

Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services

The Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services, Inc. (WCASS) is a professional organization comprised of over 300 members who administer and support special education programs throughout the state of Wisconsin. The organization was founded in 1994 by a group of special education leaders (formerly known as Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Education) and pupil services leaders (formerly known as Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Pupil Services), coming together to share resources and information to better serve students in Wisconsin. The new organization chose the title that merged our two names.

History of Director of the Year Awards

Year	Outstanding Special Services Administrator Award (WCASS)	Dan O'Sullivan Award (WCAPS)	John Melcher Award (CASE)
2017			
2016	Kurt Eley		
2015	Matt Collins		
2014	Tammy Nyen		
2013	No Award given by Exec Board Action		
2012	No Award given by Exec Board Action		
2011	No Award given by Exec Board Action		
2010	Greg Nyen		
2009	Ann Wicklund & Julie Holbrook		
2008	Eric Hartwig & Fred Wollenburg		
2007	Greg Dietz & Tom Potterton		
2006	Award date changed from fall to spring 2007		
2005	No Award given by Exec Board Action		
2004	Steve Fasching		
2003	Tom Hall & Don Zander		
2002	Chuck Hastert		
2001	No Award given by Exec Board Action		
2000		Eileen Dagen	Gary Myrah
1999		No Award given by Exec Board Action	Dave Damgaard
1998		Tom Hall	Jim Larson
1997		Gary Myrah	Dave Ament
1996		John Gruenloh & Steve LaValee (given to both for efforts to merge our two organizations)	
1995			Nissan Bar Lev
WCASE & WCAPS merge to become WCASS			
1994			Grant Rehder
1993			Frank Roska
1992		Dave Damgaard	Jerry Bohern
1991			Richard Hentschel
1990			Jack Freehill
1989		James Santy	Barb Leadholm
1988		Gary Myrah	Ed Hawkinson
1987		Dick Roth	Robert (Bob) Malsch
1986			Richard (Dick) Ballou
1985		Paul Halverson	Ed Hill
1984		Homer Howard	John Kotek
1983			Phil Knobel
1982			Alverna Robinson
1981			Sam Milesky
1980			Dan Mathias
1979			Robert (Bob) Rucks

1978			Dorothy Balliet
1977			John Stadtmueller

WCASS formally joined the forces of the School Administrative Alliance (SAA) in 1994. This is a lobbying organization comprised of the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators (WASDA), the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators (AWSA) and the Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials (WASBO).

Since 1999, we have had a part time executive director/lobbyist. Under the guidance of the executive director, office staff provide assistance to members to plan and execute a variety of professional development activities, governmental relations efforts, communications, and product development.

Through proactive leadership, the Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services, Inc. (WCASS) is committed to providing training and technical assistance, facilitating communication among stakeholders, and shaping educational policies and practices in order to promote superior support services for students with special needs.