

Bridgewater State University

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**Dr. Owen B. Kiernan Collection,
1934-2010, undated
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Dr. Owen B. Kiernan Collection

Biographical Sketch

Owen Kiernan was born on March 9, 1914, in Randolph, Massachusetts. Kiernan graduated from Bridgewater State University in 1935 (known then as Bridgewater State Teachers College) and went on to get his masters at Boston University and his Doctorate at Harvard. Kiernan participated in baseball and basketball while at Bridgewater State and was inducted into the school's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1989. After graduating from Bridgewater State in 1935, Kiernan kept a strong connection to the school for the rest of his life.

Kiernan's early career included being the elementary school principal, and later the high school principal, in the Sandwich, MA school system. After spending time working as the superintendent of schools in the Wayland-Sudbury-Sherborn school district, as well as in Milton, MA, he would move on to become the Massachusetts Commissioner of Education in 1957. He would stay in that role until 1969. During these years he worked on a range of educational committees and from 1966-67 he was the president of the Washington based Council of Chief State School Officers representing the ranking education officials in the 50 states and U.S. territories. In 1964 he returned to his alma mater as the state's senior education official to deliver the convocation address to the students.

In 1969 Kiernan became the Executive Director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), a position he would remain in until 1980. During four of these years he was chairman of the Atlantic Treaty Education Committee (NATO countries) and the Atlantic Information Center for Teachers in London. After leading NASSP with its 40,000 members for eleven years, he would stay in education as an educational consultant in Washington, D.C. After serving for 50 years in education, Kiernan retired. He served as an educational advisor for seven presidents of the United States from Eisenhower to the Reagan administration.

Owen Kiernan met his future wife, Esther Thorley, while a student at Bridgewater State. They were married in 1940 and would remain married for 60 years until Esther's passing. They had three children, one son and two daughters, one of which is an alumnus of Bridgewater State. An endowed scholarship named for Dr. Kiernan and his wife Esther T. Kiernan at Bridgewater State University is still offered by the school. Owen Kiernan died on January 5, 2010, at the age of 95.

Scope and Content Note

The collection is broken down into nine series/subject areas. Two of the series focus on specific roles Kiernan held in the field of education. Series 3, *Speeches and Writings*, contain documents spanning his entire career. His typescript speeches can be found here and not under the series that reflects his jobs in education. Series 6 contains letters and photographs from well-known figures that thanked Kiernan for his service to the state of Massachusetts (1957-1969) and to his country while leading the National Association of Secondary School Principals (1969-1980).

Series Descriptions

Series 1: Personal Material, 1935-2009

Featured here are various personal items from various points in Kiernan's life. Included in this series are various degrees, either given to him for his studies or given as honorary degrees, acceptance letters, writings such as his dissertation, and photos from various events throughout his life.

Series 2: Bridgewater State University, 1935-2008

This series features various aspects of Kiernan's life that were related to Bridgewater State. While there is little on his time as a student, Kiernan still stayed true to his roots as an alumnus of the school, with various items that relate to his work as an alumnus of Bridgewater State. When he graduated in 1935 the school was named Bridgewater State Teachers College. His wife Esther graduated a year after him in 1936.

Series 3: Speeches and Writings, 1941, 1952-2004, undated

Dr. Kiernan's various writings and speeches spanning his career can be found in this collection. Included are various notes from his speeches as well.

Series 4: Massachusetts Commissioner of Education, 1951-1969, undated

This series covers the time in which Dr. Kiernan was the Commissioner of Education in Massachusetts from 1957 to 1969. Notable pieces in the series include a signed letter from Jacqueline Kennedy thanking Dr. Kiernan for donating money to the JFK Library, as well as many documents and photos from when he went on a tour to 20 nations around the world in 1968 to observe educational practices on a global scale.

Series 5: National Association of Secondary School Principals Director (NASSP), 1969-2005, undated

This series covers the time in which Dr. Kiernan was the Executive Director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) from 1969 to 1980. Notable documents include letters from presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter.

Series 6: Congratulatory/Testimonial Material on Kiernan's Career, 1957-2002

Various congratulatory documents and other materials are covered in this section. The majority of the material represents Kiernan being hired (1957) and leaving (1969) as the Massachusetts Commissioner of Education and beginning (1969) and retiring (1980) from his role as the Executive Director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). Most notable in this collection is a signed letter from President John F. Kennedy during his time as a senator.

Series 7: Awards, 1940-2003, undated

This part of the collection features various awards earned by Kiernan throughout his life. This series features plaques, citations, as well as various dedications for Kiernan at all points in his professional career.

Series 8: Audio/Video Media, 1969-2009, undated

This section covers various audio/video media that features Dr. Kiernan. Included cassettes, VHS tapes, DVDs, and film footage from Kiernan's life.

Series 9: Oversize Material

This last part of the collection is a small assortment of oversize items kept in flat-file storage. This series features original maquettes of cartoons featuring Dr. Kiernan, group photos of Kiernan from throughout his life, various other awards given to him, and lastly, presidential autographs from presidents Gerald Ford and Richard Nixon.

