



ASSOCIATION OF ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

NEW YORK

*Affiliate of the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators
Local 1 - AFSA, AFL-CIO*

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Gail Irizarry

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In February, schools celebrate Black History Month, Valentine's Day and the 100th Day of school. Can you believe 100 days have passed? Let's take a moment to reflect on what has happened within the last 100 days: opening of schools, analyzing student data, evaluating teachers, providing social and emotional supports for our grade, supporting families, welcoming newcomers to NYC/American schools and re-shifting school plans for SPEED plans. I am sure I forgot to mention a few more things, but I know you can fill in the gaps as you are reading this letter. One may say that this comes with the responsibilities of our profession, yet we hardly ever stop and think about what it takes for a team to support our schools and school community.

Assistant Principals are the backbone of schools. Your efforts are a critical component in running a successful school. As a member of the administrative team, you support the school community. Your skills and talents are what makes your school genuine and invigorating for children and families. Acknowledging this awesome responsibility, you take the time to develop your professional skills and pedagogical practices.

I am certain that you have probably come across a scholar that has the same dedication and work ethic as you. If so, nominate them for the Martin Safran Award. Every year, AAP selects 15 citizenship awards to scholars who provide service to their school and/or community and celebrate their dedication at a special dinner in NYC. I believe that your school has many scholars that are eligible for this award. So, I challenge you to take a few minutes away from your busy day to nominate a worthy scholar by filling out the nomination form.

You may also have a scholar at home who is college bound. If so, why not apply for the Stuart Weiner Scholarship for merit recognition? Your child is eligible to earn a \$1000.00 scholarship.

Lastly, I leave you with the following message: Make sure to take good care of yourself, the next 80 days will be extremely busy. I believe that you can do this! AAP believes in you and supports your professional growth.

Fraternally,

Gail

15 Scholarships for students in
Elementary and Middle Schools
of AAP members

Martin Safran Citizenship Award



Deadline
March 15, 2023

Application details on Page 4

3 Scholarships for children of
AAP members who are
graduating HS seniors

Stewart Weiner Scholarship Program



Deadline
March 15, 2023

Application details on Page 4

SPOTLIGHT ON AAP EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS



Cinnamon Harris

AP 10X390

AAP Exec Bd-Membership and
Recruitment Committee

I work in District 10 at Middle School 390 in the Bronx. I have been at 390 for 20 years and am proud of the evolution of the school within that time. The school has grown in its notoriety regarding student academic achievements, especially with student placement in specialized high schools. In the role of Assistant Principal, I wear many hats and support not only the curriculum that governs the learning experience of students but offer initiatives around improving school culture as well. I work directly with school safety, the kitchen and custodians and collaborate with the elementary school that shares our campus. I have coordinated a student Leadership Academy designed to develop student leadership skills and public speaking.

In AAP I have grown from a listening member to an increasingly active member. In this past year I have worked to increase membership by communicating about the benefits of the association and the wonderful learning targeted for Assistant Principals. Working with the team, listening to the experiences, and learning the strength and skill sets of this core body of members will continue to bring strength to the organization.



Julianna Tramontana

AP 31R024

AAP Exec Bd- Events Committee,
Recording Secretary as of 1/23/2023

This is my sixteenth year at IS 24 Myra S. Barnes, District 31. I am the first Special Education Assistant Principal, making the transition from Special Education teacher (six years) to Assistant Principal (ten years). It was quite a transition! As an Assistant Principal in the building, I consider it very important to support the Principal's vision, mission and the Special Education team and students on Grades 6, 7, and 8. I work well with the other Assistant Principals, staying on the same page with the same message and agenda. Therefore, teachers understand the expectations which are shared from our administrative team. We make sure our students are receiving the necessary services to support their learning, and compliances are followed to keep the school moving.

As an Executive Board Member, I plan events, network, and attend meetings – ready to participate and support in any way possible. AP Joseph Simone and I work in the same building, and he encouraged me to join AAP. I was also inspired by AP Tabatha Romano to get more deeply involved in the organization. I am always willing to volunteer, enlist new members, and participate in AAP events as it is a great support to me and to our hard-working Assistant Principals in NYC DOE schools.



Tabatha Romano

AP 31R060

AAP Exec Bd- Recording Secretary,
Vice President as of 1/23/2023

I work at PS 60 in Staten Island, District 31. I have been an Assistant Principal for ten years: 8.5 in Staten Island and 1.5 in Brooklyn, at PS 100. Success is a team effort. A motto I believe in is "Teamwork makes the dream work". I pride myself on being a good listener and supporting the amazing team I work with each day in any way that I can. By giving feedback to teachers, Paras and Service Providers, I can help support and grow practice.

