

cape Council for American Private Education outlook

"Voice of the Nation's Private Schools"

June 1994 Number 202

Council Members: American Montessori Society • Association of American Military Colleges and Schools of the U.S. • Christian Schools International • Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • Friends Council on Education • Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod • National Association of Episcopal Schools • National Association of Independent Schools • National Association of Private Schools for Exceptional Children • National Catholic Educational Association • National Society for Hebrew Day Schools • Seventh-day Adventist Board of Education, K-12 • Solomon Schechter Day School Association • U.S. Catholic Conference • **Affiliated state organizations in:** Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin

Private Schools "Connect" to Information Highway

The technological era of electronic mail, file sharing, and computer networking has become a reality for a number of private schools and associations. In expanding its partnership with Apple Computer, Inc., CAPE now offers resources and information to its member organizations and schools through a computer-based communications program.

CAPE Comes of "Computer"-Age

On June 1, CAPE inaugurated a "forum" on an electronic communications computer system called CONNECT®. It is a computer-based communications program that allows patrons to send and receive electronic mail, transfer files, and access public information and other services on its network via satellite. Currently, the system has over 10,000 people around the world with access to its forums through personal computers and modems in school, office, or home.

CONNECT was founded in 1987 and now has three basic elements: the host computer located at the company headquarters, various telephone networks which provide the route for communication between patrons and the host computer; and the software which must be loaded to the patron's computer. The software necessary to access the CONNECT service currently supports MS-DOS, MS-Windows, and Macintosh computers.

This capability has been made possible

due to a strong tie to Apple Computer, Inc. CAPE has enjoyed a productive relationship with the high technology company for the past few years. "Apple has provided CAPE with information to share with our school community as well as actual hardware to update our own office operation," said Joyce G. McCray, CAPE executive director. "Thanks to their generous support, and the great friendship of Apple's private school representative, Martha Rolley, CAPE now has not only computerized our office but extended our communications outreach on the 'information highway'."

"Thanks to their generous support, and the great friendship of Apple's private school representative, Martha Rolley, CAPE now has not only computerized our office but extended our communications outreach on the 'information highway'."

—Joyce G. McCray
CAPE executive director

With the new capability, CAPE has started a forum under the "Education/K through 12" listings on the CONNECT system. By entering this area, informational

topics can be accessed under the headings of "About CAPE", "Legislation", "Calendar", "NDN: Staff Development" and "Recognition Programs: BRS & DFS" (Blue Ribbon Schools and Drug Free Schools). Also available are folders with information for and about the CAPE board of directors and the State CAPE Affiliates. The electronic address via CONNECT is simply, "CAPE".

Linkage to Schools

There are several benefits to schools being linked to the CONNECT system. It provides access to a broad range of educational and technical resources. Besides E-mail and file transfer capabilities with other educators, the system has other features and forums such as graphics, utilities, and even Associated Press.

The E-mail function is very practical for schools. Unlike long-distance fax transmissions which must be sent on-line, tying up a phone line, CONNECT transmissions often can be executed through a local phone call for a much shorter length of time because it travels via computer transmission to a satellite which stores it for later retrieval.

All that is needed for a school to "connect" to the system is a computer with a hard disk, a modem with telephone line access, and the CONNECT software. The information in the



continued from front

CAPE forum is designed to assist school teachers and administrators with knowledge about CAPE services, programs and information. "There is a great deal to gain by being on the system," said McCray. "Our information about the National Diffusion Network programs, recognition programs and legislation gives everyone in a school something to gain from being on-line."

A special offer has been made available to the educational community by CONNECT. While the software lists at \$150, the educator's price is only \$74.95. Further, issuance of a CONNECT identification number will incur a base monthly rate of \$14, which includes one full hour of on-line usage, (additional time cost's \$12 per hour and four cents per 1000 characters.)

For information on how to access CONNECT, contact them at 10161 Bubb Road, Cupertino, California 95014 or call toll free (800) 262-2638 or (408) 973-0110.

CAPE can also be accessed through the Internet system at the address "cape@connectinc.com".

Blue Ribbon Schools Announced

by Fay O'Brien

U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley named the 220 public and 56 private elementary schools selected as 1993-94 Blue Ribbon Schools. The 12-year-old program spotlights some of the nation's most successful public and private schools by honoring excellence in leadership, teaching, curriculum, student achievement and parental involvement.

