

# CSAANYS NEWS



CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE  
406 Fulton Street • Suite 512 • Troy, New York 12180-3359

(518) 273-1205

## MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL

### A View From Two Capitals

by Sister Carol Cimino, Executive Director

On September 23, US Department of Education Secretary Riley delivered a "white paper" to the National Press Club. Entitled "What Really Matters in American Education", the paper represents a strident departure from the usual anti-choice sentiments so often expressed by the Administration these days.

In the speech, Secretary Riley stated, "*Quality public schools are the foundation of a democracy and a free enterprise economic system*", and "*using public tax dollars for private school vouchers fundamentally undermines 200 years of public education in America*". By trotting out all the usual arguments about private schools serving only the "*best and the brightest*", private schools are not accountable, etc, etc, the Secretary argued that any voucher program would "*strike at the Jeffersonian ideal of the spiritual basis of the American Creed*".

While we are certain that this speech was ghost written by the NEA, the Secretary chose to give it. He reiterated the Administration's determination to veto any legislation that would provide for school choice that would include private and sectarian schools.

What this paper signals is the fact that the folks in Washington realize that the idea of vouchers simply will not go away; indeed, as the recent Kappan poll indicates, more Americans than ever are in favor of using tax monies to allow parents to choose the school their children will attend. Let's keep our parents and our teachers and our boards informed about this, and let's ask our parents and our school communities to continue the effort to secure the right they have as parents to say where their tax monies are used.

In another capital, Albany, we are concerned about the fate of the Office of Nonpublic Schools which has been downsized in a time when the number of responsibilities and oversight, especially of homeschoolers, has increased. At the Nonpublic School Administrators Conference held here November 3 and 4, we asked the Commissioner's Advisory Committee to consider three things:

- 1) Increase the number of professional staff in the office to reflect the added responsibilities that the office has taken on;
- 2) Restore the title of Assistant Commissioner to the head of that office (now Tom Hogan), as it was when Joan Bourgeois was appointed;
- 3) Move the office from its present location (next to the dumpster) to more spacious quarters that are more convenient to the rest of the State Education Building.

Commissioner Mills' address to the Conference on November 3 stressed the "independence" of the nonpublic schools. Yes, Commissioner, that's our essential nature, but we would all be poorer, and perhaps less independent if we were to lose the valuable services of the Office of Nonpublic Schools.

Developments in two capitals remind us that we do live in "interesting times". Complacency on our part now is a lost opportunity to shape these times.

### NCEA CONVENTION APRIL 14-17, 1998 LOS ANGELES, CA

Once again CSAANYS will offer group registration for any member wanting to attend the NCEA convention this spring. ALL registration forms must be submitted to CSAANYS by:

**February 9, 1997**

The group registration fee is \$65.00. Please make checks payable to CSAANYS.

### Dollar Increase for Education

- X The impact-aid program for districts affected by federal installations, which jumped to \$808 million from \$730 million;
- X The Eisenhower Professional Development state grants for teacher, training, which increased from \$310 million to \$335 million;
- X Title VI block grants, funding with few strings attached that districts may put toward education reform, which increased from \$310 million to \$350 million; and;
- X The Pell Grants program for needy college students, whose funding rose from \$5.91 billion to \$7.34 billion. The maximum Pell Grant will increase from \$2,700 to \$3,000 under the plan.





## Bishops Seek Means to Maintain High Quality

Keeping Roman Catholic schools faithful to both religion and high academic quality in the next century will require better salaries for teachers and tax dollars in the hands of parents choosing schools.

That prescription comes in a report made to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, which met last week.

The report chronicles a seven-year effort to meet goals set by the bishops' education committee. The goals include: maintaining the Catholic identity of the schools; increasing the availability of a parochial education, especially to Catholic and poor parents; finding new private money and directing public money to Catholic schools, through vouchers or other means; and bettering the salaries and benefits of parochial school teachers and administrators.

"With growing enrollments and a shrinking workforce of nuns and other religious, Catholic schools have had to rely more and more on lay teachers and principals, who may be less prepared than their predecessors to take up the spiritual dimension of their jobs", said Leonard DeFiore, president of NCEA. Principals who are able to minister to spiritual needs are crucial to providing a uniquely Catholic school environment.

## New IDEA Rules

Last month the U.S. Department of Education issued proposed rules for carrying out the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997 (IDEA). The rules include important provisions for students in private schools.

The proposed regulations clarify that each school district must "locate, identify and evaluate all private school children" who reside in the district and must spend on "providing special education and related services" to those children a proportional amount of the district's federal grant under IDEA. The rules go on to state that an SEA or LEA may also use state and local funds to provide additional services to private school students in accordance with state laws and local policies.

## Graduate Program in School Administration & Supervision

Once again, Sister Carol Cimino will be offering a course entitled: *Issues In Administration & Curriculum for Private School Administrators* at the 1998 Catholic School Administrator Program to be held at Manhattan College.

For a brochure of courses and dates for this Summer Program call CSAANYS 518-273-1205 or Manhattan College, School of Education, 718-862-7473, [www.manhattan.edu](http://www.manhattan.edu).

## 1998 Presidential Awards Program

The 1998 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching recognizes truly excellent teacher-leaders and encourages highly qualified people to enter and remain in the fields of science & mathematics teaching.

To request application forms write to: State Coordinator, PAEMST Program, Rm. 674 EBA, State Ed. Dept., Albany, NY 12234. Application packets must be postmarked by February 27, 1998.

If you have any questions call Lynn Richbart-Math, or Diana Harding-Science at 518-473-9471.

## Telecommunications Discounts and Deadlines

The Federal Communications Commission announced last week that the Schools and library Corporation (SLC) which will administer the \$2.25 billion annual fund, will give equal consideration to all applications that reach its office within 75 days of the date it begins to accept them. SCL indicated that its website for receiving applications for discounts will probably not be operational before January 12, 1998.

The application forms have not yet been made final, however, the forms will be available within the next several weeks. The first form will describe the services to be purchased, the second form details the services for which a contract has been signed, and, the third form confirms that contracted services have begun. The SLC will mail applications and instructions to every school district, library and independent school and will also be posted on its website at [www.slcfund.org](http://www.slcfund.org).

In addition the EdLiNC Coalition recently launched a hot line and a web site to inform schools and libraries about the discounts at [www.eratehotline.org](http://www.eratehotline.org) or call 800-733-6860.

## INVITATIONAL ROUNDTABLE

On Wednesday, November 19th, the Non Public School Advisory Committee met with Commissioner Mills, Regents Cohen and Tisch, Jim Kadamus, Sam Corsi; related SED staff members, and the organizations' attorneys at the Board of Jewish Education in New York City for a full day workshop. This historic and, we believe, productive meeting covered most of the Committee's major concerns/issues which included the current size and status of the Non Public School office, changes in the State Testing program and graduation requirements, school data reporting with its attendant confidentiality, dissemination and reimbursement issues, staff development funding and participation and universal Pre-K.

We believe that the Commissioner and Regents were given a clear presentation of the Non Public School Committee's concerns - concerns that were effectively situated between the recent history of relationships among the non-public schools, the Commissioner, Board of Regents and SED and the hope and expectations for future relationships. Tom Hogan and Jim Anderson prepared extensive background readings for the participants in preparation for these discussions.

Unfortunately, the fruits and tangible results of this historic dialog are yet to be seen. While participants left knowing their issues had been thoroughly aired and, it is believed, heeded, there were no definitive answers or specific commitments on the part of the Commissioner or Regents.

With the next Board of Regents meeting scheduled for December 18-19th, it can only be hoped that the Commissioner will be able to represent our meeting with the understanding and urgency that our concerns warrant so that the Regents, some of whom would readily try to increase their oversight of our system, will be prompted to respond favorably and quickly.



# CSAANYS NEWS

(518) 273-1205

CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE  
406 Fulton Street • Suite 512 • Troy, New York 12180-3359

## MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL

by Sister Carol Cimino, Executive Director

I like to collect success stories. Like a homing pigeon, I am attracted to stories of schools, once on the brink of extinction, being brought back to existence and even to the point of flourishing.

It is a delight to meet a Catholic school principal who has taken on the daunting challenge of "turning a school around". For instance, I know of a school in a downstate area that was slated for closure five years ago. The usual suspects - no money, low enrollment, low morale - were pushing diocesan officials to consider shutting down the school. But then a new principal, hired ostensibly to apply the *coup de grace*, instead tackled the problems and now heads a successful enterprise.

I am fascinated by the various approaches that leaders apply to their situations, but I am tremendously impressed by the impact that leaders, that is, principals, have on schools. When all is said and done, it is the style and effectiveness of the leader that matters.

That is why I am concerned. This past month three Catholic school administrators, (that I know of) in New York State have left their positions to work in public schools. While it would be a fair assumption to say that the salary and benefits had some impact on their decisions, it is worrisome that we are losing good administrators. If, indeed, the leader-minister is key to the success of a Catholic school, then we must be concerned about where our future leaders are being cultivated and how are we supporting our education. The entire Catholic school community needs to support Catholic School principals.

As of this writing, Catholic Schools Week draws nigh. We here at CSAANYS want to encourage our administrators to consider how we can cultivate your successors. But even more, we want all of our Catholic school administrators to know how much we appreciate all that you do. Your hard work makes Catholic schools possible; your own leadership abilities provide the best that the Church has to offer.

Happy 1998!

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

With all the demands of curriculum and testing changes, it is readily obvious that teacher training and development is essential in order to make the goals and dreams behind these changes a reality. In a recent article in CPRE Policy Briefs it was noted that "local professional development programs typically have weak effects on practice because they lack focus, intensity, follow-up and continuity."

Question: With the potential of Catholic schools accessing significant opportunities for development and development dollars in concert with local public school agencies, we ask what processes do you have - or need - to make effective, clearly focused teacher development programs? Who participates in this process? Call CSAANYS if you are interested in obtaining further information regarding planning professional development.

**NCEA CONVENTION**  
**APRIL 14-17, 1998**  
**LOS ANGELES, CA**

Once again CSAANYS will offer group registration for any member wanting to attend the NCEA convention this spring. ALL registration forms must be submitted to CSAANYS by:

**February 9, 1998**

The group registration fee is **\$65**.  
Please make checks payable to  
CSAANYS



The US Dept of Education has issued new materials on family involvement in education. These products are available free of charge by calling 1-800-USA-LEARN.

## 1998 EARNED INCOME CREDIT OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

The campaign to inform low-income working people that they could qualify for an earned income tax credit (EIC) has begun.

Many families that were formerly on welfare are entering the labor market at very low wages and will badly need the wage supplement the EIC provides. Knowing about the EIC and how to obtain it takes on added importance as welfare time limits take effect.

This year eligible families can receive as much as \$3,656 in EIC benefits.

Contact the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 202-408-1080.



## REMINDERS & UPDATES

**Graduation Requirements:** At their meeting in December the Regents modified the graduation requirements adopted in November regarding language requirements. A new Graduation Requirement document is now available (Dec. 18) for your reference. If you have not received such a document from SED, please contact us at CSAANYS for a free copy.

**Transportation:** Written requests for bus transportation including transportation to and from child care locations, must be submitted by the parent or legal guardian no later than April 1. Please note that a child may be eligible for transportation to a child care provider even though not eligible for transportation to or from school.

**Unpasteurized cider and juice:** Parents and teachers in schools and day care centers should be advised that unpasteurized juice & cider should not be served at parties or consumed on field trips. Good rule of thumb: when in doubt - don't.

