

**Michael Wendt**  
2009 School Health Leadership Award

Dr. Michael Wendt is currently in his 22nd year as a New York State Public School Educator. He has worked at all levels, from Teacher's Aide to Superintendent, and is presently the Superintendent of Schools in the Wilson Central School District in Wilson, New York.

He earned his undergraduate degree from Cornell University, a master's degree from Niagara University, and an EdD from the University of Buffalo. Under his leadership the Wilson Central School District was deemed the #1 School in Niagara County for the past six years and has received numerous citations from the state of New York for "Best Practices." Dr. Wendt received the 2006 NYSAHPERD Award of Distinction for a School Administrator and the 2009 Niagara Police Athletic League Sportsman of the Year Award.



Dr. Wendt is also a researcher, education consultant, regular radio talk show host speaker, and writer. He has presented nearly 25 papers at a variety of state and national education conferences. Many of his presentations have focused on the benefits of exercise on student classroom performance.

He has authored a book, *Homework Rules and Homework Tools*, and is recruiting publishers for a second edition, as well as, for a new second book. He serves as a consultant for Kidnutrition.com and Planethomework.com. He is the editor and designer of the *KEEP 57 National Exercise Program for Kids* and was the author of a federal Department of Education Carol M. White PEP grant funded for \$385,000 to improve exercise and nutrition facilities and programs in his district.

Dr. Wendt was quick to volunteer to be a part of the first cohort of the New York State Healthy Schools Leadership Institute, along with Mark Doody, the 2008 ASHA School Health Leadership Award recipient.

Dr. Wendt serves on the following boards and committees: Healthy Schools Leadership Team, Facilities Review and Utilization Planning Committee for the Buffalo Public Schools, the Education Panel for the Rochester Public Schools, the Administrative Advisory Team for Niagara University, the Lake Plains YMCA Board of Directors, the Cornell Cooperative Extension, the Orleans Niagara Athletic League Executive Committee, Section VI New York State Public High School Athletic Association President, the New York State Rural Schools Board of Directors, Wilson Lion's Club International, St. Paul's Lutheran Church Council President, and attended the New York State Healthy Schools Leadership Institute from 2001-2005.

In his spare time, Dr. Wendt has owned and operated three different businesses in New York State. He currently owns and operates a 230 acre farm in Niagara County, New York, with his wife of 25 years, Elaine, and his two sons, Stephen and Matthew.