



Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association  
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## **MIAA Associate Director Virginia Anderson named 2008 Sherm Kinney Award Winner**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FRANKLIN, MA—The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) has announced that Virginia Anderson, MIAA Associate Executive Director, will be honored with the 2008 Sherm Kinney Award at the MIAA Basketball Tournament Finals on March 15 at the DCU Center in Worcester. Mrs. Anderson has served as executive staff liaison for boys and girls basketball since she joined MIAA in 1994.

The Award honors Sherm Kinney, who passed away in 1999 after serving the MIAA in an executive capacity since its inception. Kinney left a legacy of integrity, honesty and sportsmanship, and the award is intended to recognize those who reflect those values. Mrs. Anderson, who frequently speaks warmly of her deceased colleague Kinney, has established her own legacy of service to secondary school academics and athletics. Some highlights of her athletic service include:

- Coach and Teacher at several high schools and junior high schools in New Jersey and Massachusetts
- District Supervisor of Physical Education and Athletics, Springfield Public Schools, 1976-1983
- Former executive staff liaison for softball at MIAA and current liaison for volleyball in addition to basketball
- Former executive staff liaison for the MIAA Girls and Women in Sport ad hoc Committee (formerly the Equity Committee), which each February collaborates with New Agenda: Northeast to host Girls and Women in Sport Day at Faneuil Hall

Athletic honors include:

- Citation for Distinguished Service and Leadership, National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), 2008
- National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) Distinguished Service Award, 2002
- Induction into the New Agenda: Northeast Hall of Fame, 1998

Mrs. Anderson also serves as Associate Executive Director for the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators' Association. Her accomplishments there include the design and implementation of the Leadership Licensure Program, now in its eighth year. The Massachusetts Department of Education has approved this program for licensure of Principals K-12, Supervisor/Director K-12 and Superintendent K-12.

"As superintendent of the Wilbraham Public Schools, I was fortunate to work for two years with Ginny as the Principal of the Wilbraham Middle School," said Brian Halloran, who now serves as MIAA Assistant Director. "The day I received a telephone call from Dick Neal, asking for a recommendation, I immediately stated that Mrs. Anderson would be an excellent representative of our Association. Wilbraham's loss was a great gain for the MIAA and MSSAA."

Monson High School Principal Jim Peters, current MIAA President and Chair of the Basketball Committee, said, "Over the past 14 years, Virginia Anderson has been a driving force in the advancement of Massachusetts high school basketball. As the MIAA executive staff liaison to the Basketball Committee, she has spearheaded improvements in our tournament management and procedures, provided assistance and guidance to our tournament directors, and implemented a number of new initiatives such as our team sportsmanship awards and the Breakfast of Champions program. Ginny's leadership has been defined by

her devotion to our schools and student athletes. It is most fitting that she be the first female recipient of the Sherm Kinney Award.”

Virginia Anderson is married to Jim Anderson. They have three children, Scott, Leonard and Kristen, and two grandchildren.