**Underground Storage Tanks:** All underground storage tanks must be replaced or upgraded by Dec. 22, 1998. Missing the deadline can result in fines and affect your insurance coverage. Call the Dept. of Environmental Conservation Bulk Storage Help Line at 518-457-4351 for more information.

## What about the others?

While our administrators are very careful about putting together handbooks of policies, rules and regulations for teachers and students, it is becoming increasingly evident that other employees and even volunteers need some kinds of guidelines.

For instance, would a volunteer in your school know the procedure for reporting an accident? Would the person in charge of your after-school program know what to do if a student brought a weapon? Does your maintenance person know what to do if a stranger enters the school without permission?

*cont'd.*

*cont'd.*

When incidents have occurred involving support staff and/or volunteers, and parents have threatened to sue, your lawyer will want to see your volunteer or staff handbook. What are the guidelines for these people to follow? How do you provide inservice training to these people? How did you monitor their adherence to the guidelines?

Why wait until a catastrophe occurs? Now is the time to develop rules, guidelines, forms and procedures and provide them to support staff and volunteer.

## A Preview of Coming Attractions??

A new test for aspiring principals aims to produce a better class of school administrators, and 4 states have plans to use it in the coming year.

The daylong licensure exam is the product of a collaboration of state officials, professional associations concerned with school administration, and the Educational Testing Service.

It is designed to weed out those who shouldn't get a crack at a principal's job. The test calls for written responses to real-world problems faced by elementary and secondary school leaders.

The test, divided into 3 two-hour blocks, requires candidates to write about situations principals regularly face. Some questions involve understanding and analyzing information such as test scores, school improvement plans, budgets, and staff evaluations.

Many of the questions originated with the experiences of New Jersey and Pennsylvania principals who were part of the test's development team.

The tests will be scored by school administrators trained by the ETS.

## The Schools and Libraries Corporation

SLC announced today that its E-rate application web site is now in user testing with librarians and educators. The results of this testing phase will determine the exact date upon which the web site will become operational. SLC will provide regular updates to education and library organizations and service providers about the schedule and official opening date.

"The SLC web site (<http://www.slcfund.org>) will allow schools and libraries to file their Universal Service Program forms electronically; it will also be the site where applicants descriptions of required services will be posted so that providers can competitively bid for them. Opening of the site will trigger the 75-day window during which all applications received will be treated as if they had arrived on the same day. Applications will also be accepted via regular mail at Schools & Libraries Corp., PO Box 4217, Iowa City, IA 52244-4217. Applications forms and basic program information are available now for downloading and printing at <http://www.neca.org>, or can be obtained by calling toll-free 888-203-8100.

## Early Childhood Longitudinal Study

In the fall of 1998, the National Center for Educational Statistics of the US Dept. of Education will embark on an ambitious study: the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study. It is designed to provide decision makers, researchers, teachers and parents with detailed information about children's early school experiences. 23,000 kindergarten children from 1,000 schools nationwide will be invited to participate in the ECLS-K. We, as well as the NCEA, encourage schools to participate if you are contacted by NCES. This organization is responsible for collecting, analyzing and reporting data related to education in the U.S. It compiles this extensive statistical data on the condition of education and reports on its meaning and significance to the US Dept of Education, the Congress and other policy makers, educational practitioners, media and the general public. Since Catholic and private schools account for 24.4% of all schools in the nations and educate 10.7% of all American school children, it is imperative that we be included in the data which describe the condition of American education and influence public opinion and legislation.



## Teacher Training Ignores Students' Families

Despite widespread acknowledgment that parent involvement is a critical factor in students' achievement, most teacher education programs give scant attention to helping new teachers work with their students' families, concludes a report released last week.

"*New Skills for New Schools: Preparing Teachers in Family Involvement*," by the Harvard Family Research Project, was published by the US Department of Education. The researchers found some promising teacher education programs that focus on families, but they conclude that the overall picture is "dismal."

Certification requirements in the majority of states didn't mention family involvement, the researchers found. Those that did were vague, leaving "a serious discrepancy between preservice preparation and the types of family-involvement activities that teachers were increasingly expected to perform in schools."

Teachers need a broad range of new knowledge and skills in order to work effectively with families, the report argues, starting with a basic understanding of the benefits and barriers to family involvement and moving to specialized skills to enhance parents' participation in governing schools.

Copies of the report are available for free from the Department of Education by calling 800-USA-LEARN.

### POINT TO PONDER

Family involvement and support has been the cornerstone of Catholic Education. Have we been careless and presuming (or assuming) too much regarding what attitudes and formation our new teachers are bringing into our faculty and schools? How many of us have specific guidelines, policies and plans to foster family involvement?

Sr. Jennifer Votraw

## % of Students At or Above Key Levels in NAEP Science Test

	Public	Private
<i>Grade 4</i>		
Basic	65	82
Proficient	27	42
Advanced	3	5
<i>Grade 8</i>		
Basic	60	75
Proficient	27	42
Advanced	3	5
<i>Grade 12</i>		
Basic	56	63
Proficient	21	22
Advanced	3	2

*The Traditional CSAANYS reception, held during the November 3 & 4 Non-public School Administrators' Conference, brought out CSAANYS members from all over New York State. Here is some proof that "a good time was had by all".*





## MAXIMIZING FEDERAL BENEFITS

### It's the Law!

You have the right to these services administered by the U.S. Dept. of Education.

Under Federal education laws, Catholic school children are entitled to equitable services and benefits under federal education programs, in comparison with their public school counterparts. Funding levels for eligible, participating children must be equal, and programs must be designed to meet the educational needs of the Catholic school children. During all stages of the process of program design and service delivery, public school officials must consult with Catholic school officials before any decision is made that could adversely affect the ability of Catholic school students to participate in the program. The following programs are authorized under the Improving America's School Act of 1994, Public Law #103-382.

#### ◆ Title I - Helping Disadvantaged Children Meet High Standards

Instructional services are provided for children residing in high-poverty areas who are educationally needy. These services, which may be provided to eligible Catholic school children by public school employees or third party contractors, must be equitable in comparison to services and other benefits provided to public school counterparts. The delivery options selected to provide such services should be in compliance with guidance issued after the 1997 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Agostini v. Felton*.

#### ◆ Title II - Eisenhower Professional Development Programs

Professional development is provided to Catholic school teachers, administrators and other school personnel based on the educational needs of the private school children they serve. Professional development can be in the areas of math and science; if funds are sufficient, the program expands to all subject areas.

#### ◆ Title III - Education Technology for all Students

A technology plan can be developed and carried out through Title III. Expenditures under Title III may be for hardware, software, wide-area networks, local-area networks, professional development, parent training, and many other areas.

#### ◆ Title IV - Safe and Drug Free Schools

Programs of violence and substance abuse prevention are funded under this Title. Programs that are proactive and provide for alternative activities may also be funded through this program, provided they contain a strong prevention message. DARE is a separately funded program.

#### ◆ Title VI - Innovative Education Strategies

Title VI, formerly known as Chapter 2, provides for supplementary educational materials, equipment and training. This includes supplementary classroom materials, library materials, computer hardware and software and audio-visual hardware and software.

#### ◆ Title VII - Bilingual Education

Eligible children may receive supplementary educational services to meet their special educational needs. Teachers of English as a Second Language students (ESL) and Limited English Proficient students (LEP) may receive professional training. A separate program, the Emergency Immigrant Education Act, provides supplementary materials to assist in the education of recent immigrants and refugees.

## MASTERY MISFIRE

You may have read your Education Week for Nov. 26th that the Board of Regents "...in a startling move that was ill-conceived and unrealistic...adopted...against the advice of Commissioner Mills" extended second language requirements to nearly all students in New York state. The policy would require students to take the equivalent of three years of a foreign language and pass a state exam to earn a regular diploma.

However, common sense and a moment of reason must have seized the Board of Regents, for in the Albany Times Union this past week it was indicated they have rescinded that policy and reduced requirements to one year of foreign language, a move more in line with the Commissioner's advice.

We would hope that this reasonable mood is not a passing one and would keep the Regents in the position open to the Non-Public School agenda as delineated in our recent Board retreat.



*From all of us at CSAANYS*

*May you have the gladness of Christmas which is hope,  
the spirit of Christmas which is peace,  
the heart of Christmas which is love.*

## "Take Your Child to Work Day"

For those of you who may have a number of families involved in experiences such as "Take Your Child to Work Day", here are questions you might want to consider before supporting such an activity:

1. What activities are planned for the child to experience? Is it something more than playing computer games or going to lunch?
2. Will the parent send a note to verify his/her child's' presence at work on that day?
3. Will you (or should you) require some kind of report from the children about what they learned?

Planning and accountability make the real difference between a quality field trip and a waste of academic time. A sample letter to parents is available by calling Dianna @ CSAANYS.



# CSAANY'S NEWS

(518) 273-1205

CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE  
406 Fulton Street • Suite 512 • Troy, New York 12180-3359

## MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL

by Sister Carol Cimino, Executive Director

### Grammar of Catholic Schools

While we are not in the habit of recommending or endorsing books, products or services, I am constrained to call your attention to a new offering from the NCEA's Monograph Series. It's called *The Grammar of Catholic Schooling* by Richard Jacobs, OSA.

While the term "grammar" might be a bit confusing, Jacobs explains that he uses the term to describe the principles guiding Catholic schooling. It is, in his words, "the substantive philosophical rationale governing how Catholic schools operate."

He goes on to list six rules influencing student moral and intellectual achievement. They are:

1. God is the beginning and end of human existence;
2. Education is essentially a moral endeavor;
3. Parents are the primary educators of their children;
4. The subject of education is the student;
5. Teaching is an intimate communication between souls;
6. Educational decisions are best made locally.

It would be interesting if we were to ask our teachers and ourselves: Given these statements, what does the grammar of Catholic schooling look like? What are the implications for teachers, administrators, support staff? How do we make these concrete for students and parents so that they know and understand these six rules?

The book, really a workbook, challenges us to examine what we mean by Catholic schools; the second half of the book is about Catholic leaders - why we do what we do and what we do.

Here is a resource guide, a discussion guide, and, perhaps a prayer guide during these hectic days when running the current school year collides with planning for the next school year.

### HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Several principals have phoned our offices regarding the decision of the NYS Public High School Athletic Association's (NYSPHSAA) decision to allow each of the sections to "bump" Catholic school up one division. The result is that, in most sections, as of this writing smaller Catholic high schools who belong to the NYSPHSAA will find themselves competing athletically with much more populous public schools.

We have tried, over the years, to resolve the issue of membership and requirements of the NYSPHSAA. It is a voluntary association not connected to the NYS Education Dept. (although public school sports programs use public monies). Nonpublic schools are categorized, in the NYSPHSAA, as "Friends & Neighbors" - a classification that not only begs its name, but places us in a class other than "full member".

Catholic high schools in the Buffalo & NY Metropolitan areas have traditionally not belonged to the NYSPHSAA, but to a Catholic association. However, the small number of Catholic high schools upstate makes this unfeasible.

The pressure put on administrators by parents and students in the area of sports, does, I'm sure, make us wonder about priorities. Nonetheless, cavalier treatment of "Friend & Neighbors" - that Catholic high schools actively recruit athletes, that we lack the academic standards for play that public schools have adopted and that we can call students from outside the district, can inflame our sensibilities.

Although there is not much that CSAANY'S can do in this area, one would suggest that there are arguments against this decision. Health and safety concerns are raised by maintaining that smaller Catholic schools, with a limited pool of athletes will be expected to play larger public schools, with a larger pool - including physically larger, stronger and heavier players. This ought to concern all of us, regardless of what kind of school students attend.