Box and Folder List**Series 1: Personal Material, 1935-2009****Box 1
Folder**

1. In-depth Kiernan family genealogy information, presented to Kiernan family on May 26, 2001
2. Owen Kiernan & Esther Thorley's (Owen's wife) Bridgewater diplomas, 1935, 1936
3. Owen Kiernan's obituary, 2010
4. Master of Education degree given to Kiernan by Boston University, 1940
5. Boston University diploma application, diploma acceptance transcripts, and certificate, 1937-1966
6. Columbia University report card, 1938
7. Harvard University commencement (Kiernan received Doctorate), June 22, 1950
8. Kiernan's honorary Lesley College degree, June 10, 1956
9. Superintendent position acceptance letter July 1, 1956
10. Honorary degree given to Kiernan by Northeastern University, 1961
11. Kiernan's Stonehill College diploma June 6, 1965
12. Honorary degree of Pedagogy given to Kiernan by Rhode Island College, 1966
13. Honorary degree of Science in Education given to Kiernan by Boston University, 1968
14. Stetson Oracle, 1930-31
15. "Let's Not Discard Old Buildings" article by Kiernan in edition of *The Nation's Schools*, June 1946
16. "Selling a School Program to Taxpayers" article by Kiernan in the edition of *The Nation's Schools*, April 1947

17. "Pictures give Punch to School Campaign" article by Kiernan in edition of *The Nation's Schools*, July 1948
18. Dissertation by Kiernan, 1950
19. "Education and Politics in Massachusetts: The Related Lives and Contributions of Three Economically Challenged Families in Three Very Different Generations" [Mann, Kiernan, and Bulger], written by Kiernan, 1999
20. Postcards of Cape and Island championship teams, c. 1936/1937
21. Copper plate of Kiernan on wood block, c. 1940; Photo of Kiernan on sheet metal, undated
22. Miscellaneous photos of Kiernan, 1955-1998
23. Portraits of and letters from the Archbishop of Boston November 29, 1958, 1965
24. Kiernan and others performing at Liberty Hall between, 1986-1989
25. Award for Kiernan being inducted into the Stetson and Randolph High School Athletic Hall of Fame, October 7, 1994
26. Randolph Hall of Fame banquet, c. 1995
27. HAA Black Tie Dinner, Washington, DC, 1995
28. Horatio Alger Association – 50th anniversary; Photos – U.S. Supreme Court, Washington, D.C., April 24, 1997
29. HAA Black Tie Dinner, May 1999
30. HAA Washington photos, Spring 2001
31. Kiernan's Stetson High School 25th class reunion, 1956, and class reunion, 1992
32. Miscellaneous photos of Kiernan, Pre-1945
33. Henry T. Wing School reunion July 28, 1989 (photos & invitation)
34. Brochure for nuclear powered submarine 'Seadragon' (undated) and invitation (1960?)
35. Correspondence and newsletters on school law including ending school segregation, 1948-1961
36. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1954-2001
37. Letter to Kiernan welcoming him to Harvard Club of Boston, February 27, 1961
38. Kiernan's passport, admitted July 17, 1963
39. MIT Corporation, 1968-1980
40. Correspondence relating to Barbara and Terrance Giroux, 1985-2003
41. Correspondence from William B. Bulger to Kiernan, 1999
42. Letter from Gordon Cawelti and summary of "The School District Effectiveness Study," March 29, 2001
43. Correspondence and news clippings about Sandwich baseball team from 1950, 1987
44. Miscellaneous news clippings involving Kiernan, 1945-2005
45. "52 Key People" Article, April 6, 1988
46. Documents and letters pertaining to Sandwich principal position, 1940-1944, 1990, 1998
47. Ephemera from Milton School, 1951, 1957, undated
48. "Our New Superintendent" – article from the 1951 holiday issue of "The Unquity Echo," 1951
49. "Focus on Learning: The Public Schools of Milton," 1950s
50. Harvard Graduate School of Education Association Bulletin, contains candidates for the Executive Council, including Kiernan, 1960
51. Stetson/Randolph Hall of Fame, 1994, 1997, 2003
52. Kiernan's application for the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, May 25, 1995

53. Random ephemera, 2009, undated
54. Bridge2O Convocation, 1957
55. Bridgewater State yearbook belonging to Kiernan, 1935
56. Mass produced portrait of Ronald Reagan sent to Kiernan in honor of Reagan's 93rd birthday, 2004

