



Amityville Memorial High School  
250 Merrick Road, Amityville, NY 11701-3495

Scott J. Andrews, Psy.D.  
Principal

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November 24, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

**CONGRATULATIONS** to each and every one of you!

Our Amityville Memorial High School has been recognized as a National Breakthrough School for 2011. Your personal dedication to the continual social, emotional, and academic success of our students is truly amazing.

Your focus on high school best practices has led to this recognition. It is heartwarming to watch each of you focus on the creation of trusting, respectful, and flexible relationships with our students. This personalization creates a foundation which allows for collaborative leadership and increasingly rigorous student focused instruction.

We are truly honored and gratified to work with such trusting, supportive, caring, and **POSITIVE** people!

We look forward to working with each of you as we seek to continuously improve our practice in the face of the ever tightening New York State Standards.

***Great Job in All Ways!***

Best Regards,

Scott

Pete

***“Be the change you want to see in the world.”***

~Gandhi

## MEDIA ADVISORY

# MetLife Foundation



## **Ten Schools Recognized for High Achievement** ***2011 MetLife Foundation-NASSP Breakthrough Schools Program Honors*** ***Diverse Set of Schools***

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Reston, VA--November 23, 2010--**Five middle level and five high schools are being recognized for their academic successes through the 2011 MetLife Foundation-NASSP Breakthrough Schools program. The schools will be honored at the [2011 NASSP Conference](#), which is being held in San Francisco, CA, February, 24-27, 2011.

Established in 2007, the MetLife Foundation-NASSP Breakthrough Schools program recognizes middle level and high schools that are high achieving or are dramatically improving student achievement and serve large numbers of students living in poverty.

The leaders of these urban, rural, and suburban schools have proven that with leadership, time, and a clear focus, high-poverty schools can be turned around. Nine of the 2011 Breakthrough principals have been in their position for at least five years. Although “adequate yearly progress” can be an effective measure of success and growth, the call for principals to achieve AYP status within two years may not allow the same results that these turnaround principals have achieved.

“These 10 MetLife Foundation-NASSP Breakthrough Schools have made incredible gains in academic achievement by providing rigorous instruction and personalizing their schools to meet the needs of each and every student,” said NASSP Executive Director Gerald N. Tirozzi. “I applaud the schools for their focused efforts and the principals of these schools for their leadership. We look forward to featuring them as models of success in the coming year.”

“We are pleased to join NASSP in recognizing the important role of principal leadership in schools that have increased student achievement and in sharing the lessons learned,” said Dennis White, president and CEO of MetLife Foundation.”

The 2011 MetLife Foundation-NASSP High School Breakthrough Schools are:

### **High Schools**

- **Amityville Memorial High School, Amityville, NY, Scott Andrews, Principal**
- **B. F. Terry High School, Rosenberg, TX, Vera Wehring, Principal**
- **Columbus Unified High School, Columbus, KS, Steven R. Jameson, Principal**
- **North Brunswick High School, Leland, NC, Sheila Grady, Principal**
- **Worcester Technical High School, Worcester, MA, Sheila M. Harrity, Principal**

Selection criteria are based on a school's documented success in implementing strategies that are aligned with the three core areas of NASSP's *Breaking Ranks* framework for middle level and high schools. Success in implementing the strategies is documented and verified through school site visits. For more information about the program and the selected schools, visit [www.principals.org/breakthrough](http://www.principals.org/breakthrough).

#### **About MetLife Foundation**

MetLife Foundation supports education, health, civic, and cultural organizations. In education, it seeks to strengthen public schools through effective teaching and leadership, and to prepare students for access to and success in higher education, particularly the crucial first year. The Foundation's grantmaking is informed by findings from the annual MetLife Survey of the American Teacher. For more information, visit [www.metlife.org](http://www.metlife.org).

#### **About NASSP**

In existence since 1916, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) is the preeminent organization of and national voice for middle level and high school principals, assistant principals, and aspiring school leaders from across the United States and more than 45 countries around the world. The mission of NASSP is to promote excellence in school leadership. NASSP administers the National Honor Society®, National Junior Honor Society®, National Elementary Honor Society®, and National Association of Student Councils®. For more information about NASSP, located in Reston, VA, visit [www.principals.org](http://www.principals.org).