Administrators are All Smiles for the New School Year
The beginning of a new school year is filled with anticipation and promise as we strive once again to make our schools the best that they can be. Whether you are a first year principal or a seasoned veteran, there is no greater time of year than the start of a new school year. The long summer preparations are completed and the teachers have been in for weeks getting their classrooms ready. We take the opportunity to utilize the beginning of the year professional development days to motivate and pump our teachers up in preparation for the students to stream through the front doors full of life and joy. They are met by the teachers and staff, rejuvenated after a summer of preparations for this moment. Then the grind begins. As August fades to September and the weather cools, the inevitable fatigue begins to set in. The question then is how do we maintain the momentum that is generated at the beginning of school? How do we keep our teachers and students motivated throughout the entire school year? The answer, we have to rely on each other. You have to develop a network of colleagues and friends who you can rely on in order to not only keep you motivated, but also to keep your sanity. It is often lonely in the office when you are the person in charge. There may not be another person in the building who you can rely on when there are problems or challenges of an administrative nature that only you can deal with. How on earth do we find these people that we need to maintain our sanity.

You can’t put a price on networking. There is no better forum to get to know other professionals than at the state and national conferences that are aligned with your profession. Case in point, while representing you at the NAESP National Conference in National Harbor Maryland this summer, I was able to make a connection that will be of great benefit for a former employee of mine. While speaking with other principals at the Zone IV reception I began talking to several administrators from Tennessee. As it turns out, one principal works right down the road from a former teacher of mine who is now an assistant principal outside of Nashville. I was able to share her information with my former employee and they were able to connect offering each other a network of support hundreds of miles away from where I live and work in southeast Alabama. The relationships and networking are invaluable. It is often one of the greatest benefits that gets talked about the least. I cannot encourage you strongly enough to build relationships through AAESA. If you are not a member, I implore you to join today. If you are new principal I encourage you to sign up for the New Principal’s Conference coming up in September. If you have been a member for some time, I encourage you to get involved in your local district and at the state level. Together we are stronger. Together we are better. Together we can build each other up and support one another as we do our noble work. Our students deserve the best that we can offer. Join AAESA and work to become the best principal that you can be. I hope that everyone has a fantastic 2016-2017 school year! If I can be of service, please do not hesitate to contact me!
It is time to nominate your district’s candidate for the National Distinguished Principal Award for the state of Alabama. This is an opportunity to submit the name of a Principal that has made a significant contribution to all aspects of the principalship. This person should be able to demonstrate the significant accomplishments made through their leadership and in the lives of children and teachers.

As the 2015 NDP for the state of Alabama, I encourage you to use the timeline listed below and submit the name of your recommendation for the 2017 National Distinguished Principal.

**Eligible:** All Alabama elementary or middle school principals.

**Criteria:**

- Served as Principal for at least five years and will remain in active service as a principal during the school year in which he/she will serve as NDP.
- Demonstrates strong commitment to the principalship by active memberships in professional organizations.
- Gives evidence of outstanding leadership skills that benefit a local school program.
- Provides service or achievements beyond what is expected in the usual school service.

Thank you for nominating an exemplary Principal to be considered to receive the NDP Award!

Laurie King 2015 NDP
Mountain Brook, Elementary School,
Mountain Brook City
205-871-8126 kingl@mtnbrook.k12.al.us

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**NDP Timeline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month(s)</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September- October</td>
<td>During the District Meeting – Select district Distinguished Principal Nominee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1, 2016</td>
<td>District Distinguished Principal nomination’s name is due to Jim Chesnutt at CLAS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 15, 2016</td>
<td>NDP application packets will be emailed by to each District’s nominee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 9, 2017</td>
<td>NDP Application DUE DATE – Applications must be sent to the CLAS office.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January - February 2017</td>
<td>The Alabama NDP committee site visits are completed for the three finalists.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 9, 2017</td>
<td><strong>Naming of the 2017 NDP</strong> at the AAESA Spring Planning Conference for the AAESA Executive Committee meeting and recognition during the CLAS Summer Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2017</td>
<td>National Distinguished Principal will attend the Awards Program in Washington DC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Successful School Year

Earl Franks
AAESA Executive Director

Congratulations on serving in one of the most important roles in education; an elementary school administrator! So many important responsibilities of a child’s educational outcomes begin with you. Please know, my heartfelt appreciation goes out to you for accepting this vital leadership role.

As you begin the school year, I want to share some personal thoughts and practices that I have learned and observed throughout my 30 year educational career. Although these recommendations are not necessarily research based or novel concepts, they are very relevant and practical and should help you maintain a positive learning environment for your students and other stakeholder groups.

To ensure a successful school year, first you must take care of you. Having a proper balance of family and work, coupled with good nutrition and exercise, will go a long way in realizing an enjoyable and productive school year. Also, keep in mind that you must have fun in your job or you will not survive very long, you will not be happy, and you will make everyone else miserable! Remember, it is ok to smile.

