



Dr. Karissa Niehoff
CEO, NFHS

Dr. Karissa Niehoff is in her eighth year as chief executive officer of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) in Indianapolis. She is the first female to head the national leadership organization for high school athletics and performing arts and the sixth full-time chief executive of the NFHS.

She previously was executive director of the Connecticut Association of Schools-Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference for seven years. She began her career in Connecticut public education in 1989 as a teacher at Greenwich High School. In the succeeding years, she was a coach, athletic director, assistant principal and principal at the middle school and high school levels.

As CEO of the NFHS, Dr. Niehoff has worked to elevate the recognition and respect for education-based programming and the important work of the NFHS. She has served on the boards of directors for USA Football, USA Basketball and USA Field Hockey, and she works closely with leadership at the NCAA, USOPC, multiple youth and professional sports organizations, as well as leaders from government, education institutions and the corporate community.

Dr. Niehoff earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts, a master's from Southern Connecticut State University, and a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Connecticut.