

cape Council for American Private Education outlook

"Voice of the Nation's Private Schools"

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CAPE Holds Legislative Conference, Honors Education Leader

The Council for American Private Education successfully held its 3rd Annual Legislative Conference March 16-17 and honored Theodore R. Sizer, an education reform leader, during a special award dinner. Highlighted by discussion of private school issues, Congressional visits and a White House briefing, the conference showed a strong private school presence to the new leadership in Washington.

Education Leadership Award

In conjunction with the annual conference, CAPE honored Sizer with the first "CAPE Education Leadership Award". The selection of Sizer was made by the CAPE board of directors which unanimously passed a resolution honoring Sizer earlier that day, (see page 3).

The dinner honoring Sizer was held Tuesday, March 16, at the Embassy Row Hotel in

Washington, D.C.

Sizer has been Professor of Education at Brown University since 1984, serving as chairman of the Education Department from 1984 to 1989. Formerly dean of the Harvard University Graduate School of Education (1964-1972) and headmaster of Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts (1972-1981) he is the author of a number of books, including *Horace's School: Redesigning the American High School*, *Places for Learning*, *Places for Joy: Speculations on American School Reform*, and *Horace's Compromise*. Sizer has been a leading scholar on education reform. In 1984, he established the Coalition of Essential Schools at Brown, a nationwide network of public and private schools actively engaged in thoughtful and comprehensive restructuring, of which Sizer is chairman.

In announcing the award recipient prior to the conference, Joyce G. McCray, CAPE executive director said, "CAPE is honored that the first recipient of this leadership award goes to an individual who has worked tirelessly on behalf of all the nation's children." She went on to explain that "education reform and improvement is not a public or private school issue, it is a national issue. Dr. Sizer has helped forge important partnerships."

A special guest



CAPE Board President Sr. Catherine McNamee, CSJ, stands with Education Secretary Richard Riley, CAPE Education Leadership Award winner Ted Sizer, and CAPE executive director Joyce McCray, after the award dinner on March 16. (All photos are by Linda Swann.)



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joining in the evening festivities was U.S. Department of Education Secretary Richard Riley. Secretary Riley, speaking before the award was presented, called on the private school community to join in the work for reform and improvement of American education. He saluted Sizer as one who has worked diligently to that end by stating that Sizer "epitomizes the leadership we should all emulate."

Riley also showed his eager willingness to join in partnership with the private school community by emphasizing their role in American education. "Private schools are an integral part of the fabric of our country," Riley said.

Theodore Sizer "epitomizes the leadership we should all emulate."

Richard Riley, Secretary, U.S. Department of Education

Sister Catherine McNamee, CSJ, president of the National Catholic Educational Association and chair of the CAPE board of directors then read the citation and presented an engraved Steuben vase to Sizer to a standing ovation of the 115 banquet guests.

Sizer accepted the award and spoke with genuine eloquence on the opportunity for change and partnership to a spellbound audience. "We stand now on a very important threshold" for reform in education, said Sizer, noting the bipartisan, widespread consensus that is providing an historic opportu-

nity. He said that while the environment for change in education is the best its been in 50 years, it "will ultimately be moved by the practitioners".

The award recipient then turned his comments to the definition of "public" and "private". Sizer read from the 1778 Andover Charter which described the sad state of education and of society, amusing the crowd by referring to the prose as "a Calvinist version of 'A Nation at Risk'." The former headmaster of Phillips Academy, Andover noted however that in the charter, the school was founded as "a public, free school", charged not only with teaching English, mathematics and other subjects, but also moral education. Sizer stated his view that the current usage of the term private is a modern invention. He prefers the earlier interpretation in which "private" meant "not with public management" and "public" meant "open to all", referring to access.

Sizer noted that many schools with the most difficult access may in fact be some suburban public high schools in communities where people must have up to three quarters of a million to live. He asked if such a school "was more public" than a Catholic diocesan school only miles away.

The educator summed up his remarks by returning to the Andover Charter, reading about the risks of having knowledge without goodness and goodness without knowledge. His 1993 variant of this precept was to call justice without standards weak, and standards without justice dangerous.



Conference luncheon speaker, Michael Duffy, White House correspondent for TIME.

Third Year of Conference

The legislative conference is a yearly event bringing together private school educators from around the nation to discuss issues of concern with Congress and the Administration. "It is important to promote common interests of CAPE member organizations on Capitol Hill and to heighten awareness about private education", said McCray. "This year's effort was a great success, and all the more important with so many new Members of Congress and a new Administration."

The conference began with a noon luncheon on Tuesday, March 16, with guest speaker, Michael Duffy, White House correspondent for *TIME* magazine. His remarks focused on the differences between the outgoing and incoming Administrations. Duffy pointed out the stark differences between the Bush and Clinton White Houses with respect to technology. Besides bringing computers, E-mail, and other modern office tools to the White House, incoming executive branch officials have worked to update their outmoded telecommunications systems. Duffy stated his view that this level of administrative efficiency may well serve the new President and his desire to be more responsive to the electorate.

