



Newsletter

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NAESP-NASSP National Leaders Conference

By Jim Arnold, GASSP State Secondary Coordinator

The NAESP-NASSP National Leaders Conference was held in Washington DC on July 25-28, 2007. Representatives from every state met with congressional leaders to suggest changes to and the reauthorization of NCLB. Georgia representatives for GASSP were Melton Callahan, Executive Director, Pat Blenke, NASSP Region 8 Representative, Steve Hankla, GASSP President, Tracie Fleming, GASSP President Elect, Jim Arnold, GASSP State Secondary Coordinator, Jerry Davis, GAMSP President, Maria Bradley, GAMSP President Elect, Don Splinter, GAMSP Executive Director and Ed Mashburn, GAMSP Coordinator. We also had members of GAESP in attendance.

On Thursday, July 26 participants traveled to Capitol Hill and advocated for several issues that directly affect the principalship in our state. Congressional leaders included Nathan Deal (9th District GA), Jack Kingston (1st District GA), Phil Gingrey (11th District GA), John Barrow (12th District GA), John Lewis (District 5 GA), Jim Marshall (District 8 GA), Lyn Westmoreland (District 3 GA), Sanford Bishop (District 2 GA), and Senators Saxby Chambliss and Johnny Isakson. In addition other team members met with Congressmen Tom Price, David Scott, and John Linder.

Discussions centered on revisions to NCLB requirements for Highly Qualified status for Special Education teachers, delaying testing of ELL students until 2 years of instruction had been completed, allowing multiple assessments for students rather than relying on one high stakes testing program, providing adequate funding to implement reforms at the secondary level, increasing the amount of Title II funds designated for high schools, and working to change the terminology of "failing schools" that has become a standard label for schools not meeting AYP goals regardless of the area of deficiency.

Political leaders were very receptive to these suggestions, and all indicated they were familiar with NASSP ideas for changes to current laws. (<http://www.principals.org/PLAC> for specific information)

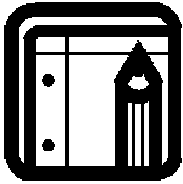
The "Day on Capitol Hill" was considered extremely productive by all participants, and we were gratified to learn that most leaders were confident NCLB would be reauthorized in the fall with many of the suggested changes included. One important point that came from Congressional leaders was that many of the suggestions for improving current law could be implemented by the respective state Departments of Educations without the need for legislative action.



Pictured left to right: Tracie Fleming, Steve Hankla, Eddie Pollard, Ed Mashburn, Lynn Clark, Jeanie Miller, and Congressman Sanford Bishop



Pictured left to right: Don Splinter, Maria Bradley, Pat Blenke, Jerry Davis, Jim Arnold, Steve Hankla, Ed Mashburn, Tracie Fleming, and Melton Callahan



**From Your
Executive Director**
Melton Callahan,
GASSP Executive Director

If you could make one change in APY(NCLB), what would it be? Let me say first no one is opposed to being held accountable. No one is opposed to requiring more for all. I would suggest adding multiple assessments. If you did not make APY, there is a good chance that if you could have used the first re-test during the summer, you would make it. I believe it is so unfair first and foremost to students, parents, teachers, and administrators to just have a one shot test opportunity in the spring to determine what kind of job you did for the year. I am not aware of any profession where one test determines pass or fail for a years work. What can you do? You can email all elected officials and make your voice heard. Tell them your story. Start with your Senators and Congressmen, and then contact your Governor and State School Superintendent. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Please take the time to have your voice be heard. You can make a difference.

Last year was a very successful year for GASSP. Membership hit an all time high. Thanks to many that did a lot of work to make this a success. We must now move on to 2007/2008. Membership is essential in our organization. We still have a ways to go to achieve our goal of 100% . This past year we were at 70%. As you can see we still have ground to make up.

Make your plans early and attend the NASSP National Convention in San Antonio next February. I will be glad to book your room for you. You can find the hotel form in this newsletter on page 7.

