

Commissioner Update

June 8, 2009

Dear Connecticut Educator:

I have one item for you in this update.

Healthy Food Certification Statements Are Due By July 1

Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes requires that **all Connecticut public school districts participating in the National School Lunch Program** must take action to certify whether all food items sold to students will or will not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards. This includes all regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical High School System, charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools and endowed academies.

All eligible school districts, as indicated above, must complete the Healthy Food Certification Statement (ED-099 Addendum), which requires action by the local board of education or governing authority. The Healthy Food Certification Statement must be returned to the Connecticut State Department of Education by **Wednesday, July 1, 2009**. Districts that opt to implement healthy food certification (HFC) also must return the District Contact and Information Sheet.

For the 2009-10 school year, the HFC period is July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. The Healthy Food Certification Statement and application materials were mailed to all eligible school districts in November 2008 and a reminder notice was sent to all superintendents in March 2009.

Application materials are available online at

<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2626&q=320754#Standards> (scroll down to Healthy Food Certification Application Forms for 2009-2010).

Additional information on the requirements for HFC and the Connecticut Nutrition Standards can be found online at the above Web site link or by contacting Susan Fiore at 860-807-2075 or susan.fiore@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark K. McQuillan
Commissioner of Education