Series 2: Bridgewater State University, 1935-2008

Box 2

Folder

1. Reproduced material representing Kiernan as a student at Bridgewater State, 1934-1935
2. Photos of Kiernan playing baseball for Bridgewater State, 1935
3. Photograph of Kiernan with group of BSU people at banquet, including Clement Maxwell & Harry Lehman, 1959
4. Bridgewater Alumni News Vol. VI, No. 1, April 1960
5. Dr. Adrian Rondileau Inaugural Program and letter, November 2, 1962
6. Program for the Dedication of the Maxwell Library, Kiernan gave presentation, April 26, 1963
7. Photograph of Kiernan speaking at event at BSU, 1965
8. Kiernan awarded Second Annual Tillinghast Award, includes photo, May 6, 1967
9. "Mass. Education Commissioner Resigns", BSU Alumni News, April 1968
10. Material pertaining to the Owen B. and Esther T. Kiernan Scholarship, 1969-1987
11. Correspondence between Kiernan and the Alumni Association, 1971-1985
12. Esther Kiernan 50th and 40th reunion information, 1978-1986
13. Kiernan, Class of 1935 50th anniversary, 1985
14. Correspondence and information regarding resignation from the Presidential Classroom (PCR), May 1989 – Includes correspondence from BSU's Jack Jones
15. Information about Kiernan's induction into the Bridgewater State College Athletic Hall of Fame, 1989
16. BSC Athletic Hall of Fame, 1990
17. *Bridgewater Today*, contains writeup involving Kiernan, January 27, 1993
18. Article discussing Kiernan's time at BSU and his career, *Bridgewater Magazine*, Vol. 11, No. 2, 2001
19. "Scholarship Giving Always Top Priority for the Kiernans," Bridgewater State College Endowment Fund Newsletter, Vol. 1, Issue 3, February, 2001
20. Correspondence between Owen Kiernan & Jim DiNardo, 1998, 2004
21. *Bridgewater Magazine*, alumni profile on Kiernan, Winter 2007
22. Photographs of Kiernan at event with Dana Mohler-Faria and James DiNardo, c. 2008

Series 3: Speeches and Writings, 1941, 1952-2004, undated

Box 3

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1. "Discipline" speech at Sandwich Women's Club, March 7, 1941
2. Commencement address, Framingham, June 3, 1951; Boston Teachers College, June 6, 1955

3. "The Power in Teaching," commencement address at Hyannis Teachers College, August 10, 1956
4. "America's Greatest Resource," commencement at Framingham Teachers College, June 9, 1957; Mass. College of Art, June 10, 1962
5. Commencement address; Salem Teachers College, June 10, 1956; Framingham Teachers College, June 9, 1957
6. "Basic Characteristics Needed for Public Service," speech given by Kiernan to Department of Education, c. 1957-1969
7. Commencement address, Westfield Teachers College, June 8, 1958
8. "The Dangers of Political Fallout," address by Kiernan to Massachusetts Girls State American Legion Auxiliary at the Bridgewater State Teachers College on June 14, 1958
9. Notes from speech at Harvard, July 17, 1958
10. "The Cornerstone" speech at Salem Teachers College, December 4, 1958
11. Dedication at East Jr. High School in Brockton, February 8, 1959
12. "What's Right With Our Schools" speech by Kiernan at Georgia Vocational Educational Breakfast, Atlanta, Georgia, March 20, 1959
13. "What's Right With Our Schools" speech by Kiernan at Buffalo, NY, undated; and Atlanta, GA, March 20, 1959
14. "Damon School Dedication" at Hull, Massachusetts, April 26, 1959
15. "What's Right With Our Schools", Twenty-third Annual Convention of the Wisconsin Association for Vocational and Adult Education, at the Northland Hotel in Green Bay, Wisconsin, May 1, 1959
16. "A Half Century of Service", convocation address, Lesley College, May 8, 1959
17. "Citizenship and a Free Society", given at 40th annual meeting for the National Council for the Social Studies at the Statler Hilton, Boston, November 26, 1960
18. "The Role of the State Department" and "To lead or not to lead: that is the question", Atlantic City, New Jersey, 1960
19. "Address by Dr. Owen B. Kiernan Civic Committee Luncheon" June 13, 1961
20. National Conference on Milk, Health, and Nutrition, Department of Labor Auditorium, Washington D.C., January 23, 1962
21. Commencement address at Holyoke Junior College, Holyoke, MA, June 8, 1962
22. "The Telstar Era in Education", keynote address by Kiernan given at the Seventh Annual Teachers Congress (Metropolitan New York Teachers and Administrator) at St. John's University in Jamaica, New York, November 3, 1962
23. "Symposium: State Responsibility for Educational Research" speech at Miami Beach, Florida, November 20, 1962
24. School Committees' Convention – Swampscott, May 11, 1962
25. Various addresses on physical education/fitness in schools, also includes address regarding vocational studies, 1962-1968
26. "Selected Items for Discussion at Joint Conference His Excellency the Governor – Board of Education", Department of Education Conference with MA Governor Endicott-Peabody, March 13, 1963
27. "Total Fitness—An American Value?", Address given by Kiernan to the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America at Wentworth-by-the-sea Portsmouth, New Hampshire, c. 1962
28. "Multi-State Conference on Education" speech at Chicago, Illinois on October 10, 1963