"These schools demonstrate that excellence in education results from a mix of high standards, family involvement, and a 'can do' atmosphere among students, teachers and school leaders," Riley said. "Each of the Blue Ribbon schools has the elements required to achieve the National Education Goals. The new Goals 2000: Educate America Act will help bring similar success to every school and to every student."

Riley noted that each of the Blue Ribbon Schools possesses the following ingredients for success:

- leadership;

- an environment that promotes teacher growth and recognition;
- up-to-date and rigorous core curriculum and instruction;
- a safe, orderly and drug free climate;
- strong parent and community support; and,
- documented achievement.

To be selected for recognition, schools provide written materials, including information on their progress toward achieving the National Education Goals. A review panel selects the most promising schools for site visits by experienced educators who submit reports on their findings. A special CAPE panel was convened to review the applications from private schools. The review panels consider the reports and make recommendations to the secretary, who announces the schools selected for recognition.

At an awards ceremony this fall in Washington, D.C., each school will receive a special flag to be flown over the school and a plaque commemorating the achievement.

Established in 1982, the Blue Ribbon Schools program honors elementary and secondary schools in alternate years. Since the program's inception, 584 private schools have been recognized.

CAPE congratulates the following 1993-94 Blue Ribbon private schools:

St. Mary-Basha Catholic Elementary School	Chandler, AZ
Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy	Beverly Hills, CA
St. Isidore School	Danville, CA
St. James' Episcopal	Los Angeles, CA
St. Joseph Elementary	Alameda, CA
New Canaan Country Day School	New Canaan, CT
The Rectory School	Pomfret, CT
Academy of the Holy Names	Tampa, FL
St. David Catholic School	Davie, FL
St. Joseph Catholic School	Palm Bay, FL
St. Rose of Lima	Miami Shores, FL
St. John the Evangelist Catholic School	Hapeville, GA
St. John Newmann Regional Catholic School	Liburn, GA
Pella Christian School	Pella, IA
Lake Forest Country Day School	Lake Forest, IL
Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis	Indianapolis, IN
St. Lawrence School	Indianapolis, IN
Blessed Sacrament School	Fort Mitchell, KY
Christ the King School	Bossier, LA
Our Lady of Divine Providence	Metairie, LA
St. Christopher	Metairie, LA
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini	New Orleans, LA
Ivymount School	Rockville, MD
St. Catherine Laboure School	Wheaton, M
Washington Episcopal School	Bethesda, MD
St. Clare Montefalco Catholic School	Grosse Point, MI
St. Joan of Arc School	St. Clair Shores, MI
Blake Lower School	Wayzata, MN

High Point Elementary School	Morganville, NJ
Our Lady Star of the Sea	Cape May, NJ
Astor Home for Children	Rhinebeck, NY
Orchard School	Yonkers, NY
Our Lady of the Hamptons Regional Catholic School	South Hampton, NY
Sacred Heart/ Mt. Carmel School for the Arts	Mt. Vernon, NY
St. Joseph School	Long Island City, NY
Yeshiva of Central Queens	Flushing, NY
Columbus School for Girls	Columbus, OH
Immaculate Conception School	Columbus, OH
Metro Catholic Parish	Cleveland, OH
St. Joseph Montessori School	Columbus, OH
St. Jude Elementary School	Elyria, OH
St. Mary School	Cincinnati, OH
St. Patrick of Heatherdowns	Toledo, OH
St. Therese of the little Flower	Cincinnati, OH
St. Thomas More School	Brooklyn, OH.
Monte Cassino	Tulsa, OK
St. Luke School	Barrington, RI
St. Rocco School	Johnston, RI
Christ the King School	Dallas, TX
Sacred Heart School	Muenster, TX
St. Thomas More Parish School	Houston, TX
The Lamplighter School	Dallas, TX
The Parish Day School	Dallas, TX
Norfolk Academy	Norfolk, VA
St. Alphonsus School	Greendale, WI
St. Francis Central Catholic School	Morgantown, WV

Preparations for the Blue Ribbon Schools 1994-95 Secondary Program are currently underway at the U.S. Department of Education. Applications for the secondary program are scheduled to be available in late June. An informational letter along with a request for application will be mailed in late June to all secondary school principals. Applications will be mailed by CAPE upon receipt of the completed request form.

Catholic Schools See Enrollment Increase

For the second consecutive year, enrollment in Catholic schools nationwide has increased. And for the sixth year in a row, enrollment has steadied at 2.6 million students.