Earl’s Checklist

- Base all decisions on this question - is it good for kids?
- Always tell the truth!
- Be committed not just involved!
- NEVER compromise your character and integrity!
- Consider carefully in whom you confide!
- Be punctual! (To be early is to be on time; to be on time is to be late!)
- Don’t give your enemies any stones to throw!
- Establish a good relationship with your superintendent – keep them informed!
- Be organized!
- Identify your superstar teachers!

How to get along with faculty & staff

- You can’t make everyone happy!
- Be nice!
- Be cooperative!
- Be professional – avoid being buddies!
- Remember, everyone has bad days!
- Oh yeah; smile & be happy!

Make a Difference

- The most important people in the school are the students! They are our customers.
- Your smile or act of kindness may make their day!
- You may be that “one” who makes a difference!
- The students are why we do what we do!
- The students are depending on you!
In conclusion, I hope the 2016-17 school year is the best one ever. If we can ever be of service to you, please do not hesitate to contact us. Until next time, I leave you with this “Stress Test” to determine your anxiety level.

**Stress Test**

The picture on the next slide has 2 identical dolphins in it. It was used in a case study on stress levels at St. Mary’s Hospital.

Look at both dolphins jumping out of the water. The dolphins are identical. A closely monitored, scientific study revealed that, in spite of the fact that the dolphins are identical, a person under stress would find differences in the two dolphins. The more differences a person finds between the dolphins, the more stress that person is experiencing.

Look at the photograph and if you find more than one or two differences, you may want to take a vacation.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**AAESA/AASCD Fall Instructional Leadership Conference**

October 23-25, 2016
Hyatt Regency -The Wynfrey Hotel
Birmingham, AL

**NAESP Convention**

July 9-11, 2017
Philadelphia, PA

**CLAS Convention**

June 11-14, 2017
Mobile, AL
The beginning of a new school year is a great time for a fresh start and renewal. Look around at the new faces joining you in administration in your school, district, or area of the state. Encourage these colleagues to join AAESA. Why join AAESA? Membership does have its privileges. Principals and assistant principals must wear many hats, and membership in your professional organization makes sure you wear them well. AAESA is the official professional organization for elementary principals. Membership in AAESA gives you joint membership with NAESP, the National Association of Elementary School Principals. These organizations work behind the scenes to make sure you have the information and resources you need so that you can focus on what matters most, your students and your school community.

Annual membership dues this year actually decreased by $51! For less than $50 each month, your dues provide many resources and opportunities.

Networking and advocacy – Your AAESA board is working for you at the state and national level to advocate for you to ensure the best interests of principals and assistant principals are being heard on an ongoing basis. From visits to Washington D.C. to the Alabama capitol during legislative sessions, AAESA reaches out to deliver our message to the actual lawmakers making the decisions that affect us.

Connections – AAESA and NAESP are all about connections. The NAESP principal’s helpline and ongoing access to FREE professional development webinars on current issues such as ESSA implementation are just two resources at the national level. District meetings for AAESA all across the state provide valuable information from speakers such as local area superintendents to Alabama State Department of Education leaders. Knowledge is power. AAESA provides valuable resources with membership.

National Outstanding Assistant Principal and National Distinguished Principal – As a member of AAESA, principals and assistant principals become candidates for these prestigious awards presented annually.

National Panel of New Principals – Gain access to NAESP nationally certificated principal mentors to ask one on one questions. Take part in providing “real life” input to influence policy makers and professional development at the national level.

These are just a few of the many resources and advantages provided with AAESA membership!

Your voice as an administrator should be heard. By joining AAESA, you ensure someone is speaking for you at the state and national levels on an ongoing basis. Take the time to renew your own AAESA membership. Share the good news about AAESA and NAESP with your colleagues. Not everyone is a member. There is strength in numbers. Our large collective voice of elementary principals can speak loudly to make sure the best decisions are being made for our students and schools by those sitting in the legislature at both the state and national levels. If we don’t join AAESA and speak up for our children, who will?
The 2016 NAESP convention was held this summer directly on the waterfront in National Harbor, Maryland. Representatives from AAESA across the state traveled to this conference in July to network, collaborate, and learn about best practices in education. The conference was held at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, just across the harbor from Washington, D.C.

The conference kicked off on Tuesday, July 5th with a Community Service Day at Princeton Elementary School, where principals from across the nation volunteered to build a playground for a Title I school in the area. This type of service project is a standing event at the NAESP conference and has become one that many principals look forward to each year. Tuesday evening many educators took advantage of a night out for a game at Nationals Park, the official playing site of the Washington Nationals Major League Baseball team. Many educators also took advantage of the proximity to our nation’s capital city and visited several historic locations in Washington, D.C.