29. "Educational Priorities in a Decade of Decision", Address by Kiernan given to the Middlesex County Teachers Association at the Music Hall in Boston, MA on October 25, 1963
30. "Federal-State Relations" speech at CCSSO Convention Portland, Oregon, November 18, 1963
31. "Comparative Education, Germany Revisited", article excerpt from Annual Report of State Education Commissioner Kiernan, 1963
32. Planning involving State Aid MA and CT, 1963-65
33. "A Frontal Assault on Cultural Deprivation" speech given by Kiernan at Boston College Seminar, January 28, 1964
34. "Who Shall Go to College?" speech given at the AASA Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, February 17, 1964
35. Commencement address at Bay Path Junior College, Longmeadow, MA, June 7, 1964
36. "Quality in Education" address given by Kiernan at Hotel Bradford, Boston, MA, October 23, 1964
37. "Educational Priorities in the Mid-Sixties" speech by Kiernan at Keith Junior High School, New Bedford, MA, October 30, 1964
38. "Educational Priorities in the Mid-Sixties" speech given to the Bristol County Teachers Association at Keith Junior High School on October 30, 1964
39. "Education, Drop-Outs, Unemployment", Owen B. Kiernan December 5, 1964
40. "Selected Educational Issues Involving Board Policy (For Discussion Purposes)", Board of Education, includes description of issue and Board's position, December 17, 1964
41. Research on famous educators of the Normal School Movement used by Kiernan to prepare his speeches, 1964

Box 4 Folder

1. "The Great Society – Its Educational Needs" speech at NEEEC Educator's Seminar at Boston College, January 19, 1965
2. Memorandum to school superintendents regarding new staff, sent by Kiernan March 5, 1965
3. Collection of commencement speeches, June 1965
4. "Vocational Education in the Mid-Sixties" keynote address given at the Kellogg Center at Michigan State University for the Labor and Vocational Education Conference, September 8, 1965
5. "Summary Presentation of Massachusetts Educational Policies and Practices Regarding Freedom of Religion (With Specific Constitutional and Statutory References)" November 2, 1965
6. "Toward a More Effective Partnership: The Federal Role in Education as Perceived by a State" address at Governor's Conference on Education, Maui, Hawaii, November 1965
7. Handwritten speech notes, c. 1965
8. "Attaining Minimum Standards of Excellence in Elementary & Secondary Education" by Kiernan, January 28, 1966
9. "Dedication Address", for the opening of Madeleva Hall at Cardinal Cushing College in Brookline, MA, May 15, 1966
10. "Statement Before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights" by Kiernan at Faneuil Hall, Boston, MA, October 5, 1966

11. "Statement Before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights' Speech at Faneuil Hall, Boston, MA, October 5, 1966
12. Federal Aid – "Statement on the Elementary and Secondary Amendments", 1966, 1967; "School Assistance Act of 1961", by Kiernan
13. "Positive and Negative Effects of the Federal Presence in Education as Viewed by a State Superintendent" speech at Convention Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey, February 11, 1967
14. "Statement on the Elementary and Secondary Education Amendments of 1967" speech by Kiernan at Washington, DC, July 26, 1967
15. Memoriams of Raymond S. Dower Jr., Sept. 1, 1967; and Brigadier General John E. Murray Jr. undated
16. Speech at the Nat. Assoc. of State Boards of Ed. 1967 Annual Conference September 26, 1967
17. "The Federal Dollar and Public Education" conference speech at Wentworth, New Hampshire, October 2, 1967
18. "The Federal Dollar and Public Education", speech given at October conference in Wentworth, New Hampshire, October 2, 1967
19. "Quality Education for All" speech given at West Harwich, October 11, 1967
20. "Industry's Role in Education" speech by Thomas A. Vanderslice, Nov. 16, 1967
21. Governor's address about education, December 1, 1967
22. "Education and Athletics on the World Scene in 1968", given at the 49th Annual Convention of the National Federation of State High School Athletic Association at the New Ocean House in Swampscott, MA, July 10, 1968
23. "A Time for Change" commencement address, Boston University, August 17, 1968
24. "A Time for Change", address by Kiernan to the Boston University Summer Commencement in Boston, Massachusetts, August 17, 1968
25. "Rough Draft Suggestions for Incorporation into January 9, 1968 Address of His Excellency the Governor", c. 1968
26. "A Look Both Ways", address given by Kiernan at the CASSA Golden Anniversary Conference in San Diego, California, March 23, 1970
27. "A Look Both Ways", address by Kiernan given to the CASSA Golden Anniversary Conference in San Diego, California, March 23, 1970
28. Speech by Kiernan at U.S. Chamber of Commerce, January or February 1971
29. "Hearings Before the Committee on Ways and Means" speech by Kiernan, June 1971
30. "View from the Potomac", address by Kiernan to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges in Boston, Massachusetts, December 8, 1977
31. "Dimming Lights, a World Phenomenon" speech at annual conference – Secondary Heads Association, University of Warwick, England, March 27, 1979
32. "Goals of American Life" November 10, 1979
33. "Carnegie Council on Policy Studies in Higher Education" November 27, 1979
34. "An Assessment of the Organization and Operation of the Office of Communications and Membership Relations National School Board Association", March 1983
35. "2004 Addendum to the Kiernan History" rough draft, January 25, 2004
36. Unnamed High School commencement address, undated
37. "America's Greatest Resource is You!" address by Kiernan to the American Legion Auxiliary at Bridgewater State Teachers College, undated