This year I have been honored to join the AAP Executive Board, as the Recording Secretary. Each member of the team has something special they bring to the table—that is the great thing about our world—no two schools are the same, so you are bound to learn and grow from one another. I think I am an out of the box type of thinker and I hope that ideas I bring to the table spark conversation and discussion among the team, allowing us to consider even more perspectives and experiences as we grow as an association.



Interviews by:

Susan K. Aker
AP 12X006
Newsletter Staff
Member of
AAP Exec Bd

(Bio's continued on page 3)

SPOTLIGHT *(continued from page 2)*

Cinnamon Harris: *(continued)*

My vision for AAP is to continue to develop a path for administrators to dialogue about what matters most to them as they grow in this role, understanding they are not alone and have a means of support. I am a part of the Membership Committee. Joining AAP gives you a place and space to be real. Real about your challenges with a group of individuals who know the walk, the life, the weight, and the joys of the demands we carry.

Come, join a community of individuals that will give support to your ideas, provide answers to the questions you may be hesitant to ask, or don't know to ask, find additional opportunities to network and explore new levels of leadership, whatever the possibilities may be.

Cinnamon is proud of the positive culture she fosters with a wonderful school environment.



Julianna is a lay-back and empathetic leader who works well with her team and the community.

Julianna Tramontana: *(continued)*

I am always willing to volunteer, enlist new members, and be part of the organization, as it is a great support to myself and to our hard-working Assistant Principals in NYC DOE schools. I am always learning something new and exciting, which can then be communicated to our Assistant Principals. I want to sustain the organization with new members and move toward more electronic means, celebrating our members' special events and learning from our members using Google forms.

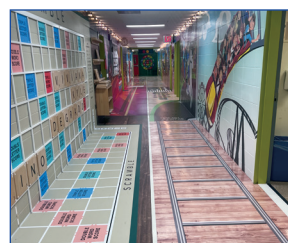
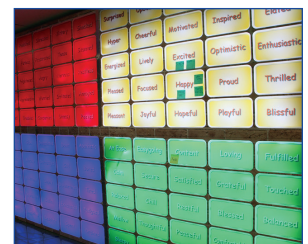
We know that being an Assistant Principal is not easy; sometimes you can be lonely. What I love about AAP is the support I have received personally. I love having a platform to share my ideas with other Assistant Principals. I would like for us to have professional learning for areas we struggle with, examples being student discipline or receiving tenure. I would also like to have High School Assistant Principals join. What I am saying is, "Join AAP! It is a great support!"

Tabatha Romano: *(continued)*

Aside from ensuring that accurate minutes are taken at each meeting, to ensure the easy dissemination of information; I strive to be able to share ideas and be an active thought partner in the association, aiming for consistent reflection and improvement to meet the needs of our members.

The job of an Assistant Principal is undoubtedly one of the most demanding and important. Through AAP, not only are we able to gain additional information about important Union matters and benefits and receive professional development opportunities on a variety of topics, but AAP is a family. We listen and support one another, we laugh- sometimes we cry...we ask for help, we offer one another advice, we advocate for our union and our members together as brothers and sisters.

Tabatha's school surrounds her students with emotional wellness messages.



AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE AAP



Award and Scholarship Chair: Catherine Jarrat Koatz

Each year, the Association of Assistant Principals (AAP) gives out its coveted **Martin Safran Citizenship Awards** to 15 students (in grades K-8) who have demonstrated exemplary service in their schools and/or communities. The winners, and their AAP-member assistant principals, are celebrated at a special event in June, during which students receive a beautiful award and \$100. At the same event, three graduating high school students, whose parents are AAP members, receive \$1,000 **Stewart Weiner Scholarships**, based on merit. They may use the scholarship at any accredited education institution. Applications for both can be found on the AAP website (<https://www.aapnyc.com/>).

**Safran Citizenship Award and Weiner Scholarship applications are due March 15, 2023
Winners will be notified in May.**



AAP Educational Conference - December 10, 2022

After a 2-year hiatus caused by COVID, the AAP conference resumed in full swing. Members returned to the Brooklyn Downtown Marriott with vendors, workshops and celebrations. AAP continued to receive strong support from sponsors, CSA, ELI, and our members.

Event highlights were honoring outgoing CSA President Mark Cannizzaro, outgoing AAP President Steffani Fannizi, Superintendent Jeanette Rosado; welcoming Henry Rubio to take the CSA helm, and Dr. Donna Elam who presented a timely keynote on Equity. We celebrated 61 new APs, 12 five year APs, 9 ten year APs, 6 fifteen year APs, and 2 twenty year APs (Bernard St. Aubain and Lydia Tsiforas).

AAP Vice President Catherine Jarrat Koatz collected and analyzed informative data from conference attendees and officers will use that to plan AAP conference 2023. See you all there!!

