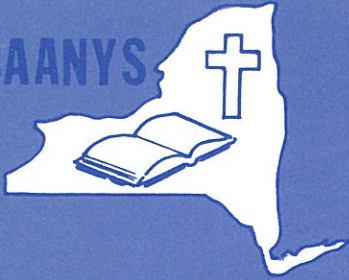


CSAANYS



NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE

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Catholic Education Enters A New Decade

Despite dire predictions to the contrary and a myriad of articles discussing why Catholic schools would not survive the decade of the '70's, the dawn of the 1980's finds Catholic schools still working to meet the needs of parents and students who want quality education in a religious-oriented program. To assure the continuation of the Catholic school system for another decade of service, a shared commitment to its survival by Church hierarchy, Catholic educators and Catholic laity is needed.

Catholic parents must continue to enroll their children in Catholic schools, as well as accepting the fact that the future of their schools is primarily their responsibility. Church hierarchy must welcome shared responsibility with parents and open the avenues for them to fulfill their responsibilities to their children and their schools. Catholic educators must welcome parents and their participation in creating schools that meet their educational needs and expectations. On a larger scale, the American people, especially, Catholics, must work for more acceptance of their rights to choose alternatives in education for their children and financial aid by state and federal governments.

To meet the challenges of the future, the Catholic school must serve an educational and religious stewardship to the Catholic community. Professionally, the Catholic school must be committed to providing quality education. Religiously, the Catholic school must meet the needs of the Community of Faith in formation of the Faith within the young.

In seeking direction for the journey into the future, all who share a mutual commitment to Catholic education might well heed St. Paul's advice to the Ephesians: "Living the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ." With this in mind, let us continue to work together to create schools which form students who will be convinced, articulate Christians, ready to take their place in the world to live a life filled with the spirit of Christ, love for God and love for His People.

Ave Atque Vale

Theodore M. Black, Chancellor of the NYS Board of Regents for the past five years, announced recently that he will retire at the completion of his three-year term on March 31, 1980. Although his term as a member of the Board of Regents extends for one more year, he has decided to relinquish that position as well. Among other pursuits, he intends to write a book on education that "will attempt to show where we are in education, how we got there, where we should be headed, and how we can reach our destination." He will do this while retaining his presidency of the Walter J. Black, Inc., publishing company in Roslyn, N.Y.

During his tenure as Regent and Chancellor, Mr. Black has proven himself a

Some dates for a happy New Year

CSAANYS Workshop
"The Family That Is"

Wednesday, April 16

Bishop Scully, Amsterdam

Wednesday, April 23

Holy Rosary, Bronx

Wednesday, April 30

Notre Dame, Batavia

sincere friend of nonpublic education whose rights and interests he strongly advocated. CSAANYS's relationship with Chancellor Black has been cordial, harmonious and beneficial. Catholic Education in NYS will be losing a staunch supporter at the highest state educational level when Chancellor Black retires.

CETA - The NPS

In September, 1979, Department of Labor final regulations on placement of CEIA workers in religiously-affiliated elementary and secondary schools took effect. Church-related schools may utilize CEIA funds for:

- adult education programs, recreation, summer and remedial activities (but not summer school), as long as they are open to the public and are non-religious in nature;
- cafeteria and other food service work;
- diagnostic and therapeutic speech and hearing services;

- health and safety services, as well as related clerical work (school bus aides, attendance clerks, school crossing guards);
- support services for administration of federally funded programs;

- administration and grading of state-prepared exams. (This includes exams prepared, approved or required by the state.);

- non-instructional child care **after school hours.**

Activities for which CEIA employees may not be employed in a religiously affiliated school include: teacher, librarian, guidance counselor, janitor or maintenance worker, or teacher aide. All activities must be free of religious contact. Classrooms and facilities used for CEIA programs must be free of sectarian influence or appearance, including all religious symbols or artifacts. The prime CEIA sponsor has the responsibility of explaining the above requirements to CEIA workers before the start of employment in a sectarian school and emphasizing that their activities will be strictly non-sectarian in nature.