38. "Excerpt from American Association of School Administrators – General Sessions", possibly a speech given by Kiernan, undated
39. Miscellaneous speech notes, 1952, 1958-1967

Box 5**Folder**

1. "Some Observations – Educational and Otherwise – On the World Scene", transcription from Kiernan's 50,000 mile world tour, February 15 to June 15, 1968 Copy #1
2. "Some Observations – Educational and Otherwise – On the World Scene", transcription from Kiernan's 50,000 mile world tour February 15 to June 15, 1968 Copy #2
3. "Secondary School Athletic Administration", forward written by Kiernan, January 1969
4. "Unrest causing loss of School Goals: Washington Official Hits Free Publicity for Rabble Rousers", coverage of AASA Convention including statements by Kiernan, February, 1970
5. "Hearings Before the Select Committee on Equal Educational Opportunity of the United States Senate", Kiernan's statement to the committee, June 14, 1971
6. Article for "Nation's Business" by Kiernan, 1971
7. "The School Administrator", article involving Kiernan, 1971
8. "Financing Public Education: More than One View", NASSP special paper with foreword by Kiernan April, 1972
9. "The 80s: Where will the Schools be?", foreword by Kiernan. Published by the NASSP, 1974

Box 6**Folder**

1. "School Violence and Vandalism", statement by Kiernan to the sub-Committee to investigate juvenile delinquency, April 16, 1975
2. Letters by Kiernan and relevant information, pages 143-148, pamphlet dated October 9, 1975
3. "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974" contains NASSP published letter by Kiernan, August 2, 1977
4. "Disruptive Youth: Causes and Solutions" foreword by Kiernan, 1977
5. "Principals Need Power, Not Paperwork", article by Kiernan, May 1979
6. Career tribute interview with published material, August, 1979
7. "Goals of American Education" written by Kiernan, September 10, 1979
8. "Trends Affecting Service-Learning... In Secondary Schools", article provided by Kiernan to *Synergist Magazine*, published by the National Center for Service-Learning, fall 1979
9. Letters to and from Reagan White House dealing with Kiernan's editorial, "Vote American", 1981-1984
10. "Principles ARE Important", "The End Paper", by Owen Kiernan, undated

Series 4: Massachusetts Commissioner of Education, 1951-1969, undated**Box 7****Folder**

1. Random news clippings of Kiernan as Commissioner of Education, 1952-1968
2. Assortment of letters, 1951-1968
3. Navy citation & various articles, 1956-1968

4. News releases of Kiernan accepting MA Commissioner of Education position, Aug. 1957
5. Newsclips, articles, etc. about Kiernan, 1957-1958
6. Collected memos sent to associated staff by Kiernan wishing a happy and merry Christmas season, 1957-1967
7. Collection of annual reports from the Massachusetts Department of Education, 1957-1970
8. "What's Right with Education", writing by Kiernan in the *New England Teacher*, June 1958
9. "What's Right with Education", writing by Kiernan in the *Massachusetts Teacher*, Vol. XXVII, No. 8, May 1958
10. Articles about Kiernan's "What's Right with out Schools" speech, 1958-1959
11. "Proceedings of the Inauguration of Asa Smallidge Knowles as President of Northeastern University", September 8, 1959
12. Correspondence and photograph including Kiernan from Naval War College in Newport Rhode Island, June 1960
13. Harvard Graduate School of Education Association, 3rd annual meeting information, 1960
14. Commissioner of Education press releases, 1960-1968
15. "Dr. Owen B. Kiernan, State Commissioner of Education Will Be Main Speaker at Dedication", *The Town Crier*, January 5, 1961
16. "Interview with the Commissioner of Education", interview with Kiernan in *The Unquity Echo*, Volume XXXVII, Number 2, Spring Issue, 1961
17. "Education for Freedom and World Understanding: A Report of the Working Committees of the Conference on the Ideals of American Freedom and the International Dimensions of Education", address by Kiernan included, March 1962
18. Kiernan attending a dedication Sept. 30, 1962
19. Photos of Owen Kiernan in newspaper giving a speech, Nov. 11, 1963
20. Program for MA Association of School Committees Inc., 1962
21. Assorted news clippings, 1963-1967
22. Write-ups involving Kiernan, "The Minuteman", 1963, 1968
23. "Harvard Graduate School of Education Association Bulletin" (Germany Revisited by Owen B. Kiernan), spring 1964
24. Jacqueline Kennedy letter thanking Kiernan for donating money to the JFK Library, July 24, 1964
25. "Golden Jubilee 'Challenge and Opportunity'" event brochure for April 21 & 22, 1965
26. "Report of the Advisory Committee on Racial Imbalance and Education" and Highlights, April 1965
27. "Because it is right-Educationally, A Report of the Advisory Committee on Racial Imbalance and Education" Part One, including letter and brief address from former Archbishop Richard Cardinal Cushing, April 1965
28. "A Tour of the United States Air Force Systems Command by the Boston Civic Group, October 17-20, 1965", Photo album given to Kiernan, 1965
29. "Summary Presentation of Massachusetts Educational Policies and Practices Regarding Freedom of Religion" delivered by Kiernan to the Public Education and Freedom of Religion Conference at the Massachusetts Council of Churches, Boston University, November 1965
30. "Attaining Minimum Standards of Excellence in Elementary and Secondary Education", address given by Kiernan, compiled in the Proceedings of the Governor's Conference on Education, January 1966