The conference schedule was full of engaging and powerful learning opportunities from educators across the nation. The theme of the conference this year was “Best Practices for Better Schools”. We even had several presenters from Alabama including Frank Buck, Gail Morgan, Dr. Datie Priest, Matt Scott, and Carol Martin. We were proud of these AAESA members for leading professional learning at the national conference.

Dr. Daniel Goleman gave the opening session presentation on Wednesday, providing valuable information on emotionally intelligent leadership. Wednesday’s highlights also included a very informative presentation on state and local implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which was sponsored by the Wallace Foundation. National Principal Mentors celebrated with one another at the mentor reunion Wednesday evening. Another highlight of the conference included the #NAESP16 Innovations Lab, an ongoing technology learning opportunity highlighting various presenters and sessions to utilize tech tools for best practices in the principalship.

(Pictured above are sphero balls, used in one of the learning opportunities during the conference. Sphero balls are used to teach robotics, coding, and problem based learning.)

Laura Ware
NAESP Representative

(Gail Morgan from the CLAS office giving one of her presentations at the convention)
I was honored to represent AAESA as our state representative for NAESP at the Zone 4 meeting on Thursday morning. We discussed hot topics related to education such as ESSA implementation at the state level. We also discussed the opportunity to select someone from Zone 4 to represent us on the Diversity Task force for NAESP, which will be convening in early 2017. An update was given on the National Leaders Conference (NLC), which the board approved to be scheduled for March 26-29, 2017 in Washington, D.C. The NAESP board has invited NASSP to re-join the NLC. NAESP board election updates were also given out.

AAESA representatives gathered with principals from other states in NAESP Zone 4 on Thursday evening to collaborate and fellowship with one another. This was a wonderful opportunity to see new faces and visit with old friends from the NAESP southeastern region and discuss ideas and opportunities for growth. The view of National Harbor from the restaurant where the Zone 4 reception was gorgeous!

Pedro Noguera gave insights on achieving excellence and equity during the closing general session on Friday morning, sending us off with motivation and thoughts on how to better serve our students. We were inspired by closing remarks from Dr. Steven Geis, our 2016-2017 NAESP President, who has been a friend and previous presenter for AAESA. You may remember him from the CLAS Fall Instructional Leadership conference in November, 2015. Dr. Geis reminded us of our dates for the first joint National Principals Conference, which will be held in Philadelphia, PA from July 9 – 11, 2017. Mark your calendars for this wonderful opportunity! For the first time, principals in elementary, middle, and high schools will come together for professional learning as NAESP and (NASSP) National Association of Secondary School Principals join forces to build camaraderie across all grade levels.

The entire conference gave opportunities for principals to observe and interact with various vendors who provide resources for schools. Scholastic books provided educational materials and books for perusal and purchase during each day’s activities at the convention center. AAESA members came away with lots of ideas from ways to improve carline to fitness opportunities to improve student health. We even received some freebies from these vendors to take back to our students!

The opportunity to attend an NAESP national conference is something all administrators should take advantage of each and every year. The time to learn, collaborate, and fellowship with educators across the nation provided a mindset to move forward refreshed for the coming school year. If you want to know more about attending a national conference, ask any AAESA member that attended. We would be happy to share and re-live some of the wonderful memories of our time spent together in Grand Harbor, Maryland! I hope to see you in Philadelphia next summer!
Highlights from the NAESP Convention Continued
The race for President is of course the major issue on the ballot this year, but don’t forget our Congressional elections. I doubt that whoever is elected President will know many of us by name. Whoever is your Congressman, should know your name. This is where you have the largest impact on what happens in education at the Federal level. As your representative is seeking election, now is a great time to establish a relationship with them. They really want to know what you think and they want to do a good job representing you. You never know where this can lead. Senator Sessions has had Alabama principals meet with the individuals that actually word the legislation. In Alabama, three incumbents face no opposition in the general election. They are Bradley Byrne (R), Robert Aderholt (R), and Terri Sewell (D). Congratulate these Congressmen on their re-election. Those facing opposition in the general election and their opponents are:

**Congress**
- Gary Palmer (R), (I)
- David Putman (D),
- Martha Roby (R),(I).
- Nathan Mathis (D))
- Mike Rogers (R),(I)
- Jesse Smith (D),
- Mo Brooks (R),(I)
- Will Boyd (D)

**Senate**
- Richard Shelby (R) (I)
- Ron Crumpton (D)

The majority of our elected officials began their political careers at a local level. This could be the City Council, Mayor or a state office. Be involved with your local elections and make friends early. You never know where a politician could end up!

At the federal level, the Department of Education is still seeking input on developing policy for ESSA. Our CLAS organization has done a great job at providing you with the information on how to provide your input. You would be surprised at the national level how few principals respond to this opportunity. Funding of education is always a concern as the new budget is prepared. Proposed cuts in Title II are a concern as this was an area in ESSA that could fund principal development.

