



MATTERS OF PRINCIPAL

By Sister Carol Cimino



It's Been a Sweet 16

I don't know how better to put this than to copy for you the letter I sent to the CSAANYS Executive Board last month. Below is what I wrote:

It is with a great deal of sadness that I inform you of my intentions not to renew my contract with CSAANYS when it expires at the end of June 2003.

As you know, I have worked for the association since 1987. In my capacity as Associate Director, and then Executive Director, I have worked towards putting the association on a firm financial footing, increasing membership and expanding services to members. At this point in time, I feel that I have taken the association closer to these goals, and it is now time for me to step aside.

Please be assured that this has been the best job I have ever had. I have been privileged to work with all of you and with the wonderful administrators of our Catholic schools, as well as with Sister Catharine Ryan and Lori Kaiser.

As I pursue other interests, CSAANYS will never be far from my thoughts and prayers. I wish you well in a search for my successor, and will do all that I can to make a successful transition for whomever the Board chooses.

Many thanks for the opportunities you've given me during these past 16 years.

Sincerely,
Sister Carol Cimino

BISHOPS' STATEMENT ON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

It has been 12 years since the US Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a statement in support of Catholic schools. Since that time, many schools have opened, and many have closed: enrollments in some parts of the country have increased, and in the "rust belt" have decreased: tuitions have risen dramatically, putting a sizable dent in parents' budgets.

The Bishops of NYS, however, have recently published a pastoral on parental rights in education, and by now every parent of a Catholic school child should have received it.

The Bishops base their support on the *Pierce* case, which, in 1925, established the right of parents to choose the school they wish their children to attend.

On March 11th, that same group of bishops will host the annual legislative action day here in Albany. We would encourage all of our principals to attend, and to bring parents and students to remind legislators that all New Yorkers have the right of school choice that is supported by our government. I will personally look forward to seeing you there.

TOUCHING HEARTS, CHANGING LIVES

That's the theme of the annual Institute on Catholic Education in Rochester, NY July 7-8, 2003 at the Airport Holiday Inn. Gini Shimabukuro, a nationally known speaker on several topics in Catholic education, and Richard Fragomeni, an internationally known theologian, will be on hand this year, along with several other speakers. For more information, contact Sister Edwardine Weaver, RSM, University of Rochester, Box 270425, Rochester, NY 14627 or call her at: 585-275-7833.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

The position of Executive Director of CSAANYS is available beginning July 1, 2003. Applicants must be practicing Catholics in good standing with the Church, possess a Master's or comparable advanced degree in school administration, and have experience in Catholic school administration. A complete job description is available by calling CSAANYS. Letters of inquiry may be sent to the Executive Board Search Committee at CSAANYS before March 1st.

REMINDER:

The annual Institute in Catholic Identity will be held at Manhattan College June 23-27, 2003. A schedule and application will be available after March 1st.

