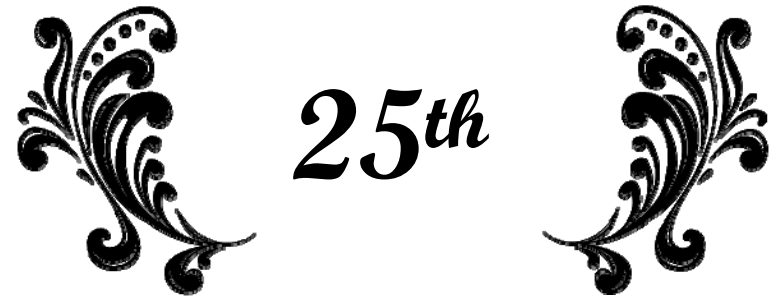


Thank you for being a part of  
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Conference. Because of your  
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*Welcome to the*



*Annual Conference for Administrators  
of  
Independent and Religious Schools  
November 16 & 17, 2009  
Albany Marriott Hotel*

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*Please leave completed evaluation forms in  
the box at the registration table or fax to  
518-273-1206.*



The Coalition for Independent and Religious Schools and the affiliate associations wish to thank and acknowledge the hard work of Lori Kaiser with the Catholic School Administrators Association of NYS, Pat Ashline with the NYS Catholic Conference, and Susan Fleig with the Nonpublic School Office at NYSED.

## *The New York State Coalition of Independent and Religious Schools*

Agudath Israel of America  
42 Broadway  
New York, NY 10004

New York State Association of  
Independent Schools  
12 Jay Street  
Schenectady, NY 13215

Association of Christian Schools  
International  
845 Silver Springs Plaza, Suite B  
Lancaster, PA 17601-1183

New York State Catholic Conference  
465 State Street  
Albany, NY 12203

Board of Jewish Education  
520 8th Ave. 15th Floor  
New York, NY 10018

The Lutheran Schools Association  
475 Riverside Drive  
New York, NY 10115

### *Affiliate Organizations*

Association of Historically Black  
Independent Schools of New York  
818 Schenck Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11217

Islamic Schools Association  
Al-Ihsan Academy  
130-08 Rockaway Blvd.  
South Ozone Park, NY

Catholic School Administrators  
Association of New York State  
525 4th Ave.  
Troy, NY 12182

New York Conference of  
Seventh Day Adventists  
4930 West Seneca Turnpike  
Syracuse, NY 13215

Greater New York Conference  
of Seventh Day Adventists  
7 Shelter Rock Road  
Manhasset, NY 11030

New York State Council of  
Catholic School Superintendents  
465 State Street  
Albany, NY 12203

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of  
America  
8 East 79th Street  
New York, NY 10021

Northeastern Conference of  
Seventh Day Adventists  
115-50 Merrick Boulevard  
Jamaica, NY 11434

*Monday, November 16, 2009*

**9:00 a.m.**                    **Registration**

**Foyer**                        **Coffee available between 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**  
**Sponsored by Research Works, Inc.**

**10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**        **GENERAL SESSION**  
**Salons E, F, G, H**         **Welcome**  
Thomas Hogan, Supervisor  
Office for Nonpublic Schools  
New York State Education Department

**Invocation**

**Program and Policy Update**  
Jim Cultrara, Co-chairman  
NYS Coalition of Independent and Religious Schools

**Senator Jeff Klein, (D, Bronx, Westchester)**  
Deputy Majority Leader, NYS Senate

**E-rate Update**  
Win Himsworth  
Executive Director  
E-rate Central

**Choral Performance**  
The Platte Clove School  
Elka Park  
Clem Robertshaw, Choir Director  
Frank Maendel, Principal

**11:00 - Noon**                **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**  
**Like a Fire in the Night**  
**Sister Carol Cimino, SSJ**

This talk outlines the enormous contributions that nonpublic schools have made to the people of the state of New York. The talk continues by examining the challenges that administrators face and offers some solutions.

**Sponsored by PC University Distributors Inc.**

**Noon – 1:30 p.m.**         **Lunch**  
**Salons A, B, C, D**         **Sponsored by Catapult Learning**

A special THANK YOU to all the companies who are so generously sponsoring this conference.

We couldn't do it without you!!

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Speakers brought to you by - **PC University Distributors, Inc.**  
Monday Lunch Buffet brought to you by— **Catapult Learning**  
Monday Reception brought to you by— **Sussman Sales Co. Inc.**

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**Salon G/H**  
**9:00 —12:00 p.m.**

**Time to Consult with NYSED**

Meet informally with State Education Department staff members. A special thanks to Anne Schiano, Assistant Director, Curriculum, Instruction and Instructional Technology for providing her staff of curriculum specialists.