It will be interesting to see what impact the Presidential Election has before the election even takes place. You only have to read the current news to see political anxiety it is causing. As the election grows closer, what changes could happen after the first debate? Could there be a move to appoint a supreme court judge that is more conservative than who might be nominated after the election? Will the election cause a change in who controls the majority of the House or Senate? All of these will have a great impact on education. Use your vote so that you can have an impact also. Be informed and vote! AAESA recognizes how important your vote is and is one reason why the convention dates were changed so that it would not conflict with you getting out and voting!
Improving Student Attendance

Amy Mason  
Madison County Elem.  
Madison County

At Madison County Elementary School in Gurley, Alabama, we are taking steps to improve chronic absenteeism. According to AttendanceWorks.org, Chronic absenteeism is defined as any student that misses more than 2 days per month or more than 10 days in a school year. Gaps in student attendance and instruction make it very difficult to close the achievement gap.

One way that these attendance concerns have been addressed at MCES is through monthly attendance tracking. All students who attend school every day for the entire month participate in an end of the month celebration. Snow cone parties, extra recess time outside, free homework passes, photographs with a baby kangaroo, and music played by a DJ in the courtyard were some of the favorite activities. One parent even told me that her child asked her not to schedule a doctor’s appointment during the school day because he didn’t want to miss the attendance celebration at the end of the month!

Grade levels have also been a part of a monthly competition. Monthly attendance averages are calculated and displayed on a bulletin board in the foyer. These percentages are announced at the end of the month so that students from the winning grade level can have bragging rights throughout the school. These targeted plans helped to improve our school’s daily attendance rate over a full percentage point during the 2014-2015 school year.

This year our school will be working on decreasing student tardies. The more we can maximize instructional time, then the more we will be able to fill specific academic areas of need. Each classroom teacher will receive a Mr. Potato Head toy. For every day that their class attendance average is above 95%, the students will be able to add a body part to their Mr. Potato Head. When the potato head character has filled up all of his body parts, then the class will receive a special certificate to show that they are not “Tardy Taders.” This will be an engaging way to get the entire class excited about daily, on time attendance at school.
We will also be working to specifically improve the attendance rates of some of our students with recurring attendance concerns. Attendanceworks.org says that students who missed 2-4 days in Sept. were 5 times more likely to be chronically absent. We have formed an attendance team at the beginning of the year consisting of administration, instructional coaches, a guidance counselor, a social worker, and a school secretary. iNow attendance reports will be reviewed to identify those students with more than 2 absences each month. The committee will divide up these names so that individualized contact can be made with each of the families to encourage regular school attendance.

One of the ways that our community has supported this initiative is through the opening of a HEALS Clinic (Health Care to Children at School-Based Clinics). During this school year, students from MCES will have the opportunity to receive medical care from health care professionals that are housed right on our property. This opportunity will allow any of our sick students to receive timely medical care so that they can quickly return to the classroom.
Looking Forward to a Great Year

Jim Chesnutt
AAESA Assistant Executive Director

We talk about our membership in CLAS/AAESA/NAESP and getting “value” for this membership. Professional development, legal defense, liability insurance from NAESP (by the way, the NAESP liability insurance, $2 million, covers you the individual, the state liability insurance is $1 million per incident) advocacy, state and Federal, and of course conferences are all “values” we are used to getting from our membership.

As we begin a new school and membership year here are some reasons to be glad you’re a member of AAESA/NAESP that maybe you haven’t seen before.

First would be the upcoming opportunities to network with your fellow colleagues. Many of you have not attended an AAESA district meeting. Look for meeting announcements from us throughout the year. Plan to attend and invite someone to go with you. This could also happen at our Fall Instructional Leaders Conference (FLIC) at the Wynfrey Oct. 23 – 26. Many of you may not have attended that as well. There is nothing better than face to face contact with those who do what you do every day! No sense in going it alone when you have friends to talk to.

How about a trip to the NAESP Best Practices Conference? If you’ve never been you can apply for the Glenys Mason NAESP Convention scholarship. This goes to a member, who applies, that has never attended the convention. It pays up to $800 of the expenses for the trip. Look at the articles from our AAESA officers and see what they have to say about this convention. You will love attending this event with principals from all over the country. Look for the application on the CLAS website or in the AAESA magazine.

Another benefit that isn’t taken advantage of often enough are our scholarships for aspiring administrators. We have two $1000 scholarships to award each year. If you know of someone who is working on their administrative degree, then get them to apply. You will find these applications on the CLAS website under the AAESA affiliate page or the awards section of the home page.

Now let’s look at some opportunities from NAESP that most folks don’t know about. This is right off the NAESP website where there is much more to be seen than just these.