31. "A Plan for Curriculum Innovation in Massachusetts: How One State Proposes to Break the Curriculum Development Lag", co-authored by Kiernan, September 1966
32. "Why we are Building what we are Building", Jan 10, 1967
33. "Positive and Negative Effects of the Federal Presence in Education as Viewed by a State Superintendent", address by Kiernan in the Congressional Record – House, June 12, 1967
34. Congressional Record – House, June 12, 1967
35. "Increasing the Effectiveness of Federal-State Cooperation", conference with Kiernan acting as General Chairman and voicing his own thoughts, held in Washington D.C. at the Mayflower Hotel, June 1967
36. Milton Bulletin, opening remarks by Kiernan, volume 30, number 5, December 1967
37. Newspaper clippings on Kiernan's resignation as State Commissioner, February 1968
38. Booklet given to Kiernan as a gift during his trip as Commissioner of Education, May 1968
39. Editorial Broadcasts by Kiernan on WEEI590 Radio, WBZ-TV4 and WBZ103 Radio, August 1968
40. "A Study of American Education" letter to Kiernan from James B. Conant, Sept. 3, 1968
41. "Kiernan Reports on World Trip" from the *The Minuteman*, September 1968
42. *The Minuteman*, contains info on Kiernan, November 1968
43. Letter to Kiernan presenting him with "Resolution Adopted by Commission on Accreditation" letter dated Dec. 19, 1968, Resolution dated Nov. 4, 1968
44. World Trip – 1968 Ford Foundation Assignment, 1968
45. Kiernan is awarded the title "Gold Medal Educator of the 1960s", *Education* Vol. 90, September-October 1969
46. "Re our recent telephone conversation" written by Kiernan, undated

[From this point until the end of this box are all assorted photos of Kiernan]

47. Assorted photos of Kiernan, 1955-1956; White House Conference on Education, Nov. 28-Dec. 1955
48. Photo of Kiernan being sworn in as Commissioner of Education, Sept. 1, 1957
49. Assortment of photos including Kiernan, 1957
50. Assortment of Kiernan photos, 1957-1966
51. 52nd Annual Convention, American Vocational Association, Buffalo, NY, August 11-15, 1958
52. Assortment of photos of Kiernan, 1958
53. Assorted photos of Kiernan, 1959
54. Assorted photos of Kiernan, 1960
55. Assorted photos of Kiernan, 1961
56. Assorted photos of Kiernan, 1962
57. Assorted photos of Kiernan, includes photos with then-Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, 1963
58. World Tour, 1963
59. Assortment of photos of Kiernan, 1964
60. Photo of Kiernan and Lyndon B. Johnson at White House, signed by LBJ, July 30, 1964
61. Assortment of photos of Kiernan, 1965
62. Photo-Kiernan with astronaut Alan Shepard and Boston Mayor John Collins, Oct. 20, 1965
63. Assortment of photos of Kiernan, 1966

64. Photos of Governor John Volpe with Kiernan, 1966-1968
65. Assortment of photos of Kiernan, 1967
66. Miscellaneous military photos, 1957, 1965, undated
67. Assortment of photos of Kiernan, 1968
68. World Tour photos, 1968
69. Assorted photos of Kiernan, undated
70. Miscellaneous Kiernan portrait shots, undated
71. Speech by Ewald B. Nyquist titled, "The Opportunities and Obligations of Our Schools in Integrated Education," 1968
72. "The Massachusetts Parent-Teacher" with Kiernan on cover, Sept. 1964
73. Pamphlet of Lyndon B. Johnson speeches sent to Kiernan by the White House, 1967
 - Volume 1: Slides of World Tour 1968 [See Box 5, Folders 1 and 2 for World Trip publication] includes slides from the USSR, Italy, England, Japan, Thailand, Pakistan, India, Sweden, Switzerland, Holland, the Fiji Islands, Australia, the Philippines and France, 1968

Series 5: National Association of Secondary School Principals Director (NASSP), 1969-2005, undated

