

Commissioner's Update

September 13, 2010

Dear Connecticut Educator:

I have two items for you in this update.

Bureau of Special Education's Annual Back-to-School Meeting on September 20

The Bureau of Special Education will hold its seventh annual *Back-to-School Meeting* on September 20 at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell. Pupil Personnel and Special Education Directors from districts throughout the state will receive important information and updates from Bureau and Department staff. Topics covered will include information concerning general supervision responsibilities and activities, data collection, secondary transition and legislative updates. In the afternoon, there will be a session for new directors on SEDAC data as well as a session focused on secondary transition. Due to space limitations, attendance is limited to each director and one additional staff person per district.

Connecticut Family Day Focuses on Healthy Families and Healthy Communities

Families and communities play a vital role in promoting healthy outcomes for all children, and this year's Connecticut Family Day celebrations will feature events that highlight this important fact.

Family Day will be celebrated on Wednesday, September 22. The event will be held in Room 2C of the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. Physical activity and healthy nutrition are key elements to the overall health of our children and will be the featured topic.

Event highlights include the following:

- Feet, Forks and the Fate of our Families! — This event will feature Dr. David L. Katz, an international authority on nutrition, weight management, and the prevention of chronic disease and the Director of Yale University's Prevention Research Center.
- "Connecticut Grown" Success Story — A panel presentation featuring HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut's Community Health Action Response Team and the successful collaboration with Plainfield Public Schools and Day Kimball Healthcare. Plainfield Public Schools is the recent recipient of a Silver Award from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation.
- Students Taking Charge — Austin Nunes, a senior at Berlin High School, is the grand-prize winner of the Connecticut Action for Healthy Kids video contest. Audience members will have an opportunity to see his video, hear about what is happening at his school and ask him questions.
- Resource Reception — Immediately following the program a Resource Reception, featuring CT Grown produce, will be held in the Second Floor Atrium, Connecticut's Hall of Fame

To register for this event, go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MR6ZKGP>. To get ideas for planning a Family Day event in your community or to learn more about Connecticut Family Day, visit <http://www.ctfamilyday.org/ctfamilyday/site/default.asp>.

Sincerely,

Mark K. McQuillan
Commissioner of Education