GRANTS, OPPORTUNITIES, & FREE RESOURCES

FEATURED OPPORTUNITY

The Charlie Lovett Fund for Elementary Drama

The Charlie Lovett Fund for Elementary Drama is a philanthropic fund that supports production based theatre arts programs at the elementary school level. Grants are made to elementary schools throughout the United States. Grants are made on a rolling basis, beginning in August of each school year, and every effort is made to make a decision on applications as quickly as possible. If applications are received after the fund for that year is exhausted, applicants are invited to reapply for the following year. The average grant size is $300.

Deadline: Ongoing
Looking Forward to a Great Year Continued

GRANTS

The Find Your Balance Challenge is open to elementary school classrooms in grades K-5 and rewards student teams for taking steps toward achieving Energy Balance in your own school communities. See more at: http://www.togethercounts.com/at-school/win-for-your-school/balance-challenge#sthash.ieovsKld.dpuf

Green Education Programs

The Alternative Fuel Foundation is offering grants for programs that promote the concept of sustainability. Projects that encourage parent involvement and build stronger community spirit will be favored. Typical grants range from $250-$500, but larger grants are considered on a case by case basis. Schools or parent groups are required to submit their grant applications online. Further guidelines and frequently asked questions can be found on the Alternative Fuel Foundation's website.

Deadline: Ongoing

American Honda Foundation

The American Honda Foundation is offering grants for programs that demonstrate a commitment to youth education. Priority will be given to proposals that promote education in STEM areas and the environment. Grants range from $20,000 to $75,000, and organizations can only submit one application in a 12-month period. The grant-making schedule includes four application periods throughout the year, with deadlines in February, May, August, and November. Further information, including eligibility requirements, FAQ, and the online application, can be found on AHF's website.

Deadline: Ongoing

Tennis, Anyone?

United States Tennis Association Southern offers matching equipment grants to elementary schools that organize a kids’ tennis club. No tennis courts are required. Kids’ tennis clubs can be located in schools, parks, youth centers, or tennis facilities. This grant is available for schools in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Deadline: Ongoing

RGK Foundation Grants

The RGK Foundation funds programs that focus on math, science, reading, and teacher development. There is no deadline or specific project guidelines; interested applicants should submit a letter of inquiry outlining a specific project.

Deadline: Rolling

Grant for Salad Bars in Schools

Seeking to increase children’s consumption of fruits and vegetables, the Bars to Schools program plans to fund and grant 6,000 salad bars to schools across the nation by 2013. Any K-12 school or district participating in the National School Lunch Program is eligible to apply.

Deadline: Rolling

I hope you will take advantage of all these wonderful opportunities your membership offers as a member of AAESA/NAESP.

Spread the word!

Hope to see you in Hoover Oct. 23 – 26!
Name: ____________________________
Position: __________________________
Preferred Name on Badge: ________________
School System: _______________________
School: ______________________________
Phone Number: ________________________
Fax Number: __________________________
Email Address: ________________________
Bill To: _______________________________
Billing Address: _______________________
City, ST, Zip: _________________________
Spouse/Guest Name: ______________________ (guest qualification applies only to those individuals who are NOT in the educational industry.)

1. CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
(includes all scheduled meals, breaks, door prizes, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pre-Registration by Sept. 16</th>
<th>Registration Sept. 18-Oct. 21</th>
<th>After Oct. 21</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>$210</td>
<td>$220</td>
<td>$235</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retired Member</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Spouse/Guest*</td>
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<td>$85</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Section 1: ________________________

2. MEALS (no charge for paid registrants, but you must make reservations)

LUNCHEON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25
☐ I will attend the AAESA Luncheon (no charge, included in registration)
☐ I will attend the AASCD Luncheon (no charge, included in registration)
☐ My spouse/guest will attend (no charge if paid spouse registration)
☐ I need ______ extra ticket(s) at $30 each

BREAKFAST, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26
☐ I will attend (no charge, included in registration)
☐ My spouse/guest will attend (no charge if paid spouse registration)
☐ I need ______ extra ticket(s) at $25 each

Total Section 2: __________________________

Grand Total (Section 1 & 2): __________________________

3. SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS
☐ I will need special accommodations for a disability
☐ I have special dietary requirements

4. EMERGENCY CONTACT
In case of an emergency, contact:
Name: ____________________________
Daytime Phone: _____________________
Evening Phone: ____________________

5. PAYMENT
(Circle One)

Check or Purchase Order # __________________________
(payment or valid PO Number is required before registration can be processed)
Credit Card (circle one): Visa MasterCard Discover Card
Card Number: __________________________ Exp: __________________________
Cardholder’s Name: __________________________ CVV: __________________________
Cardholder’s Address: __________________________
Cardholder’s Phone: __________________________

Signature
Refunds granted only upon written request. No refunds granted after October 14, 2016. Send registration by 24-hour fax line to (334) 265-3611 or mail your payment and registration form to:
AAESA
P.O. BOX 428
MONTGOMERY, AL 36101-0428

