

Congratulations to our 2006 inductees

J. Dennis Cafaro — Class of 1966

J. Dennis Cafaro has spent many tireless years dedicated to the children of the South Colonie Central School District as a member of the Board of Education and founding member of South Colonie Dollars for Scholars campaign. Cafaro served on the school board for 10 years from 1995-2005. During his tenure he was school board President for two years (2001-2003), Vice President for three years (1998-2001) and a member of every school board committee during his tenure. He also served over the years as chairman of the board's Finance, Communications, Transportation and Government Relations Committees. He was a former treasurer of the Capital District School Boards Association and a frequent presenter at National and New York State School Boards Associations conferences.

His many accomplishments on the school board included serving as a member of the South Colonie Schools 50th Anniversary Steering Committee in 1999 (where the Alumni Scholarship Fund was born) as well as helping to oversee a variety of capital improvement projects. Today, he is Second Vice President and Immediate Past President of the South Colonie Dollars for Scholars chapter and a member of the Project Lead the Way Partnership Team at Colonie Central High School. His community involvement includes former president and current member of the Financial Stewardship Committee of the Church of St. Clare, former manager/coach in the Colonie Little League and assistant pack leader for the Cub Scouts.

Cafaro has worked for 23 years with Clough Harbour & Associates LLP in Colonie. Today, he is an associate with the company and Manager of Office Operations and a member of the National Association of Purchasing Management — Eastern New York. He graduated in 1970 from Oklahoma City University with a bachelor of science degree in Marketing and Management.



Charlene Dukes — Class of 1985

Charlene Dukes is the first African American Deputy Public Defender for the State of Maryland and the youngest to hold that position in the history of the agency. She was appointed in August, 2004, and manages an agency with more than 1,200 employees and a budget of over \$85 million.

At CCHS, Dukes was a member of Student Government and the Mock Trial Team and attended Howard University on a debate scholarship. Today, she is a Mock Trial coach and judge. While at Howard she worked at the U.S. Department of Justice and earned a Certificate of Outstanding Service. She graduated from law school at the University of Maryland in three years while working full time as a counselor at a group home.

Dukes is a member of the faculty at the National Legal Aid & Defender Association and a former adjunct professor at the University of Maryland School of Law. She has worked as In House Counsel for State Farm Insurance Co. and has taught and practiced civil and criminal litigation. She is a member of the Washington, D.C., the National and the Women's Bar Associations and is licensed to practice law in Maryland, Washington, D.C., Texas, New York and before the U.S. Supreme Court.

At CCHS, Dukes was an exchange student/host to Spain, an Albany County Legislative intern and a page for the New York State Assembly. She was also a member of the varsity track and soccer teams. She remains active in the community as a mentor and tutor and is committed to supporting organizations that provide funding for research and treatment of cancer, AIDS and kidney disease. In 1997 she became a member of the National Organ Donation Society when she donated a kidney to her father. She has served on the Board of the Arena Players and has been a volunteer for the Woman in the Community organization.

