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**CAPE member
organizations:**

Agudath Israel
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Association of Christian
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Association of Christian
Schools International
Association of Waldorf
Schools of N.A.
Christian Schools
International
Council of Islamic Schools
in North America
Council on Educational
Standards and
Accountability
Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
Friends Council
on Education
Islamic Schools League
of America
Jesuit Schools Network
Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod
National Association of
Episcopal Schools
National Association of
Independent Schools
National Catholic
Educational Association
National Christian
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Oral Roberts University
Educational Fellowship
Seventh-day Adventist
Board of Education
United States Conference
of Catholic Bishops
Wisconsin Evangelical
Lutheran Synod Schools
Affiliated State
Organizations

CAPE Announces New Director

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The board of directors of the Council for American Private Education (CAPE), a coalition of 22 national organizations (listed left) serving private elementary and secondary schools, announced on January 4, 2018, the appointment of Michael Schuttloffel as executive director effective July 1, 2018.

In accepting the position, Schuttloffel, currently the executive director of the Kansas Catholic Conference, called CAPE, "an organization with a respected past and a promising future for serving the religious and independent school community in the United States." He said he was looking forward to helping CAPE expand its sphere of influence in preserving and promoting educational pluralism. One immediate focus will be affirming the vital role of private schools in American education and their significant contributions to educating the public and advancing the common good. "CAPE will continue to promote the rights of parents to educate their children in the school of their choice and to protect the right of private schools to fulfill their unique missions," he said.

As director of the Kansas Catholic Conference since 2008, Schuttloffel served as its lead advocate and spokesman on legislative and political matters. He played a central role in the passage of Kansas's first school choice law, a tax-credit scholarship program signed into law in 2014.

Previously, Schuttloffel was an advisor to the governor of Texas. From 1999-2006, he worked as a congressional staffer in the U.S. House of Representatives, including as legislative director for a senior member of the Armed Services Committee. He attended private schools for 15 years, graduated from the honors program at Villanova University in 1997, and completed a master's degree in political science from Fordham University in 1998. Michael and his wife, Misty, have five children.

In announcing Schuttloffel's appointment, CAPE Board President Dan Egeler, president and CEO of the Association of Christian Schools International, said the board was enthusiastic about the new direction and energy Schuttloffel would bring to CAPE. "Michael is smart, grounded, and has the deep commitment and determination to advance CAPE's vision and mission."

At the same time, Egeler expressed the board's praise and gratitude for Joe McTighe, CAPE's current executive director, who will leave the position at the end of June. "Under Joe's guidance, CAPE has grown in influence and stature. His leadership, humor, and deep concern about private education have helped position CAPE as the 'Voice of America's Private Schools.' He will be greatly missed."