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL (800) 239-3616

CONFERENCE AGENDA
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23
Registration - 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Executive Board Meeting - 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24
Registration - 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Opening General Session - 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Breakout Sessions - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
Mini Clinic Sessions - 2:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25
Continental Breakfast - 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Second General Session - 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Second General Session (continued) - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Affiliate Business and Awards Luncheons - 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Breakout Sessions - 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. & 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26
Closing General Session & Breakfast - 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS: Call the Hyatt Regency Birmingham - The Wynfrey at (800) 233-1234 or go to https://resweb.passkey.com/go/AAESAAASCDFallInstructLeadConf and ask for the AAESA/AASCD Fall Instructional Leadership Conference. The group rate is $129/night for standard rooms. Reservations are subject to availability. Reservations received after September 30, 2016, may not be eligible for the discounted room rates. Check-in time is 4:00 p.m. All room rates are subject to taxes and fees.
General Session Speakers

Baruti Kafe

A "Hall of Fame" urban public school educator in New Jersey for over twenty years, Principal Baruti Kafele distinguished himself as a classroom teacher and as a school leader. As an elementary school teacher in East Orange, NJ, he was selected as the East Orange School District and Essex County Public Schools Teacher of the Year. As a middle and high school principal, he led the transformation of four different schools, including "The Mighty" Newark Tech, which went from a low-performing school in need of improvement to national acclaim, which included U.S. News and World Report Magazine recognizing it as one of America's best high schools. An internationally-renowned education speaker and consultant, Principal Kafele is one of the most sought-after speakers for transforming the attitudes of at-risk student populations in America. A versatile speaker, he regularly conducts conference keynote addresses, professional development workshops, parental engagement seminars and male empowerment meetings.

Pam Allyn

Pam Allyn is a nationwide expert on the teaching of reading and writing. She is the author of more than twenty books for teachers and families on literacy. Pam is the founder of LitLife, an organization dedicated to professional learning for teachers, and LitWorld, a global nonprofit advancing literacy for all. She is a Kellogg Foundation Fellow in Racial Equity and Healing. Pam has won many awards for her work, including the Scholastic Literacy Champion of the Year in 2013. She and her team founded World Read Aloud Day, now celebrated by millions every February. She is widely seen in the media as an advocate for children and a thought leader on quality education.
NAESP Announces the Retirement of its Current Executive Director and its Search for a New Executive Director

President Steven Geis, E.D. extends heartfelt thanks to Gail Connelly for 32 years of service.

NAESP President Dr. Steven Geis today announced that Gail Connelly, Executive Director of NAESP since 2007, has announced her retirement following a planned transition and search for a new Executive Director. In recognition of her 32 years of service to NAESP, Connelly will serve as NAESP Executive Director Emeritus upon her retirement.

“The NAESP Board is grateful for Gail Connelly’s years of leadership,” said Geis. “She helped stabilize NAESP during financially challenging times and her implementation of dynamic strategic plans resulted in significant impact on public school policy and practice. Her legacy is one of shared leadership, working closely with the NAESP Board and staff to achieve goals and to position NAESP as the most recognized and respected national leader and advocate on behalf of Pre-K-8 principals. We wish her the very best and we are delighted that she will remain a staunch supporter of NAESP as Executive Director Emeritus upon her retirement.”

Connelly’s announcement comes at a time of significant importance for our nation’s principals with the implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the change in Administration with the 2016 Presidential Election. As the only national level organization dedicated solely to our nation’s elementary and middle-level principals and the children they serve, NAESP is poised for continued growth and success in the future.

“It has always been an honor and a privilege to serve principals who are our nation’s unsung heroes,” said Gail Connelly. “I am proud of what our Board, our staff, and our State Leaders have accomplished together over the years, and I am grateful for the support of our many friends and partners. It will be exciting to hand the baton to NAESP’s next Executive Director, who ideally will provide expert operational management and superb leadership as the chief advocate for new generations of principals.”

“Gail has been an outstanding leader whose commitment to succession planning has been most helpful to the Board in developing a smooth and effective transition process. The NAESP Board of Directors plans to appoint a search committee and engage the services of an executive search firm to assist the process in identifying a strong candidate to lead NAESP into the future,” reported Dr. Robyn Conrad Hansen, immediate Past President of NAESP, who will chair the search committee.

The search will begin this fall to hire a new Executive Director by July 1, 2017. The NAESP Executive Director Search Timeline and Process is posted on NAESP’s web site.

All inquiries related to the search should be addressed by mail to: Dr. Robyn Conrad Hansen, Past President and Chair, Search Committee, NAESP, 1904 Association Drive, Reston, VA 22091; via email: Robyn.Hansen@JrHIE.com; or via phone: (602) 999-3486.