### **Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Program**

This federally sponsored program provides competitive grants to outstanding, full-time, public, and private school teachers with at least 8 years experience in the classroom. For more info contact Steve Mackey, SED, Office of Teaching, Albany, NY 12230; 518-474-6440.

### **Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program**

This program promotes student excellence and achievement and recognizes exceptionally able students who show promise of continued excellence. These scholarships may be used at any accredited postsecondary institution in the U.S. For more info contact: NYSED, Office of Equity & Access, Bureau of College, School & Community Collaboration, CEC, Albany, NY 12230; 518-474-1319.



## Governor Proposes Education Spending Hikes

Gov. George Pataki's 1998 Executive Budget includes a 4.74% increase (\$518 million) in state aid to local school districts. State support for public schools for 1998-99 would total \$11.45 billion under the governor's plan. Specific education hikes proposed include:

- \$230.7 million in major operating aid formulas;
- \$36.3 million for Big Five city school districts to help disadvantaged children;
- \$50 million extra to expand pre-K programs;
- \$14.4 million to expand the availability of full-day kindergarten programs;
- \$9 million for classroom technology upgrades;
- \$11.5 million for extended day and school safety programs;
- \$1.5 million in grants for professional development;
- \$1 million for the Office of Children and Family Services to support after-school programs;
- \$5.9 million for public libraries;
- A five-year, \$3 billion building plan for the state's public universities, with \$400 million this year to renovate SUNY buildings

The governor also has proposed legislation to allow the formation of charter schools.

## NYC Residents give high ratings to Catholic schools

New York City residents say the quality of their public schools is decreasing while Catholic schools in the city are on the upswing. The Empire State Survey, conducted by the Empire Foundation and The Lehrman Institute, found that 1/3 (32%) describe the public schools as "poor," while another 44% characterized them as "not so good." Meanwhile, 7 in 10 New Yorkers say Catholic schools are either "good" or "excellent."



## BUDGET TESTIMONY

As noted in the article to the left regarding Gov. Pataki's 1998 Budget, state support for public schools would total \$11.45 billion. Sr. Mary Anne Heenan, Supt. of Schools for the Diocese of Syracuse, recently addressed this issue of state dollars for education in her testimony on behalf of the NYS Catholic Conference in early February to the Senate Finance Committee and the Assembly Ways and Means Committee.

Sr. Mary Anne noted that while state support for public education has risen some 18% since 1994, non-public schools continue to struggle to maintain programs. She urges the state to consider:

1. **Education Investment Tax Credits** which would not only stimulate private sector donations but also help reduce burden on taxpayers.
2. **Mandated Services** - Gov. Pataki's recommendation for \$55 million would cover current as well as prior-year claims and should be supported.
3. **Learning Technology Grants** - recommend level of \$3.29 million can fund only 60 projects. This must increase along with hardware and software aid.
4. **Textbook and software aid** - while projected increases by the year 2001 are laudable (\$72 per pupil and \$23.90 respectively), the need is immediate; acceleration as well as increase is needed. **Library aid**, currently at the absurd level of \$4 per pupil must have multi-year increases commensurate with textbook and software aid.

Sr. Mary Anne also offered for serious consideration transportation and calendar flexibility, staff development program participation, and school choice issues, strongly urging state legislators to consider vouchers, among other school choice options, as a viable option.

## MEDICATION DISTRIBUTION PROCEDURES

**A program for the administration of medication to children in school must be managed and supervised by school nursing personnel.**

1. Only those medications which are necessary to maintain the student in school and must be given during school hours should be administered. Any student who is required to take medication during the regular school day or while participating in school-sponsored activities (e.g. field trips, athletics) should comply with all procedures.
2. Any prescribed medication which requires administration through a subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenous or rectal route or prescribed medications being administered through pumps, tubes or nebulizers or oral, topical or inhalant medication needed by non self-directed students must be given by school nursing personnel or licensed practical nurses under the direction of school nursing personnel. Administration of such prescribed medications may not be performed by unlicensed persons.

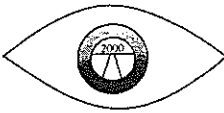
Unlicensed persons in the school setting following assignment and in conjunction with approval by school nursing personnel may assist self-directed students with the taking of their own oral, topical and inhalant medications. School nursing personnel should assure that the unlicensed person receives the training and supervision needed to perform these tasks in a safe and effective manner. Call CSAANYS for a copy of *Guidelines for The Administration of Medication in Schools*, by the NYS Education Department.

**SAVE THESE DATES!!!**

**The Non-Public School  
Administrators' Conference  
in  
Albany  
is set for  
October 26-27, 1998**



**VALUES  
MEDIA LITERACY,  
AND ACTION**



**Institute on  
Catholic Education  
July 9 and 10, 1998  
University of Rochester  
(716)275-7833**



# CSAANYS news

*Serving Catholic School Administrators since 1972*

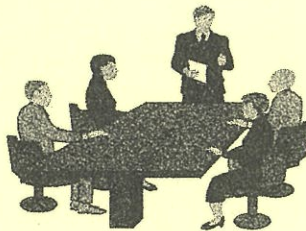
## Board Matters

The CSAANYS Executive Board met here in Albany on Sunday and Monday, March 8 & 9. New representatives were introduced: Sr. Katherine Arseneau, principal of Catholic Central H.S. in Troy, and Ms. Brenda Lisi of Holy Family Intermediate School in Elmira. Ms. Kathleen Dwyer, principal of Seton Catholic H.S. in Binghamton has assumed the office of President of the Board, and Mr. James Flanagan, who heads St. Saviour Elementary school in Brooklyn was chosen Vice President.

Dispensing quickly with the agenda, the Board spent most of the time in developing a strategic plan for the association. They began by considering the extensive list of services provided by CSAANYS and grouped them in terms of direct service, indirect service, advocacy and professional development.

They then turned their attention to the areas with which CSAANYS must concern itself as an organization, viz. Education and Membership Services, Public Image, Membership and Funding. A set of goals and concomitant strategies was developed. These will be finalized at the May meeting and included in the June/July newsletter.

Finally, the Board is interested in hearing from members any ideas for enhancing and advancing the association. It is their hope that, as CSAANYS looks back on 25 successful years, the association can keep up with the needs of members.



## Shift in Education Politics?

As the regent from Queens, Louise Matteoni's term has expired, the legislature is expected to replace her with Geraldine Chapey. Mrs. Matteoni was closely allied with New York City's United Federation of Teachers and the NYS United Teachers. Ms. Chapey, on the other hand, is relatively neutral when it comes to the unions. This change in personnel may reflect a change in the legislature regarding the union's influence in the state of education.

### INFORMATION FOR GROWTH

Diane Raiche and Steve Palmer have revised this adult faith assessment tool which is an excellent resource for parish and school catechist and faculty faith assessment. Several of CSAANYS' board members' schools are assisting in the piloting of this useful tool with their teachers. The IFG may be obtained from NCEA Religious Ed. Dept.

CSAANYS



April 1998  
Vol. 27 #4

CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION  
OF  
NEW YORK STATE

406 Fulton Street • Suite 512  
Troy, New York 12180-3361  
518-273-1205 Fax 518-273-1206

## Summer School of the Arts

The New York State Summer School of the Arts is now accepting applications to all their summer programs. The NYSSSA is a summer residential program for NYS high school students that provides intensive pre-professional training with internationally acclaimed artists and artistic companies in the fields of ballet, choral studies, visual arts, dance, theater, orchestral studies, media arts, and jazz studies.

For applications call or write: Mary C. Daley, Executive Director NYSSSA, Rm. 866 EBA, State Ed. Dept., Albany, NY 12234. (518)-474-8773, Fax (518)-473-0770.



“There are two educations: one should teach us how to make a living and the other how to live.”



## Alleluia!

## He is Risen!



◆ REPRESENTATION

◆ LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

◆ WORKSHOPS

◆ MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

◆ BOARD REPRESENTATION

◆ CONSULTATIONS

◆ RESEARCH REPORTS

◆ RETREATS



## MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL

by Sister Carol Cimino

### Mosquitoes, Gnats and Other Pesky Little Annoyances

We've all heard someone say, "Don't sweat the small stuff", or "Don't let the turkeys get you down." But it's very often the "small stuff" or the "Turkeys" that do get to us, sometimes more effectively than the earth-shattering crises or the major happenings.

Lately, it seems as if the "small stuff" is adding up, so much so that it has gotten me wondering (am I sounding paranoid??). Let's look at the list:

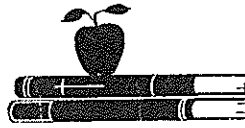
1. New York's non-smoking law goes beyond Federal regulation; the result is that BINGO, one of the few ways of getting nontuition income, is all but extinct, leaving holes in our budgets.
2. The New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYS PHAA), which governs high school sports upstate, now arbitrarily raises our high schools to a higher division, thus making it harder for them to win games.
3. For some reason, only Catholic school administrators were omitted from the December mailing of applications for the Telecommunications Act.
4. The New York State gaming commission is now scrutinizing raffles; people running raffles need a permit and will kick back 2% of proceeds to the state.
5. We're left out of the loop when it comes to teacher training for the new assessments because "there aren't enough chairs available"...and on and on and on.

Here we are, Catholic schools providing a tremendous public benefit, having to swat at these gadflies. Legend has it that the Chinese perfected a method of killing called the "10,000 cuts". Each cut is negligible, hardly damaging; but added up, they are mortal.

This can be demoralizing, or it can be the measure of our success. Who would be opposed to an insignificant entity? St. Paul reminds us that "though we are beaten we are unbowed." May our Easter celebration remind us that, when the odds are against us, our faith brings triumph. May the faces of our students, and their hopes and aspirations remind us that it is, indeed worth it.

## Catholic Identity

by Sister Jennifer Votraw, SSJ



In the beginning of 1998, an appeals court in Florida upheld a Catholic school's right to set its curriculum and expel students whose parents object to the teachings of that curriculum. This ruling arose out of a dispute between parents and the school when the parents wanted their children excused from a religion course. The school refused, maintaining that the course is an integral part of its curriculum and that students cannot miss any of it.

As Catholic educators, we are called to examine critically our schools identity, culture and mission or, as Sr. Carol noted in last month's editorial, its "grammar". As we do this, it is not small comfort to realize that the Catholic school community is in the enviable position of being able to transmit and inculcate not isolated, disconnected values but a morality and ethic arising out of a faith tradition. It is vitally important that we do not compromise who we are and what we teach.

Recently, *Kappan* contained five articles on "character education", a recurring and complex issue for most public school educators. It is interesting to note that one of the chief difficulties most proponents face is one of integration. It becomes painfully clear that it is virtually impossible to discuss and explore morality and values in a vacuum. As philosopher Warren Nord states:

Morality is very much bound up with our identities, with our place in a community, or tradition, with our...convictions about the afterlife... our experiences of the sacred...our understanding of what makes life meaningful.

Charles Haynes, a leading authority on religion and the public schools is even more explicit:

Character education can be hollow and misleading when taught within a curriculum that is silent about religion. When religion is largely ignored, students get the false and dangerous message that religious ideas and practices are insignificant for human experience.

(*Kappan*, February, 1998)

We must be scrupulously honest when examining "why we do what we do and what we do" so that our own curriculum doesn't become "hollow and misleading". Our task however, is not to create or found a "new" curriculum or formulate "new" standards, but rather, re-discover and reveal to our students the unique spiritual and intellectual heritage of the faith that is already theirs.

\* For further reading, check out: *A Journal of Catholic Education*, Vol. 1, N,3 March 1998.



