

Join us at the Albany Marriott Hotel for the 2009 Gathering! This year we have added three fun and interesting components to our conference.

The first thing that we have added is roundtable conversations with the Superintendents (or their designee). These roundtables will consist of topics like data driven decision making, common shared services model for professional development, planning and implementing an advocacy rally, school visitations and reviews, and Partners in Mission—Advancement in Leadership. These roundtable conversations will give you the opportunity to engage in a conversation about a topic that interests you.

We have added a bookstore to the registration area this year. Resources, books and materials from NCEA and World Library Press will be available for sale (*check or cash only please!*).

Finally during our opening meeting you will be hearing more about that is happening with the advocacy efforts for our schools. We will

get hands on, practical information to further our needs with our state representatives.

The keynote speakers this year, John Angotti and Dr. Jerry Galipeau have a wonderful session planned that will surely enliven and enrich our day. Tune up your singing pipes and get ready to participate in their dynamic presentation. We look forward to seeing you on November 15th at the 9th annual Gathering for Catholic School Administrators.

The registration form and hotel/transportation information can be found at www.csaanys.org, the hotel reservation website is <http://cwp.marriott.com/albny/cairs> and the phone reservation code is NPS.

Remember that if you are planning to use the school's tax exempt form, the name (school) and address on the form MUST match the form of payment if you are paying with a check or credit card (billing address).

Online Registration for CAIRS (November 16 & 17) is available at www.nyscirs.org

CSAANYS 2009 GATHERING INFORMATION!

CSAANYS (Tentative) Gathering Agenda

- 1:00 Registration and Vendors Open
- 2:00 Superintendents' Roundtable conversations session #1
- 2:35 Superintendents' Roundtable conversations session #2
- 3:30 Gathering Begins
- 4:15 Keynote Speaker
- 5:00 Break
- 5:15 Keynote Part #2
- 6:00 -8:00 Dinner

“Education is about project based learning, connections with peers around the world, service learning, independent research, design and creativity, critical thinking and challenges to old assumptions.”

TIPS FOR NEW PRINCIPALS

- ◆ Begin by being an observer;
- ◆ Meet individually with every staff member or at least every department or team, to find out what the major concerns are;
- ◆ Ask your teachers:
 1. What is going right in this school?
 2. What could be improved?
 3. What do you want me to know about you?
- ◆ Having an open door policy makes the staff and parents comfortable with bringing issues directly to you;
- ◆ Be visible, in the corridors and in the classrooms;
- ◆ Have faith in the teachers to be professional and do what is right for children;
- ◆ Identify teacher leaders in your school and work with them to monitor how your policies are working out;
- ◆ Keep expectations clearly communicated;
- ◆ Learn the culture in and out of the building;
- ◆ Focus on good and engaging instruction by doing a lot of observations and/or modeled lessons; informally and formally;
- ◆ Listen before you speak and request extended think-time if needed before responding;
- ◆ Know the learning expectations of your students and support teachers to address them in appropriate ways;
- ◆ Provide teachers with an opportunity to consider options and voice their opinions with an expectation that you'll take their thinking into consideration as you make decisions that incorporate a wider horizon than they each see in their individual classrooms;
- ◆ When you are really, really angry with someone, wait 24 hours, if possible, before speaking privately with him/her about the issue. You may have to take immediate action to resolve the issue, but cool off before discussing it with the party or parties involved;
- ◆ Get to know your teachers and other staff, their strengths and weaknesses, their passions and viewpoints;
- ◆ Gently, help the teachers grow;
- ◆ Don't come with a predetermined agenda because you don't know what the teachers in front of you need until you get to know them;
- ◆ If you make any major changes, make sure that the teachers, staff and parents are behind you.

(Teacher Magazine—Teacher Leader Network (June 12, 2008))