—Dateline NAESP
AAESA Officer Nominations

At the 2016 Fall Conference, the Nominating Committee will meet to identify and certify TWO candidates for each of the following positions:

**AAESA VICE-PRESIDENT** – 4 year term, one year each as Vice President, President-Elect, President, and Past President

**CLAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS** – 2 positions – 3 year terms (positions currently held by Frances Finney and Autumn Jeter)

Qualifications for candidacy for AAESA Vice President

- Must be a currently practicing elementary/middle school building administrator
- Must have had previous service as an elected officer (President, District Representative) in a district
- Must have continuous active membership in AAESA while serving in office

Qualifications for candidacy for CLAS Board of Directors

- Previous service as an elected officer (President, District Representative) in a district
- Active membership in AAESA for at least TWO years

The active participation of a Nominating Committee Member from each district is needed at the time of the Nominating Committee meeting.

These are vital roles representing all members of our Association and require the attendance at meetings and functions with serious involvement in the affairs of the Association. Please encourage members from your district to consider becoming a candidate for one of these important positions. If you have any questions, please contact:

**Dr. Michael V. Wilson**
Glen Iris Elementary School
2717 Highland Ave S Apt 403
Birmingham, AL 35205-1735 US

**Work:** (205) 231-7440
**Cell** 205-903-1187

mwilson@bhm.k12.al.us

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**Installation of AAESA Officers**

Charlie Gardner, Waller Martin, Judith Ross, Laura Ware, Laurie Kinney, Frances Finney, and Chris Mitten

**Award Winners**

Michael Wilson
AAESA CLAS Leadership Nominee

Charles Gardner
2016 National Distinguished Principal
The summer of 2016 has been filled with lots of professional development for administrators and teachers alike. Schools within the district have participated in AMSTI Science and Math, OGAP Training on Multiplicative Reasoning, Robotics and Leader in Me.

The educator’s of District VII will also begin the 2016-2017 school year with a fresh slate of officers. While Dr. Pam Fourtenbary will continue to serve as District President, Mr. Nino Mason will serve as Vice President and Mr. Joe Ross will serve as Treasurer. Mrs. Laura Hartley will now serve as District Representative, due to the vacancy of the position by Mrs. Jeanie Miller, as we celebrate her recent promotion to Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for the Opelika City Schools. Great things are in store for District VII.

Our next District VII meeting will be scheduled for late September with location and time to be announced. If you are a part of District VII we invite you to be on the lookout for an email with meeting announcement through the CLAS email system. We also invite you to actively participate in District Meetings and share news about what’s happening in your school and district, so that we can publish your good news through CLAS. You can email information and pictures to me at laura.hartley@opelikaschools.org

Laura Hartley
Northside Intermediate
Opelika City
Glenys Mason NAESP Convention Scholarship Application

This scholarship is available to AAESA members who have never attended a National Association of Elementary School Principals annual Convention. The scholarship is awarded to pay for the expense of attending an NAESP Convention.

The selection will be made at AAESA Fall Conference Executive Committee Meeting and announced at the AAESA General Business Meeting at the Fall Conference Breakfast.

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name: __________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________

Phone: _________________________________________

Fax: ___________________________________________

Cell or other contact number: ________________________

School Name: __________________________________

School Address: _________________________________

School City, State, Zip: ___________________________

Other Application Materials:

➢ Attach a vita or résumé
➢ Attach a 50 word essay stating why attending the national convention will benefit you in your principalship role.

Please send application materials and application to:

Jim Chesnutt
AAESA
P.O. Box 428
Montgomery, AL 36101-0428

The deadline to apply is October 15.
Please mail documents in time to be received by the deadline.
Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators
Marie Taylor and Mike Carr Scholarship
APPLICATION FORM

The Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators recognizes the need to prepare qualified persons to become elementary/middle school administrators. To assist in fulfilling this need, AAESA offers a $1,000 scholarship to enable a current Alabama educator to pursue a degree or certification in elementary/middle school administration. To qualify, an individual must be working on initial certification in the specified field.

Name:

Last
First
MI

Address:


Name of School:


Name of School System:

Are you presently enrolled in a school administration program? 


YES
NO

If yes, what is the name of the college/university?

Name of college/university where scholarship will be used:

Have you applied for this scholarship previously? 


YES
NO

Have you received this scholarship previously? 


YES
NO

PLEASE LIST YOUR WORK HISTORY IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION:

School:
Position:
Dates of Employment:

School:
Position:
Dates of Employment:

School:
Position:
Dates of Employment:

On a separate page, please state, in 150 words or less, why you wish to pursue a degree in elementary/middle school administration.

The following documents must also accompany this application:

- Recommendation from your current or most recent principal;
- Recommendation from your current or most recent superintendent or Central Office administrator;
- Copy of your current certificate;
- Other information you believe may be helpful, such as a list of professional honors, awards, etc.