CEIA workers may be assigned to provide remedial educational services (such as Title I teachers or teaching aides) as long as all regulations of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act which apply to

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Deregulation of Radio

The Federal Communications Commission has proposed the elimination of the requirements for AM and FM radio stations to serve the needs of the local community. Basically, this means that the sponsors, those with money to buy radio time, will determine the social and moral values proclaimed in radio programming. The public would be reduced to consumers.

Expected consequences of this elimination is carried out include: much religious programming will be ended, since it is only present FCC requirements that ensure church broadcasts as unsponsored public service. Only the evangelists with large sums of money will be able to afford air time. All Public Service Announcements of charities and non-profit organizations would no longer be required. There will be no limit on the number of commercials or a requirement to broadcast news. Public and community affairs programming would no longer be required. The ease with which radio is deregulated will determine the future deregulation of television broadcasting.

The FCC would like comments by January 25th. PLEASE write, and urge parents to write. Tell the FCC to delay or rescind their action. Urge them to retain the community service concept and the requirements for Public Service announcements and local public and community affairs broadcasting. The public should retain its right of access to radio broadcasting!

Address letters to: Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 1919M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20554. Please be sure to note the FCC Docket Number (BC Docket No. 79-219) or the Rulemaking Number (RM-3099 and RM-3273) on your letter. Also, a copy of your letter to your Congressman, Senators and the President would increase public pressure of the FCC.

All Catholic elementary and secondary schools should be receiving more information on this matter from the National Catholic Educational Association.

MEMBERSHIP ALERT!!

Sadly, CSAANYS removed 150 schools from its mailing list that had not renewed since September. PLEASE if you recently received a final notice, won't you RENEW NOW? If you're not sure of your membership status, CONTACT US. We need your support to continue our advocacy for Catholic schools.

Newsbriefs

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

The House has approved The Child Health Assurance Act and a bill authorizing funds to inspect schools for asbestos and loans to remove or cover up the material.

The Child Health Assurance Act extends coverage to more needy children and includes provisions to encourage schools to conduct health "assessments" for poor students.

The school asbestos bill provides \$30 million for school inspections and another \$100 million for interest-free loans to remove or cover up the materials.

Passage by the Senate of both bills is uncertain.

Meanwhile, strong lobbying efforts are being made to prevent a five-cent cut in the reimbursement rates for school lunches. It is estimated that a rise in the cost of school lunches will cut student participation anywhere from 4-25%. The Senate wants a \$100 million cut in the lunch program.

IRS RESTRICTED

The IRS had proposed new procedures that required nonpublic schools to prove that they were not racially discriminatory or lose their tax-exempt status.

Citizens for Education Freedom (CEF) and other non-governmental education groups were successful in securing passage of amendments in Congress which would restrict the power of the IRS over nonpublic schools for a year.

More permanent legislation has been proposed in both the Senate and House.

SUPREME COURT

The US Supreme Court has ruled that Title IX regulations do not apply to school employees. Title IX bans sex discrimination in federally supported education programs. The courts have ruled that this law applies only to the students who benefit from the federal funds.

Also, the Supreme Court backed the action of HEW's Office of Civil Rights in cutting off Emergency School Aid Act funds to New York City schools. The fund cutoff was based on the findings that most of the City's black and Hispanic teachers were assigned to minority schools, which constituted a racial imbalance.

NAESP SEEKS NONPUBLIC SCHOOL MEMBERS

NAESP is mounting a campaign to obtain more nonpublic schools as members. It would be well for administrators to remember that since 1970, NAESP has opposed any aid for nonpublic schools. This position was reaffirmed in 1978, at its Delegate Assembly, as \$10,000 of the NAESP Legal Assistance Program went to defeat a voucher plan in Michigan. NAESP was also part of the coalition that worked for the defeat of Tuition Tax Credits. (See October, 1978 Newsletter for more information.)

ENERGY

The Schoolhouse Energy Efficiency Demonstration program, developed by Tenneco Inc., has produced great savings in energy use for many schools throughout the country. The SEED booklet includes a guide for incorporating energy into the curriculum and a technical manual that contains forms and guidelines for conducting a school energy audit. The SEED booklet and film, **Energy Efficiency for Education and Students**, is available free from Tenneco Inc., Public Affairs Dept., PO Box 2511, Houston, Texas 77001.