**English Language Arts**

Erik Sweet

**Mathematics**

John Svendsen

**Social Studies**

Jo Ann Larsen

**Science**

Ann Crotty  
Anthony “Will” Jaacks

**Regulations and Requirements**

Ed Marschilok  
Anita Behn

**Middle Level Education**

Marybeth Casey

**NCLB Title II, Part A, Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient**

Pedro Ruiz  
Edith Cruz

**School Nutrition**

Fran O’Donnell

**Transportation**

Marion Edick

**NYS Program for Textbooks, Library Materials and Computer Hardware and Software**

Bruce Jesiolowski

**High School Registration**

James Anderson

**Library Services**

John Brock  
Joanne Shawham

**Reading Literacy**

Cindy Williams  
Tracy Johnson

**Visual Arts**

Leslie Yule

**Physical Education**

Trish Kocialski

**Special Education**

Barbara Miller

**Testing**

Steven Katz  
Mike Drozdowski

**NCLB Title I, Part A, improving academic Achievement for the Disadvantaged**

Leon Hovish  
Mary Wright

**Learning Technology Programs**

Lawrence Paska

**Mandated Services**

Mary Kurutz

**Attendance, Attendance Policy, Code of Conduct, Discipline, Homebound, Suspension and Working Papers**

Carl Friedman

**Charters and Incorporations**

Thomas Hogan

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**MONDAY AFTERNOON SESSIONS**

**1:30 - 3:30 p.m.**

**Salon F**

**NCLB, IDEA and ESEA**

Presented by Michelle Doyle, Consultant  
Maureen Dowling,  
USDOE Office of Nonpublic Education

Join the experts for an informative conversation about IDEA and ESEA, including its reauthorization. Learn about the federal requirements and challenges of equitable participation for private school students and teachers under these programs. During the second half of the session, be prepared to share your suggestions for enhancing the ESEA as related to the participation of private school students and teachers.

**1:30-2:30 p.m.**

**Salon E**

**RtI—Making it Work**

Presented by Roger Rooney, Principal  
Holy Spirit School

This presentation will provide participants with practical information about Response to Intervention, what it is and why our schools should be preparing plans. In addition find out where the resources for implementing the RtI process in any private or parochial school can be found.

**1:30-2:30 p.m.**

**Salon G**

**E-Rate**

Presented by Win Himsworth, Executive Director  
ERate Central

Questions about E-Rate? How it works, how to do the paperwork? Is it worth the time and effort to apply (YES)? Are you a school with multiple locations or campuses? This is the workshop to answer your questions. Win will answer your questions and provide practical advice for navigating through E-Rate.

**1:30-2:30 p.m.**

**Salon H**

**Marketing your School**

Presented by Sister Carol Cimino, SSJ

Join Sister Carol for an in-depth look at nonpublic schools and specific marketing strategies. Talk about what you have learned, learn new approaches and come away with a few new tools for your marketing toolkit.

**2:35-3:35 p.m.**  
**Salon E**  
**Gangs**

**Keeping Our Children Safe in the Age of Electronics: Internet Safety, Cyberbullying, Truancy, and**

Presented by Frank Laghezza, Special Counsel  
 Kings County District Attorney's Office

A comprehensive discussion on how to educate children and parents on staying safe in the digital age. Topics include improving communication between children and parents, role modeling, eliminating mixed messages and engaging parents.

**2:35-3:35 p.m.**  
**Salon G**

**A Call to Action: Community and Prosecutors Responding to Child Abuse**

Presented by Ama Dwimoh, Chief, Crimes Against Children  
 Kings County District Attorney's Office

This presentation will highlight the critical role educators and school administrators play in the lives of children experiencing abuse—including and beyond mandatory reporting requirements. We will explore the challenges young children face in disclosing abuse, the commitment and responsibilities of school officials, and how we come together as communities and prosecutors to make the system work.