I hereby certify that the information I have furnished is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature:
Date:
Home Phone:
School Phone:

All applications must be postmarked by January 10.

It is the intent of the Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators to select the best possible recipient for this scholarship. No person will be denied application or selection on the basis of race, sex, religion, disability, national origin, or age.

Return Application to: AAESA Marie Taylor/Dr. Mike Carr Scholarship
P.O. Box 428; Montgomery, AL 36101-0428

If you have questions, call CLAS at (800) 239-3616. The winner will be announced during the first week of May.
Individual Information

Prefix   First Name   Middle Name   Last Name

Position/Title

Date of Birth   Mobile Phone   Home Phone

Email Address

Home Address

City   State   Zip Code

Preferred Address: Home   Work   Preferred Phone: Mobile   Home   Work

School/Organization Information

School/Organization Name

Address

City   State   Zip Code

Organization Phone   Fax

Direct Line   Extension

CLAS DUES

Current Administrators - Full Membership with Legal Services
A Minimum of One State Affiliate in Section B is Required

☐ Individual (paying with personal funds or payroll deduction) ........................................ $284
☐ Institutional (paying with school/system/organization's funds and is transferrable) .......... $284

Non-Administrators - Limited Membership without Legal Services
State Affiliate in Section B is Optional

☐ Emeritus/Retired (may include legal services if no lapses from full membership) ........ $75
☐ At Large (non-school/system employee) .......................................................... $75
☐ Aspiring Administrator/Emerging Leader ......................................................... $75

Total Section A: $_____

AFFILIATE DUES

AASSP (Secondary Principals)

☐ AASSP Active ............................................................................................... $95
☐ AASSP New Active ....................................................................................... $59

☐ AASSP Aspiring Administrator ...................................................................... $50
☐ AASSP New Aspiring Administrator .............................................................. $30

AESA/NAESP (Elementary Administrators, Joint State/National)

☐ AESA/NAESP Active (includes $2 million liability insurance) ......................... $290
☐ AESA/NAESP Institutional (includes $2 million liability insurance and is transferrable) .......................................................... $335
☐ AESA/NAESP Emeritus (includes all programs and services) ......................... $118
☐ AESA/NAESP Retired (includes limited services) ........................................ $60
☐ AESA/NAESP Aspiring Administrator ............................................................ $113

AAMS (Middle-Level Principals)

☐ AAMS Active ............................................................................................... $60
☐ AAMS New ................................................................................................. $30

SSA (Superintendents)

☐ SSA Active ................................................................................................. $30
☐ SSA System Membership ............................................................................. $30

AASCD (Curriculum Supervision)

☐ AASCD Active ............................................................................................. $50

ALA-CASE (Special Education Administrators)

☐ ALA-CASE Active ....................................................................................... $40

AAPASS (Prevention, Attendance, Support)

☐ AAPASS Active ............................................................................................. $30

ACND (Child Nutrition Directors)

☐ ACND Active ............................................................................................... $25

ACTA/AACTE (Career/Technical)

☐ ACTA/AACTE Active .................................................................................... $125

AASPA (School Personnel Administrators)

☐ AASPA Active ............................................................................................. $40

Total Section B: $_____

NATIONAL DUES

AASSP (Secondary Principals)

☐ NASSP Active (includes $1 million liability insurance) ........................................ $250
☐ NASSP Institutional (includes $1 million liability insurance and is transferrable) .... $250
☐ NASSP New Active (includes $1 million liability insurance) ................................ $215
☐ NASSP New Institutional (includes $1 million liability insurance and is transferrable) .......................................................... $215

☐ NASSP Retired ............................................................................................. $50
☐ NASSP Associate (non-administrator) ......................................................... $85

ACTE (Career/Technical)

☐ ACTE Active ............................................................................................... $80

CEC/CASE (Special Education)

☐ CEC/CASE ................................................................................................. $125

Total Section C: $_____

GRAND TOTAL: $_____

Where to Send This Form

Mail to: CLAS
P.O. Box 428
Montgomery, AL 36101-0428

Fax to: (334) 265-3611
Email to: membership@classleaders.org

Address questions to (800) 239-3616 or membership@classleaders.org

CLAS is a non-profit organization exempt from income tax under Code Section 501(c)(3). Contributions or gifts are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.
From pre-K through high school, principals share the same goals for student success. When they come together to give life to that vision, something very powerful happens.

Join NASSP and NAESP for this first-ever joint national conference to learn from a large pool of your peers and work together to prepare students for each step of their education journey.

Come experience the power of pre-K–12 school leaders joining together to shape the education landscape.

JULY 9–11, 2017
PHILADELPHIA, PA
Alabama Association of Elementary School Administrators  
P.O. Box 428  
Montgomery, AL 36101-0428  
(800) 239-3616 or (334) 265-3610  
Fax: (334) 265-3611  
www.clasleaders.org

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