



# THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS

May 22, 2015

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Karissa L. Niehoff, Ed.D.

Dear High School Principal,

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**AFFILIATED WITH:**

- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges
- Association for Middle Level Education
- National Association of Elementary School Principals
- New England League of Middle Schools
- National Federation of State High School Associations

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You are invited to nominate a student to be considered for service as a member of the State Student Advisory Council on Education (SSACE). The Council gives Connecticut students a voice in education planning and enables the State Board of Education, the Commissioner of Education, State Department of Education personnel, the Governor, and state legislators to become familiar with high school students' perspectives on key issues.

SSACE meets regularly with the Commissioner of Education, and on occasion with the Governor, to reflect student opinion in areas of concern in the high schools. The Council meets seven times per year. Members write position papers on important topics in education, conduct the statewide Challenge to Educational Citizenship Awards program, and through their discussions and activities, learn from each other about citizenship, leadership, and responsibility.

Meetings take place on school days from 9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the State Department of Education in Hartford. The student that you nominate, in addition to being capable of thoughtful expression within a group and committed to attending, needs to be able to miss up to seven school days and provide his or her own transportation to and from Hartford.

Once appointed, students serve until they graduate. Students nominated by you and who are finalists for the two student representatives on the State Board of Education are automatically appointed to the Council. With underclassmen from this year's Council returning, I anticipate about twenty available openings for 2015-2016.

You are invited to nominate one student from your school who you think is up to this task. This does not have to be the top-ranked student or president of an important organization. It does have to be a dependable person of good character capable of giving wise counsel to key educational decision-makers. **The attached application form is due back at CAS no later than Friday, June 26, 2015.** Applications will be reviewed in July and selections will be announced during the summer.

Do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Dave Maloney  
Assistant Executive Director

*Serving schools  
and principals*