### TRY TO REMEMBER...

Lately, there's been an air of nostalgia in the office as the observance of the 25th anniversary year comes to a close. We thought you'd be interested in what the "hot topics" were in 1972-73:

- ♦ the request to lift the injunction on the Mandated Services Act of 1970 was struck down by Supreme Court Justice Blackmun.
- ♦ CSAANYS associate director Bro. Thomas Draney met in NYC with a group of parents interested in forming a statewide parents' group.
- ♦ CSAANYS headquarters - established at Bishop Gibbons H.S. in Schenectady
- ♦ Catholic schools damaged by the flood in Elmira were trying to get government flood relief available to the public schools;
- ♦ CSAANYS was pushing for the NYS Textbook Loan Program to extend to grades K-6, and that the allocation be raised from \$10 per student;
- ♦ CSAANYS members were encouraged to write to senator Javits to support legislation for tuition tax credits.

These are taken from the first three newsletters (at that time there were only four per year).

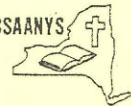


# csaanys news

Watch for  
our new website!

*Serving Catholic School Administrators since 1972*

CSAANYS



May 1998  
Vol. 27 #5

CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION  
OF  
NEW YORK STATE

406 Fulton Street • Suite 512  
Troy, New York 12180-3361

518-273-1205

Fax 518-273-1206

## MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL

### Who Calls the Shots?

by Sister Carol Cimino, SSJ

The Sunday, March 15 issue of the Albany Times Union contained a "report card" on the nonpublic schools in the Capital Region. Results from the 1995-96 school year state tests were listed, reporting achievement levels for the many schools. We took umbrage at this; although our test results may be obtained by a FOI request, this type of reporting broadens what ought to be a very narrow scope of accountability.

We wrote the following letter to the editor of the Albany daily, and would invite you to write a similar letter should your local newspaper decide to do likewise.

Dear Sir,

Your feature in the Sunday, March 15, 1998 edition of the Albany Times Union concerning the test results of the area's nonpublic schools was disturbing to us and to our members for several reasons.

First of all, the data your staff writer used is two years old; if these data were intended to be used as comparison with the previously published public school data, they were invalid, as the public school data are current.

Secondly, we are concerned about reporting percentages of mastery. As you know, numbers of children in nonpublic schools are smaller; thus, percentages and percentiles will be skewed by one or two scores that are either very high or very low. Also, many Catholic high schools have accelerated students who take a Regents examination after a semester of a course, and not to repeat a test in order to improve a score that may have been low the previous June.

Thirdly, and most important, nonpublic schools are not accountable to the public for their test results; they are solely accountable to the parents who pay for their children to attend. While public schools receive public money, their accountability is to the taxpayers. Nonpublic schools, who, although highly successful, receive no such munificence from public coffers, have no such obligation.

Although we realize that nonpublic school test scores may be obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, we object to the public reporting without their consent. When parents who sacrifice to provide a nonpublic education to their children ask to see test results, the administrator has the obligation to comply. When the public wants to see nonpublic school results, they had better ante up.

### NONPUBLIC SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS' CONFERENCE

CSAANYS Executive Director Sister Carol Cimino attended a meeting in New York City on April 8 with the other co-sponsors of this annual gathering. This 14th annual conference will be held Oct. 26-27 at the Desmond Hotel - known as Albany's finest.

A Tip of the CSAANYS Coif to... Sr. Mary Alice O'Brien, RSM, St. Margaret Mary's School in Rochester for being named NCEA Outstanding Elementary Principal

### CSAANYS Director to Leave

Sr. Jennifer Votraw, SSJ, CSAANYS Director, will be leaving the position she assumed last July to return to the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Bishop Paul Loverde, Sr. Jennifer's canonical superior, has called her back to Ogdensburg to begin a position as facilitator of parish planning.

Any of our members who have had contact with Sister, attended a workshop conducted by her or served on one of the many committees included in her job description knows what a valuable asset to the association she has been. We'll miss her!

The CSAANYS Executive Board, under the leadership of President Kathleen Dwyer, has instituted a search. If any of our members are interested in a challenging, exciting position, you may contact us at (518) 273-1205 to obtain a job description and application process.

### 1998-99 New York State Budget

- **Textbook Aid:** increase from \$40. to \$40.90 per pupil
  - **Software Aid:** remains at \$4.58
  - **Library Materials:** increase to \$6. per pupil
  - **Learning Tech Grants:** remain at \$3.29 million
  - **Mandated Services:** \$55 million appropriated; sufficient to cover both current year and prior year claims
  - **Universal PreK:** \$67 million
  - **Teacher Centers:** \$25 million
  - **Charter Schools:** not adopted
  - **Calendar Flexibility:** not adopted
- Contact CSAANYS for more details.

◆ REPRESENTATION

◆ MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

◆ CONSULTATIONS

◆ LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

◆ BOARD REPRESENTATION

◆ RESEARCH REPORTS

◆ WORKSHOPS

◆ RETREATS



## CATHOLIC SCHOOL "CLIMATE"

by Sister Jennifer Votraw, SSJ

In a recent issue of Education Week, Eric Schaps points out an area of school assessment which is almost totally ignored - that of school climate. In other words, how do students experience their classrooms, teachers, and schools?

He notes: *In all the recent talk and activity regarding educational reform, almost nobody has been paying serious attention to how students experience their classrooms and schools. Millions of dollars are spent to survey adult attitudes toward school, with few notable exceptions.*

*Mostly, we treat students like they are the proverbial black box. We worry about what's going into them in the way of curriculum, standards, and incentives, and we worry even more about what comes out; that is, how they score and perform. But we virtually ignore their thoughts and feelings about school.*

*That's a mistake. We have compelling evidence showing that students' experience of school shapes their attitudes and behavior, which in turn determine whether the school environment will be conducive to learning. Students' experience of school also presages whether they will develop personal commitments to the ideals and core values that over time will serve them (and society) well.*

These questions are far from being merely academic ones, but ones that should be asked with a particular urgency. A study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association links adolescents' "connectedness" with school (their sense of belonging or bonding) to the prevention of emotional distress, suicidal tendencies, violence, sexual activity, and cigarette, alcohol and marijuana use. The researchers conclude: "Connectedness with school is a...protective factor in the lives of young people."

It would seem that our Catholic schools, who continually strive to inculcate a strong sense of Catholic community among our students as well as to engender a strong, personal commitment to Christian ideals and values, would be anxious to ask the hard questions: do our students feel themselves as valued, contributing members of a "caring community"? How do we give them a sense of belonging and influence within our schools? What processes can we use not only to assess but improve our climate? Finally, are we willing to risk finding negative answers?

### "A+" Education Savings Accounts

With strong grassroots support from constituents, the U.S. Senate may soon approve federal tax relief which would help families care for the individual learning needs of their children. Senate leaders have agreed to bring the "A+" Education savings Accounts (ESAs) bill to the floor for full debate, and the consideration of amendments, beginning on April 20th. This effectively moves forward congressional action on the legislation without any further in-fighting over a filibuster which had delayed a final vote.

Under the agreement, 12 Democratic and 5 Republican amendments, all education related, could be offered. The deal came only after the Senate on March 26th failed to gather enough support to end a filibuster and begin final debate and vote on the bill. The cloture vote was 58-42, and 60 votes were needed.

Continued encouragement from enough constituents can make a supporter out of a soft opponent, can make a wobbly position resolute, and can reaffirm those senators now fighting for passage of "A+": Education Savings Accounts. They will return to Washington, DC on April 20th. This is a great opportunity to contact your Senators locally by telephone, letter or E-mail. You can also contact them through the US Capitol Switchboard by calling 202-224-3121.

According to Senate analysts, Senator Moynihan is one of the senators who could be pivotal in the upcoming vote

### IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN



Spring is here, and once again administrators are faced with the responsibility of ordering textbooks, under the NYS Textbook Loan Program. Once again, this task is accompanied by the many problems that many of our administrators are confronted with:

1. Districts may NOT deduct from your allocation for transportation, shipping, handling and/or administrative costs;
2. District may NOT limit requests to a specific amount based on the state apportionment. Textbooks must be provided equitably according to students' needs;
3. Districts that are unable to meet ALL students' needs must limit expenditures equitably, and not arbitrarily decide to force nonpublic students to purchase them;

4. Districts may NOT limit the definition of textbook. Workbooks, certain newspapers, news magazines (which have study guides) and manuals which are used as primary sources of study are included in the legal definition of textbook.

If you encounter problems, it is wise to speak with your superintendent. CSAANYS can provide source material, sample letters and guidance, and parents should always be involved since they are the district's taxpayers.

### Legislator Tests Board of Regents

A NY Republican state senator has filed a lawsuit challenging the way the legislature selects members of the powerful state board of regents.

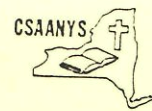
The legislature has chosen 14 of the board's 16 current members through a joint session of both chambers, and that, the suit contends, diminishes the power of the 61-seat Senate because the 150-seat Assembly can form a quorum all by itself.

The lawsuit seeks to overturn the state law spelling out the joint session selection procedure, as well as to void the election of the 14 regents chosen by a joint session since 1994.



# csaanys news

*Serving Catholic School Administrators since 1972*



June/July 1998  
Vol. 27 #6

CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION  
OF  
NEW YORK STATE  
406 Fulton Street • Suite 512  
Troy, New York 12180-3361  
518-273-1205 Fax 518-273-1206  
WEB Site: [www.csaanys.org](http://www.csaanys.org)

## MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL

### SPENDING YOUR SUMMER VACATION Cimino, SSJ

by Sister Carol

When I was a school administrator I always cringed at this time of year as parents and students alike called out: "Have a nice summer, Sister!" or "Enjoy your summer vacation!" WHAT SUMMER VACATION???

They may think that we administrators have nothing to do all summer but sit around and think about how hard we'll make it for them next school year, or relax by the pool retelling stories about them or simply zone out for the ten weeks allotted for the summer recess.

We know, however, that summertime provides us the chance to catch up on all that reading we'd vowed we would get to this past year, or see that the parking lot gets patched or hook up the computers that were donated (better still, learn how to use them) or see to the myriad items that we told ourselves we would take care of "when we have the time".

Just in case, however, you can't think of a thing to do this summer, allow me to make a few suggestions:

- "Called To Lead" is an institute for Catholic school leaders that will be held June 29,30, July 2,6, and 7 at Manhattan College. You can audit or take it for 3 graduate credits.

- Your mandated services form is not here yet, but this is a good time to gather all the '97-'98 data you'll need to fill-out when it does arrive.

- Do a playground safety check: are fittings tight? any frayed cables, metal burrs sticking up? splinters? anything broken? Any potholes or roots or stones that are potential hazards?

- Time for some planning: decide on 4 goals for the coming year: 1 professional goal; 1 personal goal; 1 problem-solving goal; 1 innovative goal (share them with faculty in the Fall)

- Plan teacher professional formation program: what in-service opportunities will you provide? what spiritual formation activities? social activities (fun)? This is a good time to meet with a committee of teachers to get input (around the pool, of course)

- Check to see that you have renewed your CSAANYS membership.

- Take some quality time - AWAY - to take care of your self and find some peace before we start again, whether it's a retreat or a vacation with family and friends.

That last one should come first. As the late Cardinal Bernadin wrote:

When we are at peace, we find the freedom  
to be most fully who we are, even in the worst of times.  
We let go of what is nonessential and embrace  
what is essential

We empty ourselves so that God may more fully work within us.  
And we become instruments in the hands of the Lord.

### Looking for Exicting Employment?

CSAANYS has an opening for a director whose responsibilities would include serving on State Education and State Catholic Conference committees, doing research in several areas of Catholic education, assisting members with individual consultation and collaborating on the monthly newsletter. In addition, the director has the option of presenting workshops and retreats with a variety of Catholic school groups.

