

PRESS RELEASE

February 2, 2012

ESSEX COUNTY FREEHOLDERS HONOR DR. THEODORE F. (“TED”) D’ALESSIO MILLBURN H. S. DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

**Dr. D’Alessio Named the “2012 New Jersey Athletic Director of the Year”
By the Directors of Athletics Association of New Jersey**



Dr. Theodore F. D’Alessio (center), Millburn H. S. Director of Athletics, was honored by the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders during its February 1, 2012, meeting held at the Hall of Records. Dr. D’Alessio was congratulated for having been named the “2012 Athletic Director of the Year” by the Directors of Athletics Association of New Jersey. The Board’s commendation was presented by Freeholder Vice President Patricia Sebold of Livingston (right) and Freeholder Leonard M. Luciano of West Caldwell (left). (Photo by Glen Frieson)

(Newark, NJ) – The Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders turned the tables on Millburn High School’s Director of Athletics, Dr. Theodore F. D’Alessio, during its February 1, 2012, meeting at the Hall of Records. Dr. D’Alessio, a frequent visitor to the Freeholder Chambers over the years, had grown accustomed to accompanying many Millburn H. S. state championship teams when they’d been honored by the Board. But on this occasion, it was Dr. D’Alessio, himself, who

was the honoree, as the Board recognized him for having been named the “2012 Athletic Director of the Year” by the Directors of Athletics Association of New Jersey (DAANJ).

The purpose of the DAANJ “Athletic Director of the Year Award” is to recognize an Athletic Director who has made an outstanding contribution to athletics over the years, has shown evidence of devotion and idealism to athletics through the DAANJ, and has demonstrated influence and power in the promotion of athletics in a positive manner.

Dr. Theodore F. “Ted” D’Alessio joined the Millburn Public Schools in 1976 as a Health & Physical Education teacher and coach and served in those capacities until 1983, during which time he was an Assistant Football Coach and also the Head Coach of the Winter and Spring Track teams. He was appointed Director of Athletics in 1983, and has served in that role for the last 19 years with distinction. As Director of Athletics, he is responsible for 29 varsity sports as well as 47 junior varsity and freshman-level programs involving 75 coaches.

During his tenure, Dr. D’Alessio was responsible for the addition of boys varsity and junior varsity volleyball, girls varsity golf and 3 freshman girl’s levels in soccer, basketball and lacrosse. He also established a “Breakfast Club” for students having difficulty balancing their athletic and academic commitments, and was one of the founders of the Millburn High School Hall of Fame. Under his leadership, Millburn High School has been awarded the NJSIAA/Northern Hills Conference “Sportsmanship Award” on seven occasions since 1997.

A standout and highly-respected director of athletics in Essex County, Dr. D’Alessio was named the “Essex County Athletic Director of the Year” in 2001. He is one of the founders of the newly-established Super Essex Conference (SEC), where he has served as Co-President for the past 3 years, and a member of the Essex County Athletic Directors Association, where he served as President from 2001-2005. He is also very active at both the state and national levels. He is a member of the DAANJ where he has been an Executive Committee Member representing Essex County since 2002, and also a member of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA), where he has been a presenter, moderator, event director and co-director, and a member of the State Boys Lacrosse Seeding Committee since 2003. He is also a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) where he has served on various committees and published articles in the *NIAAA Magazine*.

Dr. D’Alessio, a resident of Short Hills, is a graduate of West Orange Mountain High School, earned his B.S. degree from Springfield College, his M.A. degree from Montclair State University, and his Ed.D. degree from New York University.

The presentation of the Board’s commendation was co-sponsored by Freeholder Vice President Patricia Sebold of Livingston and Freeholder Leonard M. Luciano of West Caldwell who, as educators themselves, were especially delighted to recognize Dr. D’Alessio’s accomplishments. During the presentation, Freeholder Sebold noted a special connection she felt to Dr. D’Alessio, recounting the fact that it was his father, then-West Orange Superintendent of Schools Dr. Theodore D’Alessio, who hired her when she began her 30-year career in teaching, most of which was spent as an English teacher at West Orange High School.

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