**Foyer**

**Coffee available between 2:30 – 3:45 p.m.**  
**Sponsored by Research Works, Inc.**

**3:45 – 5:00 p.m. Organizational Meetings**

**Salon E** Jewish School Administrators  
**Salon F** Seventh Day Adventist School Administrators  
**Salon G** Lutheran School Administrators  
**Salon H** Christian School Administrators  
**Board Room** School administrators not affiliated with an association  
**Albany** Catholic School Administrators Assoc. NYS Board Meeting  
**Colonie** Association of Historically Black Independent School Administrators  
**Schenectady** Greek Orthodox School Administrators  
**Troy** Islamic School Administrators

**Albany/Colonie**  
**11:00 -12:00 p.m.**

**Creating a Technology Rich Classroom Environment on a Limited Budget**  
**Presented by Dominic Lisi, Director of Technology**  
 Diocese of Syracuse

This presentation will provide participants with a wide range of alternative low-cost, effective classroom technologies. This will include an introduction into the Wii interactive whiteboard, free Web 2.0 applications, Open Source Software, and other immersive technologies designed for classroom use. Participants will have an opportunity to interact with the technologies and will be given the opportunity to be actively engaged in the presentation.

**Foyer**

**Coffee available between 9:45 – 11:00 a.m.**  
**Sponsored by Research Works, Inc.**

**Schenectady/Troy**  
**11:00 - 12:00 p.m.**

**A Discipline Policy for Unruly Students and a “Muzzle” for “Obnoxious” Parents**  
**Presented by Louis D’Angelo and Donna Gmelin**

This presentation will focus on the development of a progressive discipline policy, where the severity of the penalty increases each time a student breaks a school rule. It will include a step-by-step approach on well-established discipline procedures, with suggestions for both elementary and secondary school administrators. The presentation will conclude with some thoughts on how to deal with the confrontational parent who starts with the belief that “my child doesn’t lie to me.”

**Salon E**  
**11:00 - 12:00 p.m.**

**Overview of Data-Driven Instructional Improvement**  
**Presented by Emily Amie Witty,**  
 Director, Instructional Improvement  
 Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York

During this session, participants will be introduced to select elements of data-driven instruction. Participants will have the opportunity to review sample data reports from the NYS exams and learn about their implications for instruction. In addition to reviewing select data reports, participants will be introduced to the process of deconstructing questions on the NYS exams and will begin to learn how to identify the skills needed on various questions and their implications for instructional improvement leading to student success.

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Schenectady/Troy  
10:00 - 10:55 a.m.

**Replicating Successful Schools**  
**Presented by Scott Bezylko**  
Executive Director, Winston Preparatory School

Winston Prep has grown from a small alternative for learning disabled teens to a thriving total campus model that now serves nearly six times the students it did a decade ago. Successful school models must be replicated to meet the needs of students nationally. How can this be done without losing the elements that make small, alternative environments work? Scott Bezylko will share lessons learned at Winston Prep and elsewhere.

**Salon E**  
10:00 - 10:55 a.m.

**Early Childhood Assessment: The Rewards and Challenges**  
**Presented by Cheryl Canfield**, Assistant Superintendent  
Diocese of Syracuse  
**Sister Shirley Anne Brown**, Assistant Superintendent  
Diocese of Ogdensburg

How do we know if young learners have a strong foundation and are making solid progress? Assessing young children requires different considerations than assessment of older student. This session will discuss developmentally appropriate assessment that informs K-2 instruction and will address important components to include in an early grade assessment program.

**Salon F**  
10:00 - 10:55 a.m.

**Reaching Today's Middle Schooler: Practical Lessons from 25 Years of Experience**  
**Presented by Brother Brian Carty**, FSC Founder and Principal, De La Salle Academy

Middle school life has changed a lot in the 25 years since De La Salle Academy was founded. Situations that children encountered in high school, such as dating, have crept into middle school. De La Salle has adapted to the changing needs of middle school students by developing policies addressing these issues and creating a safe environment where kids can still be kids. Using information gleaned from our longitudinal study, this presentation will address the "new middle schooler," the impact of a safe school environment on academic achievement and cover practical ideas, such as the no-dating policy, that schools can implement in their own settings.

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6:00 – 6:30 p.m.  
Salons A, B, C, D

**Reception and Music**  
Music provided by Nat Phipps  
Sponsored by Sussman Sales Co. Inc.

6:30 p.m.  
Salons A, B, C, D

**Dinner**

The conference welcomes Merryl H. Tisch, Ed.D, Chancellor, New York State Board of Regents. In addition the non-public school community will be introduced to New York State Commissioner of Education Dr. David Steiner and Senior Deputy Commissioner John King. Choral performance by Trey Whitfield Concert Choir, Brooklyn, Directed by Dr. Bobby Banks.

**Benediction**  
Philip Stockin, Houghton Academy

### ***Leadership Award Honorees***

**Dr. Mary Jane Krebbs** is the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies in the School of Education at St. John's University. She has just completed 40 years with the Archdiocese of New York where she worked as an elementary school teacher, high school teacher, high school administrator and central office administrator. During her 19 years with the Archdiocesan central office, Dr. Krebbs worked in the areas of curriculum development and staff development. She played an integral and influential role in the education of children not only in the Catholic schools, but non-public schools statewide. Dr. Krebbs has authored several articles, served on numerous board and is a national presenter.