Catherine T. McNamee, CSJ, president of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA), said that more than 9,000 additional students entered Catholic schools during the 1993-94 school year. Sr. McNamee credited the growing numbers in large measure to the active marketing activities of Catholic educators.



continued from page 2

"Catholic schools have found their success simply by broadcasting their own success stories," she said. The announcement was made at NCEA's 91st annual convention and exposition in Anaheim this spring.

In 1990, NCEA, along with the United States Catholic Conference, another CAPE member organization, began the National Marketing Campaign for Catholic Schools. The new campaign message, "Catholic Schools: Schools You can Believe In", was introduced at the convention. NCEA officials contend that this year's slogan sends a powerful message to parents at a time when values-added education, academic performance and safety issues are foremost in their minds. Catholic leaders cited other benchmarks which have contributed to a stabilized enrollment, including a 1988 Vatican document supporting Catholic Schools, a 1990 U.S. bishops' plan to make Catholic education available to all Catholic children, and an initiative for Catholic schools set in the 1991 "National Congress on Catholic Schools for the 21st Century."

Under the theme of "Unity in Diversity: Embracing the Challenge", the 91st NCEA Convention and Exposition attracted over 12,000 delegates to Anaheim for 400 workshops, seminars, and liturgies and keynotes sessions. Joyce McCray, CAPE executive director led two such seminars, one on the role of CAPE in Washington and another on the Private School Facilitator Project of the National Diffusion Network.

NCEA is the largest private, professional education association in the world. Founded in 1904, the association's membership represents more than 200,000 educators serving 7.6 million students in Catholic education at all levels.

New President Named for IS

After conducting an extensive nationwide search, Independent Sector has selected Sara E. Melendez as its new president. Dr. Melendez, currently president of the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington, D.C., will succeed Brian O'Connell, who has been president of IS since its founding 14 years ago.

Independent Sector is a nonprofit coalition of over 800 corporate, foundation, and

voluntary organization members, with national interest and impact in philanthropy and voluntary action. The organization's mission is to create a national forum capable of encouraging the giving, volunteering and not-for-profit initiative that help all of us better serve people, communities and causes. CAPE is a member of Independent Sector, having jointly worked on such issues as tax treatment on gifts of appreciated property and reform rules governing lobbying by nonprofits.

Dr. Melendez has worked and written extensively on multicultural and diversity issues, bilingual education and increased education and leadership opportunities for minorities in America. She has served as Vice Provost and Acting Dean of Arts and Humanities at the University of Bridgeport as well as an Assistant Professor at the University of Hartford — both in Connecticut. She also serves as a trustee of the Educational Testing Service and is a former trustee of Monmouth College and the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning.

In accepting her appointment as president, Dr. Melendez said, "It is an honor for me to assume leadership of this unique coalition of over 800 diverse organizations. Independent Sector has made enormous strides in legislation, research, management and education on behalf of the nonprofit and philanthropic communities." She will begin her duties as president on September 1, 1994.

Upon his retirement, Brian O'Connell will join the Lincoln Filene Center at Tufts University in Boston.

Legislative Update

NDN Retained in OERI Bill

Despite early concerns about the Administration's recommendation to abolish the National Diffusion Network and replace it with regional laboratories, the OERI reauthorization passed in conjunction with the "Goals 2000" education reform legislation gave new life to the program.

The bill signed March 31 by the President provides that the OERI should continue to have the primary purpose of dissemination of quality information and methods in order to assist the national education reform effort. The reauthorization establishes an Office of Reform Assistance and Dissemina-

tion to coordinate with regional laboratories, research institutions, the NDN and educational resources information center clearinghouses.

The law also sets up a 15 member advisory board, the National Educational Research Policy and Priorities Board, which is to be appointed by the Secretary of Education for six year terms. They will work with five new research institutes on: student achievement, curriculum and assessment (\$30 million authorization); education of at-risk students (\$30 million); early childhood development (\$15 million);

postsecondary education, libraries and lifelong education (\$15 million); and school governance, finance policy and management (\$10 million.)

The total office authorization for fiscal year 1995 is \$68 million, increasing to \$100 million in 1996.

Head Start Reauthorized

An early childhood program serving low-income families was reauthorized by Congress and signed by President Clinton on May 18, P.L. 103-252. Head Start provides social, health and educational services for children under three years of age.