**Box 8
Folder**

1. "The Kiernan Years January 1, 1969- December 31, 1979", c. 1991
2. Letter (copy) from President Gerald Ford to Kiernan, March 3, 1976
3. Letter from President Gerald Ford to Kiernan, Nov. 24, 1976
4. Letter from President Jimmy Carter to Kiernan, Dec. 13, 1976
5. Letter from President Jimmy Carter to Kiernan, Feb. 17, 1977
6. Letter from President Jimmy Carter to Kiernan, April 6, 1978
7. Letter from President Jimmy Carter to Kiernan, July 6, 1979
8. Scrapbook of Kiernan's time as NASSP Secretary, March 1969 - December 1979
9. NASSP correspondence, 1969, 1979-1985, 2005
10. Documents on student & teacher militancy and unrest, March, May & June 1969
11. Pamphlet & letter announcing that Kiernan was accepted into the National Press Club. Letter dated, Jan. 27, 1970; Pamphlet dated Jan. 29, 1970
12. "Leaders in American Education 1961", by James Bryant Conant inscribed to Kiernan, April 21, 1971
13. "Financing Public Education: More than One View", April 1972
14. Copies of excerpt from "The Report of the Select Committee on Equal Educational Opportunity", December 31, 1972
15. Random news clippings involving Kiernan in the NASSP, 1973 to 1988
16. Map of NASSP headquarters in Reston, Virginia, includes staff roster, c. 1973
17. Kiernan's NASSP resume, 1979
18. NASSP Bulletin, contains the essay "Education's Role in our Nation's Progress for the Future" by Gerald R. Ford, 1976
19. Itinerary and menu from China trip, June 1978
20. "Alien's Application Form for Entry or Transit Visa", April 18, 1978

21. "Apprentice in Blacksmith's Shop 'Vocational Education'", photo taken in Chengdu, So. Central China June 1978; "College", attached to "Machine Tool Factory"; photo taken in Wuhan, China "Students assembling tape recorders", June 1978
22. Kiernan's travels across China, 1978
23. "China Mission Log", June 1979
24. "Certifying Secondary School Outcomes" report c. 1978
25. United States Senate Youth Program, February 1979
26. "Evaluation Sheet Responses", March 18-20, 1979
27. "Report on Proposed Recognition Award for Dr. Owen B. Kiernan" September 27, 1979
28. Kiernan's notes from trip to Taiwan, November 10-21, 1979
29. HM Study Program, Guide, and Manuel created by NASSP under Kiernan, 1979
30. Ode to OBK, c. 1979
31. Biographical information about Kiernan provided by NASSP, 1980
32. Letter to Owen & Esther from Scott Thompson filling them in on NASSP affairs, June 8, 1990
33. Certificate of Appreciation given to Kiernan by NASSP for 25 years of membership, December 1994
34. Letters referring to Harriet Elam's appointment to Ambassador to Senegal, 1999
35. Materials about HAA 2001 Selection Committee, 2001
36. Pamphlet of the Mission of the NASSP, undated
37. Song about Kiernan and poem about Kiernan, undated
38. Assortment of Kiernan photos, 1968
39. Assortment of Kiernan photos, 1969
40. Assortment of Kiernan photos, 1970
41. Assorted photos of Kiernan, 1971
42. Assorted photos of Kiernan, 1972
43. Assorted photos, 1973
44. Assorted photos of Kiernan, 1974
45. Assorted photos of Kiernan, 1975
46. Assortment of Kiernan, 1976
47. Photo-Kiernan and Senator Hubert Humphrey, 1976
48. Kiernan with President Ford, Bicentennial Speech, 1976
49. Assortment of Kiernan Photos, 1977
50. Assortment of Kiernan photos, 1978
51. Photographs from Kiernan's trip to China in 1978
52. Assortment of Kiernan photos, 1979
53. Assortment of Kiernan photos, 1980
54. World Tour, 1980
55. Photos of Kiernan, 1981
56. Photos of Kiernan and others, undated
57. Photo-Kiernan with former Vice President Hubert Humphrey and NASSP President Charles Fallstrom, undated
58. Original Kiernan portrait by Harris and Ewing, Washington D.C., undated
59. NASSP slides, 1969-1979
60. Piece of Great Wall of China from trip, 1978

Series 6: Congratulatory/Testimonial Material on Kiernan's Career, 1957-2002**Box 9****Folder**

1. Letter from MA Senator John F. Kennedy to Kiernan congratulating him on becoming MA Commissioner of Education, Oct. 31, 1957
2. Milton, MA Testimonial Dinner guest book when Kiernan left as Milton's Superintendent of Schools to become MA Commissioner of Education, Oct. 1957
3. Signed photograph of Dennis Day (performer on the Jack Benny Show) who performed at Kiernan's Oct. 1957 Testimonial Dinner, Oct. 1957
4. Photograph album of Kiernan's Testimonial Dinner, Oct. 1957
5. Congratulatory letter from Leo C. Donahue to Kiernan on his leadership on both the State and National levels, Sept. 26, 1965
6. Letter from United States Senator from MA, Edward W. Brooke to Kiernan, Feb. 13, 1968
7. Loose letters from Kiernan's Memorial Volume of letters from prominent people thanking him for his services as MA Commissioner of Education, 1968-1969
8. Letter from United States Senator from MA, Edward "Ted" Kennedy to Kiernan, Jan. 15, 1969
9. Program and news clippings for Kiernan's Testimonial Dinner for leaving his position as MA Commissioner of Education, Jan. 1969
10. Testimonial Dinner photograph album commemorating Kiernan's time as Commissioner of Education, 1969
11. Resolutions of the Corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on the Retirement of Owen Burns Kiernan, 1969
12. University of Massachusetts Board of Trustees Resolution of Appreciation for Kiernan, 1969
13. Unidentified guest book, June 1973
14. "The Kiernan Years: January 1, 1969 – December 31, 1979," 1979
15. Guest book for the "Reception in Honor of Owen Burns Kiernan, Executive Director, National Association of Secondary School Principals, 1969-1979," Nov. 3, 1979
16. Clamshell box filled with hundreds of letters of prominent people to Kiernan congratulating him on his retirement as the Executive Director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, 1979
17. Photograph book of Owen Kiernan's retirement party from his Executive Director position at the NASSP, Nov. 3, 1979
18. Booklet of reproduced and original photographs and correspondence celebrating Kiernan's career; booklet written by Kiernan about his family, Horace Mann, and William Bulger, 1978-2002
- Volume 1: Owen Burns Kiernan, Commissioner of Education, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1957-1968—Letters presented by his friends on the occasion of a testimonial dinner at the Boston Sheraton Hotel, Jan. 25, 1969