**Mr. Rafeek Mohamed**, Principal of Al Ihsan Academy in Queens, represents the Islamic Schools Association of New York on the Commissioner's Advisory Council for Nonpublic Schools. The Association was conceived by Rafeek and his colleagues at the 1996 Conference and was granted a charter by the Board of Regents in 1999. Islamic schools are among the fastest growing in the State, and Association serves as an umbrella organization representing approximately 30 schools to: ensure that the views of Islamic schools are effectively represented and expressed to the entire education community, encourage enhanced communication and collaboration among Islamic elementary, middle and high schools. As well as sharing best practices from within the Islamic community and beyond.

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**Dr. Roger Ellison** has served as the Executive Director of the New York Association of Christian Schools for the past ten years. A life-long educator and pastor, Dr. Ellison has taught and been an administrator at various Christian colleges and has helped start and organize many schools throughout the United States. The Association of NY Christian Schools began in 1987 and is currently comprised of 46 church sponsored non-registered schools. Dr. Ellison represents NYACS on the Commissioner's Advisory Council for Nonpublic Schools. The Association, part of the American Association of Christian Schools represents about 1,000 schools nationwide.

**Mr. William Clifford's** support of the religious and independent school community has spanned over three decades. His vision for schools of the 21st century began in the 20th century. To this end, he continues to ensure that technology aligns with the curriculum across the content areas. Mr. Clifford has shared his knowledge and expertise across our diverse communities always focusing on the achievement of students and the improvement of instruction.

***Tuesday, November 17, 2009***

**7:30 –9:00 a.m.**  
**Salons A, B, C, D**

**BREAKFAST**

**Albany/Colonie**  
**9:00- 10:30 a.m.**

**Mandated Services**  
**Presented by Mary Kurutz, Sr. Administrative**  
Analyst NYS Education Department  
**Rabbi Nissan T. Gewirtzman,**  
Yeshiva Consulting Services

This workshop is for nonpublic school administrators or their employees who are responsible for preparing mandated services aid (MSA) claims. There will be a PowerPoint presentation that discusses the following: general information about the MSA program, how to prepare the 2008-2009 claim forms, recordkeeping requirements, desk reviews, monitoring visits, and general information about the online system. A demonstration about how to enter and submit a claim online will be shown. There will be an opportunity to discuss how to make the most out of your claim, and discuss the claim process in detail.

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**Schenectady/Troy**  
**9:00 - 9:55 a.m.**

**Legal Issues Relating to Emerging Technologies in Religious and Independent Schools**  
**Presented by James P. Evans, Partner**  
Hiscock and Barclay, LLC  
**Father Charles S. Vavonese, Assistant Superintendent**  
Diocese of Syracuse

Over the past five years, we have seen a dramatic advancement in information technology tools and Internet tools. Many of these advancements have proven to be very useful to educators. This presentation will focus on the most prominent and potentially dangerous of these developments, detailing the applicable legal standards of care and offering reasonable and effective strategies for avoiding liability from such information technology uses. Recent developments in case law, statutory and regulatory law will also be discussed, as well as best practices. This session will also discuss school oriented policies and procedures for the entire school community which are intended to control the use of such technology in a manner that minimizes the school potential for negligence.

**Salon E**  
**9:00 - 9:55 a.m.**

**Curriculum Design: It's All About Learning**  
**Presented by Dr. Mary Jane Krebbs**  
Associate Dean of Graduate Education, St. John's University

Dr. Krebbs will highlight some insights into why curriculum designing continues to be a national preoccupation while providing an overview of the role that tools such as Curriculum Mapping, Formative Assessment, and Understanding by Design can play in this process.

**Salon F**  
**9:00 - 9:55 a.m.**

**An Integrated Goals, Observation and Evaluation Process**  
**Presented by Sharon G. Mensing**  
Assistant Head of School, Tuxedo Park School

Tuxedo Park School uses an integrated goal setting, observation, and evaluation process to inform and improve instruction. The process has been refined over the past few years to honor the professionalism and skills of our faculty within the context of learning-focused professional development. At this session, you will hear about what has worked and what has not, and you will receive examples of format, templates, and timetables that you might adapt to your own setting.

**Salon G/H**  
**9:00 - 12:00 p.m.**

**Time to Consult with Representatives from NYSED**  
SEE PAGE 10, there will be an updated list in the conference folder.