a whole new approach.

First look at your website—are jobs posted there? Is the

application process accessible and easy to navigate? Can documents be uploaded or attached to the application? Are you corresponding with applicants electronically? Second take a look at how you are advertising. Is the newspaper your first thought? Think again, consider social networking sites, Facebook, Twit-

ter, LinkedIn and Second Life. All these sites allow you to post announcements and send messages to groups of people. Consider using an electronic education job board - www.k12jobs.com is an example of one. By rethinking the recruitment process you will find a broader and deeper pool of candidates.

New from NYSED

- **The Grades 3-8 TEST DATES for the 2011-2012 school year HAVE NOT been released yet. We will let you know as soon as they are issued.**
 - **PLANNING for EXAMS 2012** -If middle school, junior high school or senior high school pupils take local final examinations during the Regents examination period in June, in a block-time format similar to the format for Regents examinations; i.e., exams are scheduled for both the morning and the afternoon, then minimum length of school day requirements pursuant to NYCRR 175.5 (a) may be waived on such days. Such days will count toward the 180 required days of instruction and attendance for the grades taking the tests need not be taken. If, however, local final exams in June are held on days before the Regents examination days, all students must be required to attend, attendance must be recorded and the day must meet the minimum length of school day requirements in order to be counted toward meeting the 180 day requirement for the year.
- State Ed. **has not** issued guidance to date on the new regulations that cover the purchase of hardware, software, textbooks and library materials across categories. The legislation information can be found at https://stateaid.nysed.gov/tsl/html_docs/amendments_statutes_tsl_2011_12.htm
- Common Core State Standards for ELA, social studies, science and technical subjects text exemplars and sample performance tasks can be found at www.corestandards.org/assets/appendix_b.pdf.
- The Common Core samples of student’s writing can be found at http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_C.pdf
- The Common Core Mathematics—Designing High School Courses can be found at http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/common_core_standards/pdfdocs/ccssi_mathematics_appendix_a.pdf
- Don’t forget to do a little checking on how much your LEA is spending on Instructional Material Aid. Go to <http://eservices.nysed.gov/sams-public/reports.do>, put in the LEA name and scroll down to Instructional Material Aid. From there you will be able to see how much is spent on textbooks for example. Make sure you are getting your fair share!! If you would like help with this please call Carol at 518-273-1205 and she will walk you through it.

2011-2012 Administrator Goals

It is important as an administrator that you set personal and professional goals for yourself. It is easy to get overwhelmed during the busy school year. By developing attainable goals for yourself, you will be setting an example for your faculty and board. Before completing your goals take some time to pray about each area.

The three areas you should have at least one specific goal are personal, school improvement, and professional development. In each area take the time to answer the following questions:

1. My goal is to
2. In order to reach this goal I will need to
3. I will know I have accomplished this goal when

We all have the tendency to have many goals, some of which never get any more attention than writing them on a piece of paper. This year consider streamlining and focusing your goals on areas that you desire improvement or change the most. After developing your goals set about developing the plan to accomplish them, determine the people that are necessary to assist you, as well as what tools and information you will need. Consider sharing your goals with a colleague or friend who can check in periodically with you, similar to how you assist your faculty and staff with their goals.

Resource

The Khan Academy, www.khanacademy.org, has a library of over 2,400 videos covering everything from arithmetic to physics, finance, and history and 125 practice exercises, The site is on a mission to help students (or adults) learn whatever they want, whenever they want, at their own pace.

QR Codes

Let's talk about QR Codes. What is a QR (quick response) code you ask? QR codes are 2D matrix bar codes (see below), that can contain a variety of information, from a URL, to text, to Vcards. Click the Qr code below with your smart phone and see where it takes you! I have placed a few QR codes in this newsletter that are all different and provide different information and links, give them a try!

I am sure you have seen them in ads, on billboards, bus stops, tags on perennial plants, in the supermarket, in magazines, just about everywhere. QR tags have wonderful educational applications. Think marketing for a moment, people are intrigued to find out the "secret message". By using well placed QR tags around the community you can draw people to your wonderful website, or link to open house information, or a news story, whatever you can think of can be placed in a QR tag. With Kaywa you can put 250 characters in a single code, that's a lot of information!

To generate your own QR code you need software. I like [Kaywa QR Code Generator](http://qrcode.kaywa.com/), (<http://qrcode.kaywa.com/>) which is FREE! If you already use Goo.gl or Bit.ly to shorten URLs, they also include QR generators. If you need a qr reader, you can get the app from the app store you like. I use i-nigma.

There are also excellent classroom applications for QR codes. Granted not all students have smart phones, but why not take advantage of the opportunity? For example a teacher can put QR codes on the classroom door with the daily assignments, or extra credit, or a challenge. QR codes can be used for a treasure hunt, or geocache. The codes can provide a multimedia aspect to worksheets, by scanning the code students are taken to a video or other interactive content. QR codes can be used to differentiate instruction or provide assessments that are individualized. Students can create QR codes to enhance projects, or homework. There are so many great uses of this simple technology. It literally takes minutes to learn how to use the QR generator. Give it a try and see where it takes teaching and learning.



Dignity for All Students Act— revisited

Back in October of 2010 I noted in the newsletter that Governor Paterson had signed the Dignity for All Students act into law. The law specifically requires public schools to have codes of conduct that reflect school environments that are free from harassment and discrimination; adopt guidelines for school training programs that raise awareness, and also provide professional development for school personnel that includes response measures. Even though this law is for public schools, it is of course in the best interest of our students that we do our best to adhere to it. So where is your school with regards to creating policies and training that touches on the safety, security, and dignity of all students? There is vast amounts of research and literature available to assist you in developing policies that ensure that the school environment is one that respects the emotional health and well being of the students. Policies should be clear and reflect the Catholic mission of the school. When developing policies, teacher handbooks need to be refreshed as well. For resources see

Codes of Conduct Resources

[Stop Bullying— http://stopbullying.gov/](http://stopbullying.gov/)

[Cyberbullying Research Center— http://www.cyberbullying.us/](http://www.cyberbullying.us/)

[The Ruler Approach— http://therulerapproach.org/](http://therulerapproach.org/)

[CSAANYS— www.csaanys.org—resources for principals](http://www.csaanys.org)