The program is renewed through 1998 at an unspecified funding level.

Nutrition Programs

Also to be reauthorized this year is the Child Nutrition and National School Lunch programs. H.R. 8 was passed by the House Education and Labor Committee May 18. Included in the legislation are provisions which would allow schools to use commodity letters of credit as a way to get more fresh fruits and vegetables. This language comes from a different bill, H.R. 4221, which the House committee also considered.

The Senate will continue hearings on its version of the legislation, S. 1614. That bill's authorization for fiscal year 1994 is \$19.4 billion.

Lobbying Disclosure Act

The House of Representatives passed the Lobby Disclosure Act on March

24, refusing to include an amendment pushed by Independent Sector, a coalition of educational, charitable non-profits of which CAPE is a member. The amendment would ease additional burdensome disclosure re-

quirement on small non-profits which already disclose lobbying information to the Internal Revenue Service. House and Senate conferees have been named and are expected to meet on the bill, S. 349, in June after the Memorial Day recess.

The principal issues that the nonprofit community hopes to resolve in conference are: 1) to accept the reporting threshold in the Senate version of the bill of \$5,000 per organization for each semi-annual reporting period. (Acceptance of the \$2,500 threshold in the House bill would cause too many small, local organizations throughout the country to be covered by the disclosure and reporting requirements); and, 2) to permit public charities to use the IRS rules in disclosing their lobbying contacts but accept the new bill's requirements for disclosure of contacts with the Executive Branch. This would permit nonprofits to use IRS definitions of lobbying for disclosing most of our lobbying activities.

In a letter to House conferees, Joyce G. McCray, CAPE executive director said, "While CAPE fully supports and understands the necessity for tighter limits and disclosure requirements on those who seek to influence legislation, we feel some of the provisions of this legislation will inadvertently require burdensome reporting procedures on small, non-profit associations...." She concluded the May 3 letter, "We should not allow

populist rhetoric in an election year to inhibit the Constitutional right of advocacy and "to petition the Government for the redress of grievances."

CAPE and the education community will continue to work on achieving a reasonable resolution of this issue.

ESEA out of Senate Subcommittee

The reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, S. 1513, has tentatively passed the Senate education subcommittee. While several provisions were withheld from consideration until the full committee mark-up, CAPE and other education organizations were particularly pleased that the Chapter 2 program was essentially spared from total elimination.

In a letter to Senators, McCray stated, "Private schools have made beneficial use of these flexible (chapter 2) funds to cover costs of library materials, computer instruction, and other resources which provide academic enrichment for our students and teachers. We join a broad coalition of public and private schools in urging the committee to retain the flexibility allowed in the current law."

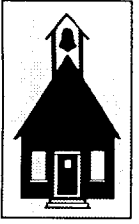
The subcommittee's approval established a guiding document to be marked-up by the full committee, expected to come as early as June 9.

CAPENOTES:

► The Florida **SPACE CAMP** program is the joint venture of two non-profit educational foundations, the U.S. SPACE CAMP Foundation and the Mercury Seven Foundation. Both foundations share the mutual goal of fostering science and technical education for students in 4th to 7th grade.

The Camp is a five day space science camp for children. The private non-profit residential camp uses the excitement of the space program to stimulate young people's interest in the study of science, math and high technology. Students attending SPACE CAMP this season will have even more realistic space experiences with the addition of two new simulators: a Zero-Gravity Wall and a shuttle cockpit simulator.

The Florida operation has attracted over 26,000 children from across the United States, as well as many foreign countries, to the unique program that allows them to experience astronaut training activities. Reservations are now being accepted for the next season. For reservation information, call 1-800-63-SPACE or write the SPACE CAMP at 6225 Vectorspace Blvd., Titusville, Florida 32780-8040.



COUNCIL FOR AMERICAN PRIVATE EDUCATION 1726 M Street, NW, Suite 1102, Washington, DC 20036 (202) 659-0016, fax (202) 659-0018

a coalition of 14 national associations serving private schools K-12
Editor: Greg D. Kubiak Executive Director: Joyce McCray
[ISSN 0271-1451]

Outlook is published monthly (September to June) by the Council for American Private Education. Annual Subscription is \$15.

cape outlook

COUNCIL FOR AMERICAN PRIVATE EDUCATION
1726 M Street, NW, Suite 1102
Washington, DC 20036

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Washington, DC
Permit No. 4665