A motivational free-loan film, **The Fourth R**, which explains the school energy problem, is available from Modern Talking Picture Service, 2323 New Hyde Park Rd., New Hyde Park, N.Y. 11040.

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such programs in nonpublic schools are complied with. Such workers are under the supervision of the CETA prime sponsor. Final decisions as to the hiring or firing of CETA employees are made by the prime sponsor only. The sectarian school may make recommendations.

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee, along with the Government, has appealed the decision barring CETA programs in church-related schools. Both the Archdiocese and the Government argued the lack of entanglement caused by the CETA programs and that the actual beneficiaries of such programs in the church-related schools were the CETA employees themselves. Emphasis was also placed on the public welfare nature of the CETA program.

CSAANYS

Acknowledgements

Executive Director Br. Bernard Flood, who is Executive Secretary of the NYS Catholic High School Athletic Association, was elected President of the NYS Federation of Secondary School Athletic Associations. The Federation last year sponsored the first NYS High School Basketball Tournament.

Associate Director Sr. Catherine O'Leary, OP, has been elected to a three-year term as representative for New York State to the Advisory Committee of the Supervision, Personnel and Curriculum (S.P.C.) section of the National Catholic Education Association.

Br. John Farrell, FSC, Secondary School Representative from the Albany Diocese, is in New Mexico for a time of prayer and recollection. Sr. Theresa Murphy, principal of Bishop Maginn HS, will represent the Albany high schools until his return.

Sr. Nancy McNulty, RSM, is the new CSAANYS Secondary School Representative for the Diocese of Buffalo. Sr. Nancy replaces Father Michael Moore, both on the Board and as principal of Niagara Catholic HS.

Negotiated Tuition: A Financial Alternative

Those who have been involved in the closing of a school realize that it is a very traumatic experience. There are certain people who will rally to save the school — but often it is too late. The cause for closing is always finances.

Catholic schools offer quality education, but how is it financed? There is only one solution — the users will have to pay. In the past, tuition was always set. Parents had no reason to assume their tuition did not cover the true cost of educating their children — they were not told how much it actually cost! Yet there are some families who believe deeply in Catholic education, but could not possibly afford to pay the full cost of that education.

In the early '70's, the late Msgr. Edmund W. Olley introduced the concept of Negotiated Tuition. Simply stated, Negotiated Tuition, or Fair Ability to Pay, is a method whereby each family determines its ability to pay a fair share of what it actually costs to educate each child. The school official assists the parents in making a financial commitment for the upcoming school year through an interview or conference.

Sr. Patricia Houlihan, principal of Holy Cross School in Albany, presented a session on Negotiated Tuition at the CSAANYS 1979 workshop. Sr. Patricia spoke from her personal experience, as her school was in its third year with Fair Ability to Pay Tuition. Sr. Patricia pioneered the concept in the Albany Diocese, and assisted many principals in putting the concept into action. Presently about 50 percent of the Catholic schools in the Albany Diocese are using Fair Ability to Pay successfully.

Fair Ability to Pay is not a confrontation, a method of checking on family finances or asking someone to carry another's burden. It is about education, ordering priorities, honesty, Christianity and justice.

Sr. Ernesta, principal of St. Mary's Elementary School in Hoosick Falls, heard Sr. Patricia's presentation at the CSAANYS workshop. At that time, St. Mary's was faced with the prospect of raising tuition. It was feared that this would result in a loss of pupils to a fine central school system. Sr. Patricia Houlihan went to St. Mary's to speak to the parents. There was some trepidation, apprehension and even suspicion. However, the parents agreed to try it. St. Mary's is somewhat unique in that there is also a high school division. Sr. Ernesta and the high school principal met individually with 210 families for 15 minutes each. Tuition pledges amounted to more than expected. In 1979-80, tuition intake was \$66,000, while 1980-81 pledges totaled \$78,000. Students weren't lost. In fact, enrollment increased by 50 students.

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Kindergarten Admission & Services

Registered nonpublic kindergartens are now prohibited from admitting children younger than the admission age set by the public school district. Nonregistered kindergartens may still admit younger children, but these children will not receive transportation, textbooks, or health services from the local district.