The CSAANYS Executive Board is looking for an individual who has been a Catholic school administrator in NYS and who would enjoy helping to lead an organization with a 26-year history of advocacy for Catholic school administrators.

Interested? Call us at 518-273-1205.

“The secret of  
unleashing your true  
power is setting  
goals that are  
exciting enough that  
they truly inspire  
your creativity and  
ignite your passion.”

-Anthony Robbins

◆ REPRESENTATION

◆ MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

◆ CONSULTATIONS

◆ LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

◆ BOARD REPRESENTATION

◆ RESEARCH REPORTS

◆ WORKSHOPS

◆ RETREATS



## State Develops Arts Assessments

Ninth-graders entering high school in 2001 will be the first students to take state exams in one of the four arts disciplines. The arts as taught in elementary and secondary schools will play an increasingly important role in educating thoughtful and productive citizens for the next century.

Current research into how children learn, and what they need to learn in order to be successful adults, has provided a sound basis for the current educational focus on the arts.

The statewide Empire State Partnerships Project, New York City's Project ARTS, and the Annenberg Project of the Center for Arts Ed include funding for professional development activities in learning in and through the arts. They hope to enable teachers of the traditional academic disciplines to offer their students more engaging opportunities for learning and assessment, and to help teachers of the arts assume a more vital role in their schools.

### BOARD MATTERS

The CSAANYS Executive Board met on May 17 and 18. The Board will conduct a panel for new principals at the Nonpublic School Administrators Conference to be held at the Albany Desmond Hotel October 26th and 27th. The role of the principal as communicator, evaluator, motivator, enforcer, cheerleader, etc. will be tackled by members of the Board, based on their years of experience. It is hoped that, not only will veteran principals plan to attend, but that the "rookies" will begin the practice of attending this annual event.

Other business taken up by the services, the comprehensive report reporting, recent Federal legislation, A discussion on the Universal on the nonpublic school participation.



Board included Title 1 cards and test data lation, and the state bug-Pre-K legislation centered

The ongoing discussion over the classification of our schools by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association surfaced. CSAANYS Board members urged that Catholic school administrators focus on the concerns of health and safety in this reclassification. Also, this matter may end up being appealed to the Commissioner.

Meeting dates for the '98-99 school year are: Sept. 1, Oct. 25, Mar. 5th 7&8 and May 2&3. Member are asked to contact their Board reps to add items to the agenda.

## TEACHERS' BEST FRIEND?



According to an article in the April 23rd issue of the Denver Post, in the past 5 years,

number of prescriptions for Ritalin in the U.S. has jumped to 11.4 million from 4.5 million, according to IMS America, a health-care information company. This country now uses 5 times as much Ritalin as the rest of the world.

Michigan ranks third in Ritalin use, and most prescriptions are for elementary and middle school-age children. State doctors prescribe 33 grams for every 1,000 residents - 56% more than the national average, according to figures compiled by the federal DEA. Only Delaware and Virginia consume more.

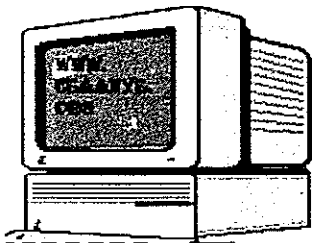
The number of new prescriptions peaks near the start of every school year and dips every summer. "Clearly there's a very apparent correlation between Ritalin consumption and the school year", said Gary Friend, a vice president with IMS.

Since 1962, computers have become one million times more productive and 1,000 times less expensive. How much would a car cost today if the same progress applied?



Ans: A luxury sedan would cost \$2.40 and get half a million mpg.

## WELCOME TO CSAANYS NEW WEB PAGE!



Care to browse through our workshop offerings, or fill out our membership form for 1998-99? Just click on [www.csaanys.org](http://www.csaanys.org) and you'll have all this - AND MORE!

In late April, Kelli DeFranco - The Web Angel took on the task of designing CSAANYS Web site and will continue to update our site as needed. We're very pleased with our foray into the Internet market! If you are interested in creating your own WEB site and need a webmaster, e-mail [Kelli@thewebangel.com](mailto:Kelli@thewebangel.com) or call 703-242-6380.

## Non-Public School Advisory Meeting

The Commissioner's Advisory Council for Non-Public Schools will be meeting June 10 to consider some long standing issues raised by the Board of Regents' school reform initiative:

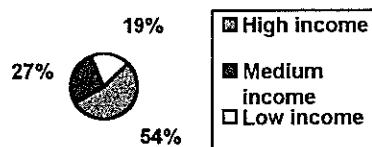
- **CAR to LEAP transition** - what alternatives can be made available to non-public schools in time for the next data collection?
- **Mandated Services** - what sort of reimbursement is scheduled for new requirements and the re-instatement of the Reg. Scholarship Exam?
- **Testing, graduation requirements, alternative tests**
- **Universal Pre-Kindergarten**

CSAANYS will keep you posted as the "dialogue" continues!



A recent survey by Quality Education Data (QED) found some interesting data on the family income of students attending Catholic schools.

Catholic School Enrollment



## E-RATE ALERT!

Schools shouldn't count on getting all the money they asked for this year from the federal "E-rate" program, a Federal Communications Commission official said last week.

This historic program would provide up to \$2.25 billion per year in discounts to enable school children and library users across America to access the Internet and other information technology.

The FCC said this month that it expects to collect \$1.67 billion from phone companies this year. That amount is \$350 million less than the projected demand and \$580 million less than the yearly cap for the program set by the FCC.

Some local & long distance carriers, and some members of Congress are threatening to reduce key services and funding under the E-Rate program. The Federal Communications Commission is considering reducing E-Rate services and funding in response to these threats. Time Magazine launched its own attack on the E-Rate program in a May 25th article. You can reach Time at this address: Letters@Time.com.

Groups representing U.S. public and private schools have launched a "Save the E-Rate Campaign". To reach "Save the E-Rate Campaign's" automated e-mail action center point your Web browser to : <http://congress.nw.dc.us/e-rate>

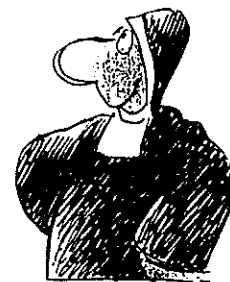
## INTERNET SITE FOR GRANTS

<http://www.nonprofit.gov> - U.S. Nonprofit gateway is intended as a one-stop shopping area for nonprofit organizations.

<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org> - ArtsEdge sponsored by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts offers arts education area links to other web sites of interest, info about the Kennedy's Center's Education Dept. and a special page for students.

<http://www.aef.org> - The Aerospace Education Foundation makes grants to K-12 educators to support aerospace education, programs and activities. Each grant is about \$250 and may be used for anything related to the field from purchasing textbooks or multimedia programs to field trips to aerospace museums and facilities. Grants are awarded throughout the year.

A Tip of the  
CSAANYS Cof  
to you!



Sister Genevieve Wetmore, vice-principal of Our Lady of the Angelus School in Rego Park has been selected to attend the NCEA Principals' Academy in Washington.

Sister Roberta Thoen, principal of DeSales Regional School in Lockport, has been named Administrator of the Year by Niagara University.

Kathy Paters, principal of St. Michael's School, Newark, sent copies of our April Newsletter editorial to her local Assemblyman and Senator. She received a note of support from Assemblyman Bob Oaks.

Several NYS programs have been invited to Conversations In Excellence as recognized 1998 SPICE programs by NCEA:

- The Bison Fund - Buffalo
- Child Care & Parenting Program - Nazareth Regional High School, Brooklyn
- Wegman Inner-City Scholarships Fund (WIN), Rochester
- Turner Carroll High School, Buffalo

Stepinac High School in White Plains celebrated 50 years of service.

Maria Regina High School, Hartsdale and Cardinal Spellman High School, Bronx, took the largest number of honors from the ITV Eddy Awards for student broadcasters.

Mother Cabrini High School, Brian Donahue, principal, is the only Catholic school in NYS to receive the Blue Ribbon Award from the U.S. Dept. of Education.

St. Mary's School, Potsdam, Anne Marie Wiseman, principal, was honored by a visit of members of the NYS Board of Regents.

Catholic Central High School, Troy, Sister Katherine Arseneau, principal, presented a concert consisting of alumni from each decade of the school's 75 years.

John Colligan, area superintendent for the Broome & Chenango County Catholic schools will retire as of July 1.

Lois Rydzewski, of St. Patrick's School in Bay Shore, L.I., received the 1998 Distinguished Teacher Award from NCEA.

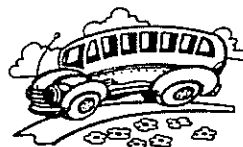
Catholic Schools Week 1998  
January 31 - February 6, 1999





## TRANSPORTATION TO NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR STUDENTS WHO LIVE BEYOND 15 MILES

Section 3635(1)(b)(i) requires a board of education to provide transportation from a centralized pickup point, which must be a public school building, for nonpublic school pupils who live more than 15 miles from school, when a pupil residing within 15 miles is receiving transportation to the same district is not responsible for transportation between a pupil's home and point. However, the district may provide transportation between a pupil's pickup point, if the pupil's residence is located on an established bus route not result in an additional cost to the district.

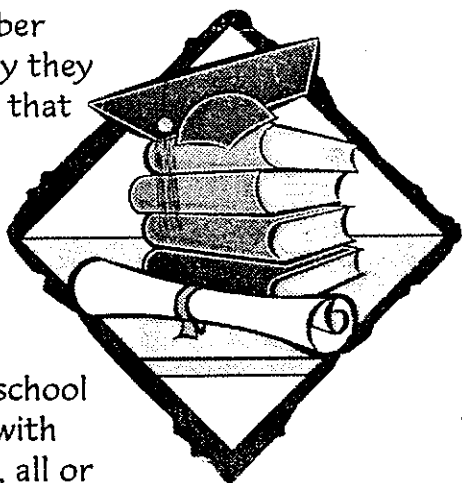


miles from school, when a nonpublic school. the centralized pickup home and the centralized for transportation and does

Section 3635(1)(b)(ii) authorizes a board of education, at its discretion, to transport nonpublic school pupils who live beyond 15 miles, by means of a centralized pickup point, even though there are no pupils living within 15 miles, when transportation was provided to the same nonpublic school in at least one of the preceding three school years and the centralized pickup point is not more than 15 miles from the nonpublic school. The district shall not be responsible for transportation between a pupil's home and the centralized pickup point. Furthermore, there is not statutory provision, as there is in Section 3635(1)(b)(i), for providing transportation between a pupil's home and the centralized pickup point.

### Support Up For School Vouchers

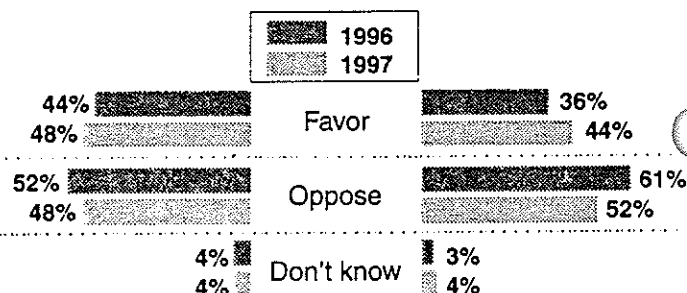
A growing number of Americans say they favor proposals that would allow parents to send their public school children to the private or church-related school of their choice with tuition paid for, all or in part, by the government, according to a new poll by a national education organization.



In a nationwide survey, 1,517 adults were asked...