Make your plans early to attend the Fall Conference. We are expecting a large crowd. Last year's conference was such a great success, we will continue with the same format. The conference is centered on successful building Principals sharing their successes with you in break out sessions. From NASSP we will have President Barry Stark and also Bill Bond. You can go to our web site www.gael.org and register on line or by using the registration form on page 6. We have an **Early Bird** registration that can save you money. Also there are a limited number of grants to assist you in coming to the conference if your system is one of those that has cut back on professional development. You can contact me at mcallahan@gael.org for more information. Our conference is at the Jekyll Island Club Resort on Jekyll Island. The rates are \$109 per night. **This rate is good through October 11, 2007.**

We are planning a golf tournament on Sunday morning. The golf tournament is being headed up by Jeff Kelly. It will be a two man scramble format. Get your team together or we can put you on one. You can contact me at mcallahan@gael.org or Jeff at jkelly@upson.k12.ga.us. The greens fee is \$45. Registration form is on page 5.

2007 GAMSP & GASSP Fall Conference

Make your plans early to attend our annual Fall Conference, November 11-13 at the Jekyll Island Resort. We have great room rates and a great program. Besides getting the current State Department information, you will get an opportunity to hear building administrators share their successes. Some of the topics are "Reading in Content Areas", "Standard-Based Math Classroom", "Linking Performance Appraisal to the School Improvement Plan", "Shaping the Invisible Culture", plus many more. You can go on line at www.gael.org and click on GASSP to register on line or complete the hard copy registration form included in this newsletter on page 6. This also has the hotel information. Remember, the early bird registration fee discount will end on August 31.

GASSP Executive Board of Directors

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5634 Atlanta Hwy., Suite 300, Flowery Branch, GA, 30542
(770)967-2050 (770)967-2021 Fax www.gael.org

GAEL's Outstanding Educator



Dr. Veta New (left) receives award from GASSP Past President Pat Blenke.

Dr. Veta New, Principal of Hephzibah High School in Richmond County was named GAEL's Outstanding Educator for 2007 at the GAEL Summer Conference in July. She is Principal of Hephzibah High School in Richmond County.

Through implementation of Saturday School, a Freshman Academy, credit recovery, and programs for increased parental involvement and increased student attendance, Dr. New has seen student achievement increase in the school.

Her tangible efforts to increase staff and student morale include having barbecues (yes, she helps with the cooking!), establishing committees, providing counseling, and establishing "Fridays with the Administrator".

Of special note is the success of her initiatives to incorporate special needs students into both academic and extracurricular activities at the school.

Dr. New works hard to support her profession, currently serving as a member of the GASSP and the GHSA boards of directors. As a former middle school principal, she was named Georgia Middle School Principal of the year and served as president and on the board of GAMSP and as a GAEL board member.

A fitting tribute to Veta came when it was noted that her nomination for Outstanding Educator came, not from an individual, but from the members of her high school leadership team --- her 'school family' as they called themselves.

GASSP installs New offices



New officers were installed for 2007-2008 during the 2007 GAEL Summer Conference. They are (left to right) President, Steve Hankla, President-Elect, Tracie Fleming, Past-President, Pat Blenke (not pictured), Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Smith, and State Coordinator, Jim Arnold.

New Partnership

GASSP is proud to announce a new partnership with Executive Educator Services.

Executive Educator Services represents aspiring or current educational leaders as they seek new leadership positions in Georgia schools. All interactions with Superintendents and their school systems are confidential and permit educational leaders an opportunity to be considered for positions while maintaining the integrity of their current situation.

There is no charge to the individual client for this representation.

For more information contact Dr. Pat Stokes or Dr. Jimmy Stokes at Tel: 706-342-0785 or Fax: 706-342-0785.

GASSP Scholarship Winners

This year GASSP awarded six \$1000 scholarships. Each winner did exceptionally well in the classroom and the community.



Emily McGee, Winder Barrow High School, Winder, received the \$1000 scholarship sponsored by Pepsi for high academic achievement and extra curricular involvement at school and in the community. Emily's father, David McGee, is the new principal at Apalachee High School.

Emily had a 103.489(weighted) or 99.291(unweighted) GPA. She scored 1970 on the SAT. Emily was also the Valedictorian for Winder Barrow. She excelled in twenty school activities and received twenty two awards and honors: Varsity Basketball (4 Year Letterman), golf team(4 year letterman), Class President two years, National Honor Society, Student Council President, and many others. She received numerous honors and awards; Top Junior Award, Hugh O'Brain winner, Athlete of the Year 2006, Phi Academic Achievement Award, plus many others. In the community, Emily was very busy; including World Charges Summer Missions, Tutoring at the Middle School, Locks of Love, March of Dimes, Barrow County Food Pantry.