Executive Board Report

At its first meeting for 1980-81, CSAANYS's Executive Board set goals for the Association for the year. As a central goal, CSAANYS will strive to foster effective school financing and management through research, legislation and political action. This will involve working fully with the State Coordinating Committee for Educational Assistance. CSAANYS will also research such alternate methods of school financing as negotiated tuition, vouchers and extension of Mandated Services benefits. A third area of effort for CSAANYS will be to promote the delivery and expansion of already existing student benefits.

Several projects are already being prepared as concrete action steps to achieve these goals. Sr. Patricia Houlihan, Albany Elementary Representative, is working with CSAANYS staff to prepare a research report on negotiated tuition. CSAANYS is conducting a survey of its members to collect data to support the inclusion of immunization requirements under Mandated Services. Several Board members are con-

Thanks, But . . .

Representatives of the three statewide Catholic education associations presented testimony before the Regents annual Legislative Hearings on Sept. 5th. Br. Flood spoke on behalf of CSAANYS, Syracuse Superintendent of Schools, Father James O'Brien, represented the Superintendents' Council and John Slattery spoke on behalf of the NYS Federation of Catholic School Parents.

While thanking the Regents for again listening to the needs and concerns of the nonpublic school students and parents, each speaker pointed out a frustrating lack of any real legislative progress, with not one piece of beneficial legislation being passed during the last session.

In the area of textbooks, the Regents were again urged to consider an increase in the \$15 per student allotment. The Regents were reminded that in programs for gifted and talented students, provision should be made for the participation of such students in nonpublic schools.

Much attention was given to the area of transportation needs. The Regents were again urged to support legislation to establish pick-up points for those students denied transportation because they live beyond the 15-mile limit. Br. Flood brought two transportation issues to the attention of the Regents. First, he pointed out that the SED Legal Counsel no longer obligated districts to provide transportation to nonpublic schools on days when the public schools are closed, but simply stated that such transportation was authorized. This shift in interpretation has resulted in many districts no longer providing this transportation. Brother stated, "I consider this an erosion of the original intent of the Transportation Law . . .

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tacting elected representatives to urge the introduction of legislation to increase the allotment for textbooks. Through its mailings to the membership, CSAANYS will strive to keep the administrators politically informed and aware of legislative progress both on the state and federal scene.

After five years working with Fair Ability to Pay, Sr. Patricia Houlihan states that tuition income at Holy Cross has increased 71 percent over the last year under fixed tuition, enrollment has remained steady in light of the lower birth rate and there has been a 2 percent decrease in parish subsidy. Parents are becoming more educated to the concept, as well as to the needs of the school, and they are setting priorities. Each year Sr. Patricia and the finance committee figure on a 2 percent uncollectable rate, but have consistently collected 2-3 percent over the budgeted amount.

At St. Madeleine School in Schenectady where Fair Ability started this September, the average family increase in tuition paid was 18 percent.

At Mt. Carmel School in Gloversville, each family signs a Service Contract, as well as the Tuition Contract. Former principal Teresa Kovarovic states that this raises parental involvement above the purely financial aspect. Miss Kovarovic praises negotiated tuition for allowing parents to decide what they can pay for tuition in the light of the circumstances of their family structure and financial picture.

St. Joseph's School in Troy serves six city parishes. In 1978, St. Joseph's became a cluster school and adopted negotiated tuition. Principal Sr. Joan Marie Curley believes that genuine and sensitive public relations prior to the Negotiated Tuition meeting is vital to educate the parents. Sister and each of the six pastors met with the families.

What does all this mean to the school administrator considering Fair Ability to Pay tuition? Time and patients. Time to study the concept and decide how it best suits the individual school. Time to prepare the financial picture. Time for orientation of parents — to deal with fears, doubts, suspicions and questions. Yet, Sr. Joan Marie Curley stresses that more important is the creation of an environment of trust and love.

Does this mean that each family will be obliged to raise the amount of tuition they are paying? If properly explained, the process allows parents to set their priorities and determine the fair amount they can pay based on all the data given. Some will not be able to pay the full cost — some will be able to pay only a meager amount. The method allows leeway for those who need it without their having to ask for "special consideration". Yet, each parent is challenged to accept the responsibility.