Should students and parents be able to choose a private school at government expense?

Should students and parents be able to choose a private school at public expense?



Margin of error is plus or minus 3 percent.

### Service Counts

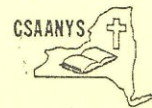
The National Center for Education Statistics has released data on high school service programs. Some highlights are as follows:

- In 1994, 43% of 1992 high school seniors reported performing community service in the previous year. Those who performed community service during the last 2 years of high school were more likely to report performing community service 2 years later than those who did not (61% compared to 30%, respectively).
- In 1994, high school seniors who were required to perform community service during the last 2 years of high school were more likely to perform community service than all 1992 high school seniors (58% compared to 43%, respectively).
- Those 1992 high school seniors who had attended some college by 1994 were more likely to have reported performing community service in the previous year than those who had not attended some postsecondary education. Of those 1992 seniors who had attended some postsecondary education, those who performed community service in high school were more likely to have performed community service in the previous year than those who had not performed community service in high school.
- a lower percentage of 1992 high school seniors from public schools reported performing community service 2 years later than did seniors from Catholic school or other private schools.



# csaanys news

*Serving Catholic School Administrators since 1972*



Aug/Sept 1998  
Vol. 27 #7

CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION  
OF

NEW YORK STATE

406 Fulton Street • Suite 512

Troy, New York 12180-3361

518-273-1205

Fax 518-273-1206

WEB Site: [www.csaanys.org](http://www.csaanys.org)

## FCC MODIFIES E-RATE PROGRAM

On June 12th, the FCC voted to change the e-rate program in some very important ways. Among these are the following:

1. It set the maximum amount to be collected for the schools and libraries program for 1998 at about \$1 billion less than originally proposed and about \$750 million less than the discounts requested by the schools and libraries;
2. It extended to June 30, 1999, the period during which schools and libraries that applied will be funded;
3. It established priorities. All eligible schools and libraries will receive full support for telecommunication services and Internet access. However, funds will be dispensed to neediest schools for internal communications.

*“The human  
spirit is  
stronger than  
anything that  
can happen  
to it.”*

C. C. Scott

## MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL

### OPTING OUT

by Sister Carol Cimino, SSJ  
Executive Director

The ruling on June 10 by the Wisconsin Supreme Court that the extension of the Milwaukee voucher program to include religious schools is constitutional was met with delight by parents and Catholic school officials. It means that up to 15,000 low-income children will receive tax-funded vouchers to attend the school of their choice—sectarian or secular.

The so-called “Milwaukee Plan” has been in operation since 1990, but participation has been limited to students sent to nonreligious schools because of constitutional concerns. When the law was expanded to include sectarian schools, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Milwaukee teachers’ union and the People for the American Way Foundation filed suit claiming that the plan amounted to tax support for religion. Even though these groups have vowed to appeal this latest ruling, the Wisconsin Court, citing the Lemon test, found that the plan passes constitutional muster.

Of note, however, is the “opt out” provision in the plan. Parents who object to their children’s attending religion class may have their children excused from that class. This raises several concerns with regards to the Catholic schools that participate in the voucher program:

1. the schools have a more serious obligation to demonstrate that Catholicism permeates the entire curriculum; i.e. that every class is a religion class;
2. every teacher, therefore, is a religion teacher;
3. the school needs to make the formal teaching of religion so attractive that children will not wish to “opt out”;
4. many schools have already had the problem of parents wishing to excuse their children from classes such as sex education, DARE, etc: this is not something new to face;
5. this is a new challenge to emphasize what the US bishops, in their 1972 “To Teach As Jesus Did”, characterized as the marks of the Catholic school: message, community, service: how do these get realized in all aspects of student life??

Critics may carp that we are supporting an “opt out” provision. Indeed, we wish that it were not necessary to secure this type of help for poor families. But the stark reality is that poor, minority children are not Catholic, that there exist Catholic schools in other parts of the world where Christian religions may NOT be taught, and that many of the mission schools supported by the Church are full of non-Christians.

As we begin this last full school year of the millennium, I would ask that we take the 5 points listed above as a challenge, because, in the long run, our students may be “opting out” already.

◆ REPRESENTATION

◆ LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

◆ WORKSHOPS

◆ MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

◆ BOARD REPRESENTATION

◆ CONSULTATIONS

◆ RESEARCH REPORTS

◆ RETREATS



## LEGISLATIVE ACTION

**COPYRIGHT LAW** The U.S. House of Representatives Commerce Committee is now considering the first major revision of copyright law since 1976. Such legislation is an ideal opportunity to update laws governing educational technology which insure that the limited fair use of learning and teaching resources in the computer age are not an infringement of copyright.

By any standard, however, H.R.2281 (as currently written) represents an unprecedented departure from our copyright tradition, upsetting the existing balance between the "fair use" of copyrighted materials by legitimate users and the rights of copyright holders to receive fair compensation for their work. If this version is approved, the impact could be devastating for our schools, students and their teachers.

Copyright laws must never become so narrowly tailored that school communities are unable to access the information superhighway without having to pay endlessly for the privilege.

Also absent in the bill are any exemptions for teachers who use personal computers and other information age activities for distance learning. Provisions, which are now limited to close-circuit and broadcast technology, are also needed to enable powerful new digital technology into America's classrooms.

Information consumers could be civilly or criminally liable for "circumvention: conduct even if their use was considered privileged under the current copyright law as a fair one – even for innocent and lawful purposes such as student learning or classroom instruction.

As it stands, H.R.2281 represents a fundamental shift in the balance of American copyright law, in favor of owners against consumers. In amending copyright statutes owner's rights and user's privileges should be updated concurrently, to maintain an appropriate balance.

Contact your member of Congress, even those not on the Commerce Committee, and urge him/her to support revisions of the existing copyright law which insures that the limited fair use of learning and teaching resources in the computer age are not an infringement of copyright.

Members of Congress can be contacted through the U.S. Capitol Switchboard by calling 202-224-3121

**The Klug-Boucher amendment would allow every school community "fair use" of copyrighted materials – if H.R.2281 is not amended, school communities may not be able to exercise such "fair use" rights using digital technologies without being forced to pay royalties or license fees to copyright holders. As written, the bill contains no "fair use" provisions. The Klug-Boucher amendment must be included prior to H.R.2281 reaching a final vote on the House floor.**

### ASSESSMENT & PLANNING

The NCEA Secondary School Dept. has completed the **Protocol for Catholic High School Assessment and Planning**. This instrument explores institutional assessment in the context of the school's mission and strategic planning. It is designed to be used in several contexts, including developing and connecting the school's foundation documents to institutional assessment and planning; self study for institutional accreditation or as a stand-alone strategic planning document with the central focus on mission effectiveness.

#### Adding Up

Per-pupil spending on public education has more than doubled since 1983.

1983-84	\$3,173
1986-87	3,970
1989-90	4,980
1992-93	5,584
1995-96	6,255
1996-97	6,564

Source: U.S. Dept. of Education

### FREE WEB SITE Provides New Resources For Teaching & Learning

Hundreds of resources for teaching and learning can now be found on one Web site. The Federal Resources for Educational Excellence (FREE) Web site is a collaboration of the efforts of more than 35 federal agencies, and makes hundreds of Internet-based education resources easier to access for students and teachers.

"This new Web site...offers one-stop shopping for a treasure trove of historical documents, scientific experiments, mathematical challenges, famous paintings, and other tools for teachers and students," U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley said.

For more information about the FREE Web site, visit <http://www.ed.gov/free>.

### SCHOOLS FOSTER VOCATIONS

Parishes with a Catholic elementary school and at least one asst. pastor are far more likely to produce new priestly vocations than parishes with no school and no asst. priest, according to a study released June 21st.

The study found that among pastors who reported multiple vocations, 58% said the parish had a parochial vicar, or asst. pastor, for all or most of that time, and 64% had an elementary school. 66% reported regular parish Eucharistic devotions and 77% Marian devotions.

Compared with priests who were their home parish's only recent vocation, those priests who said their home parish had multiple vocations were more likely to report that the parish had an elementary school, at least one parochial vicar and more opportunities for youth involvement.



## SOME NEEDED POLICIES

There are several areas that have come to light that schools need to attend to with written policies:

1. **Use of the internet:** restrictions on what is accessible to students need to be outlined. What internet provider will the school use? How will students be supervised while on-line? How will certain web sites, chat rooms be restricted?

2. **Visitors in the Building:** What are the restrictions on access to students? What is the procedure for parents and others coming into the school building? How may lunches, clothing and other items be dropped off? Who is allowed to sign children out for appointments?

3. **Megan's Law:** (Correction Law, Article 6-C-Sex Offender Registration Act) Law officials did not consider what schools are required to do when they become aware that a sex offender has moved to the neighborhood in which the school is located. The New York State School Boards Association has sent out guidelines to its members suggesting that policies try to answer the following questions: who should be notified, both within the staff and the community? how detailed should the notification be? who should disseminate the information?

It should be noted that the law provides immunity from civil or criminal liability to officials, employees or agencies for any "discretionary decision to release or failure to release information pursuant to the law, unless it is shown that the official, employee or agency acted with gross negligence or in bad faith."

The advice from the NYSSBA is, of course, intended for public schools, but we need to take notice for the safety of those entrusted to us. Currently, this law has been enjoined because the provisions of notification included offenders convicted before Jan. 21, 1996 when the law took effect.

The full text of the letter from NYSSBA is available to members; just call CSAANYS.

## New Private School Data Released

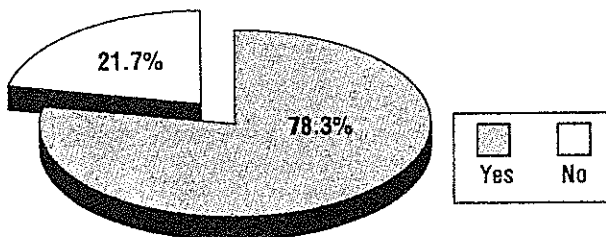
Last month, NCES published its latest report on core demographic data for private schools. Established in 1989 and conducted every two years, the *Private School Universe Survey* provides basic information about the number of private schools, students, and teachers.

The March 1998 report, which is available on the Web at <www.nces.ed.gov>, covers the 1995-96 school year. The survey showed there were 27,686 private elementary and secondary schools in the United States, enrolling 5,032,200 students. In 1989-90 there were 26,712 schools and 4,838,497 students.

The chart provides data for certain categories of private schools, with percents reflecting the share of national private school enrollment.

NCES Private School Survey				
	1989-90		1995-96	
Type	Students	%	Students	%
Catholic	2,637,473	54.5%	2,519,205	50.1%
Conservative Christian	528,236	10.9%	705,547	14.0%
NAIS	427,059	8.8%	524,271	10.4%
Lutheran	211,158	4.4%	220,230	4.4%
Jewish	153,722	3.2%	172,794	3.4%
CSI	86,014	1.8%	94,242	1.9%
Episcopal	83,314	1.7%	89,748	1.8%
Montessori	52,356	1.1%	73,468	1.5%
Adventist	77,242	1.6%	63,981	1.3%
Friends	16,846	0.3%	22,289	0.4%

Percent of Schools



Percent of Schools Making Major Changes in Conjunction with Professional Development, such as:

- Integration of new instructional technology
- Uniform instructional technique, e.g., Cooperative learning, Thematic instruction

NYSED School Survey: 1996-97

## National Catholic Educational Association

Good Time, Good News

**96th Annual  
Convention & Exposition  
April 6-9, 1999**

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center  
New Orleans, LA

Plan ahead! Mark your calendars now and join other Catholic educators from across the country next April at NCEA's Annual Convention & Exposition. Come Celebrate Catholic Education - Good Times, Good News, Great Education!