Emily plans to major in Accounting. She plans to attend the University of Georgia and has been accepted in the Honors Program.



Caitlin Dorne, Cook County High School, Adel, received the \$1000 scholarship for high academic achievement and extra curricular involvement in school and the community. Caitlin's father, Chuck Bell, was principal of Cook County High, but now has accepted the principalship at Commerce Middle School.

Caitlin's GPA was 97.90 and her SAT was 1890. She was Valedictorian. Caitlin excelled in ten extra curricular activities and received numerous honors. She was an active member of the Beta Club, Drama/Theatre Performer, Cook Leadership Team, "BEARS"(Beary Excited About Reading Society, plus more.

Caitlin plans to attend Clemson University, majoring in Animal Health/Science major for Pre-Veterinary medicine.



Mikella Karen Rutter, Grayson High School, Loganville, received a \$1000 scholarship sponsored by Coke for high academic achievement and extra curricular involvement in school and the community. Her mother Karen L. Rutter, is Director of High School Programs at Walton Career Academy, in Walton County. She had a GPA 86.7 with an 1880 on the SAT. She was involved in twenty extracurricular activities at Grayson and participated in seventeen community projects donating 268 hours of her time. Karen was a member of the Yearbook staff, school newsletter, swim team, FEA, participated in Girl Scouts USA from grade 1 through 12, plus many others.

Karen plans to attend Georgia State College in Milledgeville.



Elizabeth Erin Tidwell, Marion County High School, Buena Vista, has been awarded a \$1000 scholarship for high achievement and extra curricular involvement in school and the community. Her father is Glen Tidwell, Principal of Marion County High School.

Elizabeth's GPA is 98.19 and scored 1740 on the SAT. She was involved in eighteen extra curricular activities and was recognized for 27 awards which included academic decathlon, cheerleader, yearbook, honor graduate, student council, plus many more.

Elizabeth's future plans are to receive a degree in engineering. She had taken college classes for two years from Georgia Southwestern. Her plans are to finish her first two years at Georgia Southwestern.



Lyndsey-Blair Brown, Dawson County High School, Dawsonville, received a \$1000 scholarship from GASSP for high academic scores and extra curricular involvement in school and community. Her father is Rick Brown.

Lyndsey had a 94.12 GPA and scored 1510 on the SAT. She received twelve awards and was involved in twenty four extracurricular activities and community services activities. Examples of some of her awards and activities are; All region Softball, varsity basketball, National Honor Society, Family for Christmas.



Justin David Smith, Jefferson High School, Jefferson, has received a \$1000 scholarship sponsored by Coke from GASSP for high academic performance and community involvement. Justin's father, Kevin Smith is Principal of Jefferson High School.

GASSP is extremely proud to present this scholarship to Justin. Justin has overcome major handicaps to graduate with a 3.95 GPA and a 24 composite on the ACT. Justin was diagnosed at an early age with Asperger's Syndrome. He has overcome the odds to complete high school successfully and will be attending Athens Tech.

Congratulations to each of these winners!

*2007 GAMSP/GASSP Fall Conference
Golf Tournament
Sunday, November 11, 2007*

7:45am Sunday, November 11th on the Indian Mounds Course – Two player scramble.
The cost will be \$45 per person.

Cart/tee assignments will be made and rules will be explained at 8:00am in the parking lot. Winners will be determined by the Jekyll Island Club Professional Staff based on score cards turned into the pro shop.

To compete in team play, you must register and play as a two-man team. If you have questions, contact Jeff Kelly. All forms should be mailed to him by October 15. Payments (cash, credit card, check) will be made at the golf course. Jeff Kelly, Upson-Lee Middle School, 101 Holston Drive, Thomaston, Georgia 30286; Phone 706-647-6256; Fax 706-647-3631 or email jkelly@upson.k12.ga.us. If you do not have a partner, send your form in and a partner will be assigned for you.

