

National Coalition of Girls' Schools



2008-2009 Ransome Prize Winner

Jane O'Connor

Jane O'Connor is the founding Executive Director of the [Maranyundo Initiative](#), which began in 2008. The Boston-based Maranyundo Initiative is proud to support academic excellence for girls in Rwanda through its support for the [Maranyundo Girls School](#), a NCGS member. The Maranyundo Initiative:

- Contributes a significant portion of the schools operating budget each year allowing the Maranyundo Girls School to accept at least 50% of its students from economically vulnerable families and pay competitive salaries to attract and retain high quality teachers.
- Promotes academic excellence with regular evaluation of the School of Excellence standards.
- Offers educational programming for teacher training, professional development, technology, and other areas as requested so that Maranyundo Girls School can continue to be one of the top schools for teaching excellence in the country.
- Grants funds for major projects such as the school expansion as well as more routine school maintenance and improvements.

Jane served as Principal of the Cunniff School in Watertown, MA, between 1993 and 2001, and was Principal of Watertown Middle School from 2001-2004. She is an educational consultant, active volunteer, and Board Member at Mother Caroline Academy in Boston. Jane is a graduate of Cambridge College and UMass Boston.