Look for registration and housing information in the fall.



# SPICE IN YOUR LIFE

**SPICE: Selected Programs for Improving Catholic Education**, is a diffusion effort jointly sponsored by the NCEA and Boston College. Each year, a number of schools or dioceses is selected under a specific area of need and invited to participate in *"Conversations in Excellence"* at Boston College. The proceedings, including a description of each of the programs, are published by NCEA.

The 1997 conversations in Excellence is now available from NCEA's publications department. Last year's focus area was Meeting the Special Needs of Children and their Families. The chapter on the individual programs was written by CSAANYS Executive Director Sister Carol Cimino.

The 1998 book, focusing on Creative Financing of Catholic Schools, will be available in April, 1999. The 1999 focus area will be Creating the Learning Environment through the Use of Technology and applications for recognition by the SPICE program will be available from NCEA. The 1999 Conversations In Excellence will take place in July, 1999 at the University of Dayton in conjunction with New Frontiers.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The annual Nonpublic School Administrators Conference will be held at the Albany Desmond Hotel - **Monday & Tuesday, October 26 & 27, 1998**. **CSAANYS will host its now legendary wine and cheese reception on Monday, October 26.**

## SPENDING YOUR SUMMER VACATION

CSAANYS was very visible this summer as we conducted or contributed to several Catholic school leadership institutes.

The Diocese of Scranton, PA arranged for Executive Director Sister Carol Cimino to teach a 3-credit marketing and development course for their administrators at Marywood University in June. Then the Diocese of Beaumont, TX hosted a new administrators' institute for the Dioceses of Texas and Louisiana, and Sister Carol teamed with Sister Amelia Stenger, OSU, former superintendent of the Diocese of Louisville, KY for this.

June 29-July 7 Sister Carol and Sister Remigia Kushner at Manhattan College presented *"Called to Lead"*, an institute for Catholic school leaders and those aspiring to leadership. In between, Sister Carol contributed to the nonpublic school law course at Fordham University.

The weekend of July 10-14, Boston College hosted the SPICE conference *"Conversations in Excellence"*, which this year included several programs from New York State: the WIN program from Rochester, the BISON Fund from Buffalo, and the Turner/Carroll HS LEEP program from Buffalo. Sister Carol is one of the co-directors of this. Finally, Sister Carol participated in the New Frontiers program for integrating technology into the curriculum; this institute is hosted by the University of Dayton.

There are numerous opportunities for our administrators to enrich themselves; so many of them can now call on that enrichment and support to see them through the coming school year.

*Sr. Carol and Sr. Remigia Kushner, co-directed an institute on Catholic Identity at Manhattan College.*

*Sr. Carol with some of the CSAANYS members who participated in the leadership institute at Manhattan College*

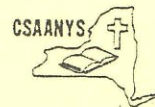




# csaanys news

Visit our  
Website!  
www.csaanys.org

*Serving Catholic School Administrators since 1972*



October 1998  
Vol. 27 #8

CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION  
OF  
NEW YORK STATE

406 Fulton Street • Suite 512  
Troy, New York 12180-3361  
518-273-1205 Fax 518-273-1206  
WEB Site: www.csaanys.org

## MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL

by Sister Carol Cimino, SSJ  
Executive Director

### BUT CAN WE AFFORD NOT TO?

A USA Today article recently caught my eye. The topic was the cost of family fun, and the occasion was the news that Disney Inc. had raised the price of admission to its theme parks by \$2.00. Sounds measly, right?

But consider: a family of four (two adults, two children) now pays a total of \$161.12 just to step into the Magic Kingdom, and that's before anyone so much as slurps a soda or licks an ice cream cone.

And if you think that's a lot, consider that the typical family of four spends \$228.39 to attend a National Hockey League game (when you add up four tickets two dogs and four sodas). That's

The point of all this is the cry education; it's just too pished NCEA book, Balance Schools shows that the average elementary school tuition for 1997 was \$1499 - that's \$149.90 per month.



that folks just can't afford Catholic expensive. But a recently published Sheet for Catholic Elementary

school tuition for 1997 was \$1499 - that's \$149.90 per month.

When you stack up the monthly tuition bill against Disney or the NHL, you wonder: neither Disney nor the NHL is hurting for attendance (Disney's attendance rose by 23% last year), yet when a Catholic school raises tuition (which, as we know, only covers a portion of the cost), there is a hue and cry.

Granted, tuition is a real sacrifice for many of our parents; they're the ones who will grin and bear it. They will tell you that it is a priority, and no matter what, they will see that their children receive a Catholic education.

No, it's those parents whose priorities result in their choosing Disney over a Catholic education that makes us wonder. The question we need to pose to these folks is not: can you afford it? but can you afford not to?

Matthew's Gospel tells of the merchant who found a pearl of great price and sold everything he had to acquire the pearl. Catholic schools are pearls; they are worth more than Disney, more than tickets to sporting events. If we truly believe that children are our priority, why don't we put our money where our beliefs are?

*Congratulations to La Salle Academy, New York City, and the de La Salle Christian Brothers for 150 years of service!*

## SEARCH FOR A DIRECTOR CONTINUES

The CSAANYS Executive Board has announced its re-opening of the search for a full-time Director for the Association. Resumes and letters of intent will be accepted by the search committee until Feb. 1, 1998. Interviews will take place in March, 1999 and the person asked to accept the position will be expected to start by July 1, 1999. Persons interested should send resumes and letters to CSAANYS Search Committee at CSAANYS.

## Field Representative for CSAANYS

The CSAANYS Executive Board has asked Sister Catherine Ryan, CSJ to be an ad hoc Field Representative to represent CSAANYS to various State Education Dept. and NYS Catholic Conference committees. The position of director is currently vacant and Sr. Catherine, a former area superintendent in the Diocese of Syracuse, is currently working at her provincial house in Latham and has agreed to represent CSAANYS on an as-needed basis. We welcome Sr. Catherine to the CSAANYS team and give her a "tip of the CSAANYS coif!"

◆ REPRESENTATION

◆ MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

◆ CONSULTATIONS

◆ LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

◆ RESEARCH REPORTS

◆ BOARD REPRESENTATION

◆ WORKSHOPS

◆ RETREATS



## NO ROOM FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS



This summer Catholic school students in Brooklyn & Albany found out that there was "no room at the inn" for them to attend public summer schools. Even though nonpublic school students have the right to attend, tuition-free, their local public summer school, some districts in Brooklyn did not allow them to attend.

CSAANYS found out about this through reading the letters to the editor of the Brooklyn Tablet. We called our Brooklyn elementary representative, Jim Flanagan at St. Saviour's Elementary, and he confirmed that what we had read was true.

CSAANYS called and sent letters to the public schools' office of New York City and did not even receive the courtesy of a reply. We called and were told someone would get back to us; no one did. We called the State Education dept. Again, no follow-up.

CSAANYS is willing to pursue some relief for this injustice to our children if the principals in the affected schools would like us to do so. If your school children were denied entrance to a summer school and you would like us to remind the State Education Dept. that this is unacceptable, please contact us.

A Tip of the CSAANYS Coif to St. Mary's School in Staten Island as they celebrate  
**145 Years**  
of dedication to Catholic education.

## AMERICA GOES BACK TO SCHOOL

U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley and the Partnership for Family Involvement in Education invite everyone to get involved in the *America Goes Back to School* initiative, an annual effort that focuses attention on improving education across the nation, especially during the back-to-school period of August through October. Families, Schools, college and university students and staff, employers and employees, grandparents, community, cultural and religious organization leaders and members, caring adults and older students are all encouraged to find ways to share their talents, time and experiences to help strengthen their local schools.

For a free copy of an activity kit to help you plan an *America Goes Back to School* event or for more information about the Partnership for Family Involvement in Education, call 1-800-USA-LEARN or visit the U.S. Dept. of Ed.'s Website at <http://www.ed.gov/Family/agbts>.

U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley and the Partnership for Family Involvement in Education



October 26-27 - Nonpublic School Administrators Conf.  
January 31- February 6 - Catholic Schools Week

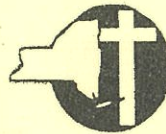
November 19 - National Appreciation Day for Catholic School Principals  
February 3 - National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools

## CSAANYS Board Headliners for Conference

Members of the CSAANYS Executive Board will present a workshop for administrators new to the Nonpublic School Administrators Conference. Board members Kathy Dwyer, Frank Kamp, Sr. Katherine Hanrahan, Sr. Nancy McNulty and Mrs. Margaret Henshaw have many years' experience as elementary and secondary school leaders. They will share the fruits of their experience with those new to the office of principal, those who are interested in developing a vision for their school and their leadership role, and for those who would like to explore their varying roles as head of school.

This is definitely a must-see for new administrators and a should see for those with a few years in the position. Watch for your registration materials from State Ed for the annual conference on October 36-27, 1998.

## Get on the Information Superhighway!



The  
NYS Catholic Conference  
is ON-LINE

[www.nyscatholicconference.org](http://www.nyscatholicconference.org)

## School **VIOLENCE** Initiatives

Deputy Commissioner James Kadamus, Office of Elementary, Middle, Secondary and Continuing Education, urged school administrators to recognize the potential for incidents of school violence to happen in New York's schools and to guard against such events to the extent possible.

Deputy Kadamus stressed the importance of becoming aware of those aspects of the school and community environment which contribute to violence and the long-term and the short-term strategies that can be put in place to prevent school violence.

School violence prevention initiatives will be presented by Commissioner Mills in his Back-to-Schools broadcast in the fall. In October, the Department will conduct a teleconference on school violence prevention, followed by training opportunities for school staff and parents.

While CSAANYS can keep our membership informed about current state-wide training programs, administrators would do well to keep tabs on local programs that may be available to their faculties and staff.

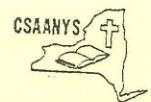
## ARE THESE DATES IN YOUR CALENDAR?



# csaanys news

Visit our Website!  
www.csaanys.org

Serving Catholic School Administrators since 1972



November 1998  
Vol. 27 #9

CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE

406 Fulton Street • Suite 512  
Troy, New York 12180-3361  
518-273-1205 Fax 518-273-1206  
WEB Site: www.csaanys.org

## MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL

by Sister Carol Cimino, SSJ  
Executive Director

### A Modest Proposal (with apologies to Jonathan Swift)

It seems that everywhere I go people ask, "when will we have vouchers?" My answer, usually is, "We'll be the 51st state." As more and more voucher programs are initiated across the fruited plain, it is natural for New Yorkers to wonder when we'll have a program.

Of late, however, I've come up with a few "modest proposals" guaranteed to get our schools some of that government money. Let me share them with you:

#### 1. We can declare our schools Third World countries.

Other countries around the world seem to be the recipients of American largesse: why not make our schools eligible for foreign aid? We certainly take care of enough poor children in poor neighborhoods to get in on the multimillion-dollar aid programs.

We could even declare war on the United States, lose, and then campaign for a "Marshall Plan". After all, Germany and Japan were the objects of the war effort 1941-45, and then built world-class economies on the enormous amount of U.S. aid.

#### 2. We could threaten to leave New York State.

Recently a printing company threatened to move from New York City to New Jersey (imagine! New Jersey!). Albany came up with \$13 million to build a new printing plant so that the company would stay in New York.

Having several friends in New Jersey, I can attest to the hospitality of the Garden State. After all, if the Statue of Liberty can move, if the New York Jets and the New York Giants can really come to New Jersey to play, why can't we?

I think that if the Governor and the State Legislature heard that we were thinking of moving to the other side of the Hudson, they'd cough up loads of cash.