CSAANYS in the past has promoted the concept of Negotiated Tuition by sponsoring sessions at its 1976, 1977 and 1979 workshops on the process. CSAANYS is now preparing a more detailed report on Negotiated Tuition on the form of a series of questions and answers. The Albany Diocese has also prepared a booklet, which will be available in January, 1981, containing information and statistics on the Albany schools' success with the concept.

Services To Handicapped Students

In a recent decision, Commissioner Ambach stated that local school districts have the responsibility to provide necessary special educational services to handicapped students attending nonpublic schools upon the written request of parents or guardians. This decision issued from a case where the parents, while accepting their responsibility to pay tuition costs, maintained that the district should provide the special services appropriate for their child.

The BEH (Bureau of Education for the Handicapped) has recently outlined the main points of application of The Education for All Handicapped Children Act (PL 42-142) to handicapped children placed in private schools by their parents. Basically, state and local education agencies must design their program so that these children can participate in special education and related services offered by the LEAs if the parents so desire.

Each SEA and LEA is responsible for identification, location and evaluation of all handicapped children. Identification and evaluation of private school handicapped children can not be postponed, parents can not be charged for such evaluation, and can not be forced to enroll the child in public school to receive an evaluation. The requirements for serving private school handicapped students are basically the same as those for serving educationally deprived students under ESEA Title I. Therefore, whatever methods of providing Title I services are used in the state — dual enrollment, services on private school premises, etc. — are legally permissible to provide services to handicapped private school children.

Public and private school personnel are responsible to consult in developing the Individualized Education Programs. The SEA is responsible to monitor LEA compliance with these regulations. The BEH is in the process of developing more specific guidelines.

Renewal Alert September is the time for the majority of principals to renew their CSAANYS membership. Have you recently received a renewal notice?? Won't you please send in your renewal today? Are you a new principal who wants to know more about CSAANYS?? Please contact us!! Our mailing list will be revised at the end of October. Upcoming mailings include the revised Title IV B Report and a report on Negotiated Tuition. We don't want you to miss these informative papers. **RENEW NOW!!**

Tuition Tax Credits

Although tuition tax credit legislation was defeated in the last session of Congress, the concept will be re-introduced early in the next session. Supporters of tuition tax credits are hopeful that a more favorable public attitude towards aid to private schools, plus increasing concern over the rising costs and deficiencies of the public school system, will aid in passage of the legislation.

The concept of tuition tax credits has found increasing support from citizen groups who believe that tax credits would benefit the general taxpayer with a smaller tax bill, as well as the parent taxpayer whose children attend private school, who would utilize the tax credit directly to offset the cost of tuition paid.

One of the major objections constantly raised against the concept of tuition tax credits is the issue of constitutionality. It is generally felt that any direct tuition aid by the government to religious-affiliated schools would be declared unconstitutional. Supporters argue that the parent taxpayer would be the one to benefit from tuition tax credit, not the religious school. But the fact is that no one can know in advance if tuition tax credits are constitutional; it must be tested in the courts.

Tuition tax credits could re-arrange the relationship between the public and private school systems. Both educational systems would remain basically unchanged — neither would be further regulated by tuition tax credit legislation. But the concept of public support for private education would be concrete in the success of tuition tax credits.

THANKS, *continued*

Such action is a definite curtailment of child benefits intended under the law."

The other issue mentioned by Br. Flood was the frequent denial of late transportation requests when change of enrollment to a nonpublic school was given as the "reasonable explanation". While such a request is rarely refused when the transfer is to a public school, there seems to be a need for the same criteria to be applied in all cases. Br. Flood concluded, "Shouldn't all parents be treated alike as the law states? Shouldn't discriminatory practices towards the parents of children in non-government schools cease?"

Other areas presented to the Regents were tuition tax credits, a voucher plan for financing education, funding for drug education and removal of the exemption of city school districts from supplying health and transportation services.

Parents As Reading Partners

Senator James Donovan's Parents as Reading Partners Program has entered its third year. October has been declared "Parents as Reading Partners" month by Governor Carey. Brochures and information on the program are available from Senator Donovan's office — Room 708, L.O.B., Albany, NY 12247. Senator Donovan would also like to receive reports on school PARP activities.