Series 7: Awards, 1940-2003, undated**Box 10****Folder**

1. Variety of awards, citations, certificates, etc. of Kiernan, 1944-1996
2. Assorted awards given to Kiernan when he was commissioner of Education, 1957-1967
3. Dedications Kiernan was involved with, 1960-1969
4. Random citations from high schools and colleges, 1962, 1966, undated
5. Miscellaneous awards given to Kiernan during and slightly after his time at the NASSP, 1973-1980, undated
6. Award to Kiernan from the Educational Research Service Board of Directors, 1979
7. Honorary award given to Kiernan in recognition of leadership and inspiration to the Youth of America by Phi Beta Lambda, undated

Box 11

1. NASSP appreciation award from the Mississippi Association of Secondary School Principals, March 1974
2. Distinguished Service Citation presented to Kiernan by the Massachusetts Secondary School Principals' Association, October 27, 1976
3. NASSP appreciation award from the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals, June 20, 1979
4. President's Appreciation Dinner medal, given by Bridgewater State College, 2003
5. Bridgewater State College Leadership Contributor paperweight, undated
6. 43rd National Associations of Student Councils and Student Activity Advisors Dedication Award, c. 1979
7. National Community Education Association Award recognizing Kiernan's numerous contributions to American Education, 1979
8. NASSP award for outstanding leadership and dedication to the NASC/NASAA presented by Orange County Public Schools and Winter Park High School, 1979
9. Nicholas Tillinghast Award for Outstanding Service to Public Education, presented by the Bridgewater State College Alumni Association, 1967
10. Leadership and Service dedication award presented by the NASSP Board of Directors for Kiernan's retirement, 1979
11. Award for Distinguished Service in recognition of a distinguished career presented by the National Association of Elementary School Principals, January 14, 1980
12. Citation awarded to Kiernan for outstanding cooperation and support for the annual "Flag Day Committee" presented by the United States Army consisting of the Massachusetts Bay Chapter in Boston, the Minutemen Chapter in Worcester, and the Western Massachusetts Chapter in Springfield to Kiernan, June 14, 1967
13. Plaque appointing Kiernan as a member of the National Alumni Council of Boston University, presented, and appointed by the Boston University Alumni Association, 1940

Series 8: Audio/Video Media, 1969-2009, undated**Box 12**

- Cassette, East Bay Lodge Dec 21, 1988

- Cassette, ABC's of the 80's NASSP, undated
- Cassette, 8A/Toc L./Owen K., undated
- Cassette, Fellows Program 1979; The American School: The Hope of the Future, 1979
- Cassette, Ode to OBK NASSP Staff Roast 'n Toast, undated
- Cassette, Liberty Hall Jazz Band; The Gardens Yarmouth port MA. Aug 5, 1988
- Cassette, January 29, 1995
- Cassette, Liberty Hall Jazz Band 11-5-85 AARP – Elks Club Hyannis Complete Program, 1985
- Cassette, Hold – Dupe Master, undated
- Owen Kiernan Testimonial Dinner January 25, 1969 Tape 1
- Owen Kiernan Testimonial Dinner January 25, 1969 Tape II
- Tape, dedication address at Bentley College – New Waltham Campus, Nov. 10, 1968
- VHS, Chan. 58, American Education Week interview, November 21, 1986
- VHS, NBC Documentary/Horatio Alger Awards – Wash. D.C., June 27, 1993
- VHS, LHJB BC Fair, undated
- Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney at Presidential Classroom, Feb. 22, 1991; Discovery Channel Story on PC Senator William Cohen (Maine), February 19, 1991
- VHS, OK Press Report – “Educational barmindry and Piano Virtuoso” – Hyannis Federated Church – Concerts, Dec. 4 and 5, 1998
- DVD, A Sentimental Journey Dr. Owen Kiernan, March 9, 2009
- TV Films of Kiernan from Salem State College, undated
- TV Films of Kiernan from Salem State College, undated

Series 9: Oversize Material

Folders

1. Original maquettes of cartoons featuring Kiernan (3 Items)
2. Group photos of Kiernan (7 Items)
3. Awards and certificates given to Kiernan (24 Items)
4. Presidential Autographs (3 Items)
 - 1979 group photo of Kiernan with NASSP
 - 1985 National Recognition Medal for Kiernan
 - Portrait of Kiernan as Executive Director of the NASSP