The 2017 recipient of the NYS AHPERD Distinguished Service Award is Jason Quitoni.

Jason began his career at Mamaroneck High School. Over the course of nearly thirty years, he was a physical education teacher, district department chairperson for health and physical education, and interim athletic director for Longwood Central Schools. He finished his career at Hofstra University as a physical education instructor and advisor. Jason has been an active member of NYS AHPERD for most of his career. He is a NYS AHPERD past president and was a member of the board of directors. At the Zone level Jason served as Suffolk Zone President and is a former vice president of the Secondary Physical Education Section. He currently serves as a member of the Foundation board of trustees and is co-chair of the Annual Ken Demas Future Professionals Leadership Academy. He has presented at numerous local, state and national conferences and volunteers at the NYS AHPERD annual conference. Jason was honored with the NYS AHPERD Secondary Physical Education Teacher of the Year Award, the Suffolk Zone and the Future Professionals Section Amazing Person Award, the Suffolk Zone Service Award, the Mark Cooper “Excellence in Teaching Award” and the Longwood Athletic Department Service Award. In nominating Jason for the Distinguished Service Award, his lifelong friend Ken Demas stated, “Jason’s professional contribution has been his unique style of leadership: self-deprecating, self-assured, unselfish and courageous. I include courageous because Jason gives permission to those around him to take chances, to speak up, to challenge what has been done in the past and to freely ask questions. I believe he has contributed greatly by empowering another generation of teachers and leaders. He gives of himself without reservation and with full knowledge that he serves a profession he loves.” President Wolfe, it is my honor to present to you the recipient of the 2017 Distinguished Service Award, Jason Quitoni.