During the afternoon, the conference participants had legislative discussions followed by a briefing with Clinton Administration officials, held in the Old Executive Office Building in the



Waiting outside the Old Executive Office Building for the White House briefing are: Earl Harrison, head of Sidwell Friends School; Joyce McCray, CAPE; David Mallery, professional development director for Friends Council on Education and the National Association for Independent Schools, and Ginger Diemer, NAIS.

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White House Complex.

The next morning, conferees were bussed to Capitol Hill where they visited with Members of Congress and their staff about legislative issues of concern to CAPE, (see Legislative Update). From 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., participants gathered in a room in the Russell Senate Office Building for lunch and a debriefing session before adjournment.

One participant shared her experience from a Congressional office visit by saying the reputation and visibility of CAPE had obviously increased and improved since her first experience with the legislative conference two years ago.

Margaret Goldsborough, director of public affairs for the National Association of Independent Schools, contributed to this story.

**CAPE Education Leadership Award —
March 16, 1993**

The Council for American Private Education honors Theodore Sizer for his outstanding contributions to American education. Your vision of teaching has never been proscribed by any current definition or boundary. Rather, you have sought to explore the elements of thought and experience which empower the learner to aspire to mastery and excellence. Your efforts throughout your entire career have brought together the public and private so that all the nation's children benefit. You help us make connections, coalitions, and as a leader, you inspire our confidence to be creative, to forge the new, in short to learn.

We present this very first CAPE Education Leadership Award to Ted Sizer: student, dean, headmaster, author, professor, teacher.

This citation was unanimously approved by the CAPE board of directors.

Recognition Programs Update

by Fay O'Brien

The Blue Ribbon Schools 1992-93 Secondary School Recognition Program is progressing on schedule. The CAPE Steering Committee recommended 87 private schools to the U.S. Department of Education for fur-

ther review. Fifty-five of those schools will be site visited. Site visit reports will be read by organizational screeners before the Project Steering Committee and advisors make final recommendations in early May.

The Drug-Free School Recognition Program is also proceeding within the same time frame. CAPE only received seven applications for this program. Two of these schools were selected by the U.S. Department of Education for site visits. The recommendations for recognition will be made in late May. We wish these schools well in the next phase of the process.

Legislative Update:

CAPE Board Member Testifies

Sister Lourdes Sheehan, RSM, Secretary for Education at the United States Catholic Conference and member of the CAPE board of directors, testified recently before a Congressional subcommittee on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Sheehan appeared before the House Subcommittee on Elementary, Secondary, and Vocational Education on March 18 on a panel of public school education officials.

In addition to speaking for "the more than 153,000 professional educators who operate 8,508 Catholic schools, and for the 2.5 million students and their families", Sheehan spoke as a member of the CAPE leadership."

Sheehan testified that "inclusion of private school students in all federal education programs, beginning with Chapters 1 and 2" should be a guiding principle in the reauthorization effort.

Conference Position Papers

Participants of the 1993 CAPE 3rd Annual Legislative Conference were asked to identify two specific legislative issues (page 1) during their visits with Congressional Members and staffers: tax treatment of charitable gifts of appreciated property and reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. (For a copy of the position paper, please contact CAPE.) The excerpts and summaries of the two position papers follow:

Gifts of Appreciated Property

With the growing need of private schools

to expand and enhance their fundraising efforts, and due to the importance of tax code incentives, CAPE supports legislation to remove gifts of appreciated property as a preference item under the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT).

H.R. 882, a bill introduced by Representatives Mike Andrews (D-TX) and Clay Shaw (R-FL), would make all gifts of appreciated property fully deductible. A Senate bill by Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-NY) with Senators David Boren (D-OK) and Jack Danforth (R-MO) is expected to be introduced soon with a provision to make all gifts of appreciated property fully deductible.

Reauthorization of ESEA

The current \$7.5 billion authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 affects private schools particularly with programs such as Chapter 1, Chapter 2, the Eisenhower Math and Science program, and the National Diffusion Network. It further provides various recognition programs as well as teacher training opportunities and funding for research, data and statistical support.

H.R. 6 was introduced by Representative Dale Kildee to reauthorize programs under the ESEA through 1999. Hearings have been held beginning in February and will continue this Spring.

CAPE supports the existing programs in ESEA and will oppose any barriers between Chapter 1 services and eligible children in private schools. The "child benefit" approach must still be the guiding force behind any reauthorization of laws affecting elementary and secondary students. Further, private school participation should be retained and expanded in such programs as the National Diffusion Network, Blue Ribbon Schools Recognition Program, Drug-Free School Recognition Program, Eisenhower Math and Science Act and Chapter 2.

Finally, CAPE supports federal leadership in education reform and improvement programs and initiatives, but urges greater collaboration between the private and public sectors. As 12% of the country's students attend private schools -- which number one out of four nationwide -- we ask that any new aspect of the reauthorization legislation implement and encourage the full and fair representatives of private schools.

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CAPE Conference (clockwise from top left): Participants listen to opening speaker before lunch. CAPE board member Gilbert Plubell speaks after the CAPE Education Leadership Award dinner. Secretary Riley makes remarks at the dinner. CAPE board member Kay Edstene, Friends Council for Education with Ted Sizer.



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a coalition of 14 national associations serving private schools K-12

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