Sunday Scramble

Name _____

Email Address _____

Partner _____

GAMSP-GASSP FALL CONFERENCE

November 5-7, 2006

Jekyll Island Club Jekyll Island, GA

Registration Form

We **ENCOURAGE** You to REGISTER ON LINE @ www.gael.org.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Position: _____

System: _____ School: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ GA Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Home: _____

Email: _____

Preferred Name for Name Badge: _____

Conference Registration Fee(s): *Prepayment is required to be registered.*

Early Bird - Registration Form and Fee(s) MUST be received in the GAEL Office by August 31, 2007.

| | <u>By Aug 31</u> | <u>After Aug 31</u> | |
|--|------------------|---------------------|-------|
| Active GASSP or GAMSP Member | \$175 | \$195 | _____ |
| High School Non-Member (Includes Conference Registration & GASSP Membership through 6-30-2008) | \$250 | \$270 | _____ |
| Middle School Non-Member (Includes Conference Registration, GAEL, & GAMSP Membership through 6-30-2008) | \$375 | \$395 | _____ |
| GAEL New Leaders Program Participant | \$100 | \$100 | _____ |
| First Time Assistant Principal Attendee w/Principal's Reg.* | \$100 | \$100 | _____ |

*Assistant Principal's Name: _____

Registration Total: \$ _____

Three conference registration options are available:

Online: Follow the instructions at www.gael.org – this is the preferred way.

Fax: Fax Registration Form with Credit Card Information to Melton Callahan at GAEL at 770-967-2021

US Mail: Send Registration Form and a Check Payable to GAMSP/GASSP or the Credit Card Information below to: GAMSP/GASSP – Fall Conference Registration, Melton Callahan, 5634 Atlanta Hwy., Suite 300, Flowery Branch, Ga.30542

Credit Card Information

Credit Card: _____ Master Card _____ VISA _____ American Express

Card #: _____ **Exp. Date:** _____/_____/_____

Name on Card: _____

Signature of Card Holder: _____

For hotel reservations, call the Jekyll Island Club at 1-800-535-9547.

The conference lodging rate at the Jekyll Island Club will be available through October 11, 2007.

**BUILD THE TEAM
LEAD THE CHARGE**

NASSP CONVENTION 2008
FEBRUARY 22-24 * SAN ANTONIO

To ensure accuracy, please type or legibly print all information.

State Association _____

Hotel Assigned:

Maniott Riverwalk

Name (Last, First): _____

School/Org.: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip+4: _____

Daytime Tel. No.: _____

Daytime Fax No.: _____

If NASSP Member, Membership # _____

Type of Room: Single (1 person)

Double (1 bed; 2 persons)

Dbl/Dbl (2 beds; 1-4 persons)

Sharing Room with: _____

(Please list this person's name on the line above; do not list this person as a separate room request.)

Arrival Date: _____

Departure Date: _____

Prefer:

Smoking

Non-Smoking

Special Housing Requirements *(Please note)*: _____

GUARANTEE: \$235 .00 Deposit Per Room

Credit Card Type:

Visa

Mastercard

American Express

Account Number: _____

Expiration: _____

Name (as it appears on the card): _____

Cardholder Signature: _____

(Note: Card will be charged by hotel assigned)

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

(from address of Credit Card holder)

Check (If guarantee paid by check, make payable to the NASSP Housing Bureau and fill-in below): Check

#: _____

Amount: \$ _____

Principal of the Year Finalist



Dr. Molly Howard, Principal of Jefferson County High School, has been notified that she is one of the three national NASSP finalists for Principal of the Year. She will travel to Washington, D. C. for interviews for the final selection.

New Leaders Program

The responsibilities of public school leaders are very complex – building manager, human resource administrator, change agent, student disciplinarian, cheerleader, instructional leader, school improvement specialist, and in some cases, surrogate parent. Fulfilling these roles in a positive and successful manner is challenging for many experienced building level leaders. Inexperienced leaders need help 'staying focused on the big picture' and need to be provided opportunities for collaborative and reflective learning.

Register Now at www.gael.org

Contact Melton Callahan for more info
mcallahan@gael.org

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Each year GASSP and GAMSP sponsors the Assistant Principal of the Year program. The program recognizes outstanding Assistant Principals. The program design is to recognize a GASSP Assistant Principal of the Year, a GAMSP Assistant Principal of the Year, and an overall Assistant Principal of the Year which will represent Georgia for the NASSP National Assistant Principal of the Year. The winners will be recognized at the Assistant Principals Conference. The two State winners will receive a \$500 award and the overall state winner will receive a trip to Washington in the Spring to compete for National Assistant Principal of the Year. You can go to our website, www.gael.org (click on GASSP or GAMSP) to get an application and requirements.

Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals
5634 Atlanta Hwy., Suite 300
Flowery Branch, GA 30542

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