#### 3. Declare our schools to be football or baseball teams.

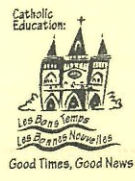
In the biggest boondoggle of them all, New York State has given millions to millionaire owners of nationally franchised teams to build stadiums, overhaul luxury boxes, enjoy tax breaks. After committing over \$4 million to the Buffalo Bills, the team owners turned around and negotiated a "black out" on TV accessibility to the games. Even the Governor can't watch Bills' games on TV! AND I AM NOT MAKING THIS UP!

Imagine the teams we could field: the St. William the Abbot Rabbits, the St. Cecilia Supersonics...it's mindboggling!  
Just a few modest proposals.....

## President Scuttles A+ Accounts

In keeping with his promise that he would veto any legislation that might "harm public education", the president vetoed a bill that would have given tax breaks to parents who put money away to pay for the costs of education. Even though public school students would also have benefited, since the tax free savings could have been used to pay for tutoring and home computers, President Clinton scuttled the bill.

It is interesting, however, that a majority of both houses not only passed the bill, but worked it out in conference committee that showed bipartisan support. Although there were not enough votes to override the president's veto, the strong bipartisan support is promising.



NCEA 96th Annual Convention  
April 6-9, 1999  
New Orleans, LA

Fr. Charles Vavonese of Syracuse informed us that anyone attending the NCEA Convention in April in New Orleans can travel from Syracuse on Mon., Apr. 5 & return on Fri., Apr. 9 for \$340. Contact Fr. Vavonese at 315-470-1450 ASAP!

CSAANYS will, once again, take group registrations for the NCEA Convention. Details in December.





The 1999 SPICE applications can be obtained from Regina Haney at NCEA. This year's focus is on technology.


- ◆ REPRESENTATION
- ◆ LEGISLATIVE UPDATES
- ◆ WORKSHOPS
- ◆ MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
- ◆ BOARD REPRESENTATION
- ◆ CONSULTATIONS
- ◆ RESEARCH REPORTS
- ◆ RETREATS



## A Tip of the CSAANYS Coif to:

 Sister Harriett Hamilton, OSF, principal of St. Mary's in Cortland. The school celebrates 70 years, and opened in 1929 with 160 students. This September, with 404 students enrolled, the alumni have provided the school with an endowment of \$100,000.

 Mr. Robert Wegman, who has pledged \$25 million over 10 years for Rochester inner-city Catholic schools, received the Corning Award accorded annually to a New Yorker who has "demonstrated a deep and sustaining commitment of the people of New York State".

 The International Learning Styles Network Board voted Bishop Kearney H.S., Brooklyn provisional status as a Learning Styles Center under the direct auspices of the Board. Bishop Kearney will become a demonstration high school model for other schools whose teachers and administrators want to observe a learning styles program in action.

### **Funding Opportunities for Energy Assistance**

The NYS Energy Smart Program is funding technical assistance projects to help customers make wise electrical energy use decisions. The NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) will contribute up to \$10,000 per project for small projects (up to \$20,000) and up to \$25,000 per large project (over \$20,000). Contact: Jane Powers, PON #439-98, NYSERDA, Corporate Plaza West, 286 Washington Ave. Ext., Albany, NY 12203-6399. (518)862-1091 or [jap@nyserda.org](mailto:jap@nyserda.org).

### **Louisiana Ruling Has Far-Reaching Consequences**

A federal appeals court has struck down part of a federal education law that allows public school districts to lend library books, computers and other instructional equipment to religious schools under the program formerly known as Chapter 2, and now known as Title VI.

The Congress in 1981 consolidated several federal programs into block grants and mandated that nonpublic schools wishing to participate must receive the aid. President Clinton has tried to eliminate the block grants, but Republicans in Congress have saved it and are proposing an increase in fiscal 1999 to \$400 million.

The Court ruled that the loan of such materials had the effect of advancing religion. The ruling could adversely affect our schools and has the possibility of being broader than the Courts have intended. So far, only San Francisco, and Jefferson Parish in Louisiana have been affected.

## **New Eligibility Criteria for Blue Ribbon Schools**

New for the 1998-99 Elementary School Cycle, the following criteria have been added:

1. The school must be an elementary school including some combination of grades K-8. K-12 schools must apply for the K-8 section only, but K-8 and 1-schools must apply as an entire entity. Middle schools and Intermediate schools are eligible. Grades 7-12 schools are not eligible for the elementary cycle, but would be eligible for the 1999-00 secondary cycle.

2. The school must have been in continuous operation since 1993.

3. The school must not have received recognition subsequent to the 1992-93 cycle.

Nonpublic schools apply for Blue Ribbon status through the Council on American Private Education (CAPE) 301-916-8460 or e-mail: [cape@impresso.com](mailto:cape@impresso.com)

## **IMMUNIZATIONS**

An interesting case in New Jersey highlights the difficulties in understanding what is required under the law. Religious objections to immunization can be used as an excuse for the requirement that a child receive all immunizations as a requisite for entering school. In New Jersey, a Buddhist student was baptized a Catholic and applied for religious exemption from immunizations. However, since there is no tenet in the Catholic Church that forbids immunizations, the girl was not excused. Her mother then maintained that, although the girl has been baptized a Catholic, she still was a Buddhist, and could maintain "dual religions". The Court disagreed.

Please note: Beginning this year, all students must also be immunized against **Hepatitis B**. A student without proof of having all the required immunizations must be excluded from school after 14 days.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Over the summer we received several calls from principals regarding special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities act (IDEA). The disappointing news comes as a result of the overturn of the so-called *Russman* decision which had ruled that the delivery of services at religious schools did not violate the so-called mandate of separation of Church and State.

In August, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the earlier ruling and said that the IDEA as amended does not require a school district to provide on-site special education services to a disabled child voluntarily enrolled in a private school.

Although the court ruled that these services may be delivered on-site, the court ruled that the district is not required to provide them. Further, although the district is required to spend the Federally allocated money, the district is not required to spend any district monies on these children.

Please note: the district is still required to identify locate and evaluate children with disabilities, but the district is required to spend up to the proportionate share of Federal special education funds - approximately \$680.

Arguments are still being heard in an appeal claiming that the free exercise clause of the First Amendment is violated by this ruling. Stay tuned.....



## STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

One of the most frequent calls we receive is about students with special needs, specifically, students with Individual Education Plans (IEP's). We would like to lay down some general principles in an attempt to clarify for our members what is required and what is not.

Public Law 94-142 is the Education of All Handicapped Children Act. It ensures "a free and appropriate education" for all children. There is no requirement that Catholic schools provide the "free and appropriate education". Indeed, Catholic schools are not required to meet every need of every child; student handbooks ought to state this. However, PL 94-142 gives the private school student the right to request and receive an evaluation and, if necessary, an IEP. The public school must make every reasonable effort to provide the student with services needed, even if the student wishes to remain in the private school.

If it is not practical for the public school district to administer the IEP in the private school, the district can draw up an IEP that requires that the student attend public school. Of course, a parent is always free to accept or reject the IEP, and then the public school is not responsible for the child's progress.

Therefore, although the private school student and the public school student have the same rights under PL 94-142, the private school student may not insist that the services be provided within a private school as part of the IEP. Our advice: think twice about accepting a student whose needs you cannot meet. Remember, that when you do enroll students with special needs, you are giving the expectation that you will be able to meet the student's educational needs.



### Not All Work

(L-R) CSAANYS Board Members, Sr. James Patrick Kavanagh, Mary Margaret Henshaw, Sr. Katherine Hanrahan, and Sr. Joan McAvoy take a break during their recent meeting.

### Adolescence is Time of Crisis for Even "Healthy" Boys, Finds McLean Study

Psychologically "healthy" middle-class boys are confused about definitions of masculinity and gender equality and feel significant anxiety and sadness about growing up to be men, a study by researchers at McLean Hospital and Harvard Medical School has shown. In addition, as boys mature they feel increased pressure to mask feelings of low self-esteem. Correlations were found between depression and pressure to fulfill traditional roles of masculinity and male sexuality, between age and the need to mask problems with self-esteem (with the degree of "lying" to hide feelings of low self-esteem increasing significantly in older boys) and between relatively low self-esteem scores and increased incidence of depression.

Study findings indicate:

- Boys are confronting a double standard of masculinity
- As boys mature, they feel increased pressure to conform to an aggressive dominant male stereotype which leads to low self-esteem and high incidence of depression
- Boys feel significant anxiety and sadness about growing up to be men.
- Despite appearing outwardly content, many boys feel deep feelings of loneliness and alienation.
- Heightened sensitivity to shame. Over 50% of boys spoke of "daily shame" and taunts about masculinity, courage and integrity.
- Boys find heroes/role models within family. When asked who boys considered to be their most important role models, mentors and heroes, over 75% of boys identified a parent, grandparent or sibling.

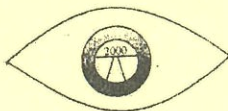
### NCEA 96th Annual Convention April 6-9, 1999 New Orleans, LA



Once again CSAANYS will offer group registration for any member wanting to attend the NCEA Convention this spring. **ALL** registration forms must be submitted to CSAANYS by: **January 25, 1999**. The group rate is \$66.00. Please make all checks payable to CSAANYS.

The Albany Diocese is offering a group rate airfare of \$315. Contact Mr. Kirk McEwan (518)453-6604 ASAP!

### VOICES THAT CHALLENGE



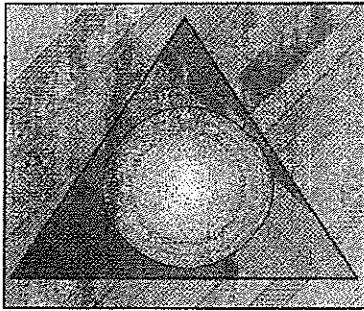
Institute on Catholic Education

July 8 & 9, 1999

University of Rochester  
(716)275-7833

This year, Executive Director Sr. Carol Cimino will present two sessions: one on meeting the diverse needs of students, and one on managing change.





quality education, based on and grounded in Catholic principles and delivered in a Catholic environment

Manhattan College  
 Catholic School Administrator Program  
 Center for Learning Leaders,  
 the  
 Catholic School Administrators Association  
 of New York State

and  
 The Catholic Schools Office of Paterson, NJ

present

*Topics*

*Strengthening the community of faith*  
*The Collaborative Leader*  
*Covenantal or contractual relationships?*  
*The learning organization*  
*Governance*  
*Hiring and Firing*  
*Human Resource Development*  
*Engaging stakeholders:*  
*pastors, parents, alumni, investors*  
*Telling the school's story*  
*for love and money*  
*Creating a supportive environment*  
*Teacher growth for student results*  
*and much, much more!*

**Called to Community**  
**SUMMER INSTITUTE IN CATHOLIC**  
**IDENTITY**

June 28, 29, 30, July 1, 2, 1999  
 9:00 - 3:30

**Tentative Conference Schedule**

8:30 - 9:00	Arrival and coffee
9:00 - 9:15	Opening prayer
9:15 - 10:45	Session I
10:45 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:00	Session II
12:00 - 12:45	Lunch
12:45 - 1:45	Session III
1:45 - 2:00	Break
2:00 - 3:00	Session IV
3:00 - 3:30	General session

**For additional information or questions, please contact:**

**Sr. Carol Cimino, Catholic School Administrators Association of NYS**  
**Voice: 518-273-1205 e-mail: nysadm@aol.com**

**Sr. Remigia Kushner, Catholic School Administrator Program**  
**Voice: 718-862-7473 e-mail: rkushner@manhattan.edu**