

## Commissioner's Update

September 28, 2009

Dear Connecticut Educator:

I have two items for you in this update.

### **Incorporating options for feeding students during an H1N1 outbreak**

As you continue planning around potential H1N1 outbreaks this coming school year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has provided guidance outlining how schools and community organizations may continue to provide reimbursable meals to low-income children during school closures related to the H1N1 influenza virus. The memoranda can be found [http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/Policy-Memos/2009/SP\\_31-2009\\_os.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/Policy-Memos/2009/SP_31-2009_os.pdf) and [http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/Policy-Memos/2009/SP\\_33-2009\\_os.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/Policy-Memos/2009/SP_33-2009_os.pdf).

In addition, please see the following letter from U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Thomas Vilsack regarding the guidance outlined in this update:

[http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/Commish/Joint\\_letter\\_to\\_Educators\\_H1N1.pdf](http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/Commish/Joint_letter_to_Educators_H1N1.pdf)

For additional information, please contact the Department's Child Nutrition Unit at 860-807-2072.

### **Dates for 2009-10 physical fitness test announced**

Administration of the 2009-10 Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA) is now under way. The CPFA is being administered from September 21 through November 13 to most students in Grades 4, 6, 8 and 10.

Several improvements to the CPFA have been made to increase the validity and reliability of results, as well as to make administration easier. Please encourage your staff to be diligent in maintaining the integrity and authenticity of the testing process for data to be reliable.

Every physical education teacher responsible for administering the test should have a copy of the new *Test Administrator's Manual: The Third Generation Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment*. The manual and additional materials are available at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2618&q=320980>.

For additional information, go to [http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/Commish/2009\\_10\\_Physical\\_Assessment\\_Program\\_Changes\\_In\\_PF\\_Assessment.pdf](http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/Commish/2009_10_Physical_Assessment_Program_Changes_In_PF_Assessment.pdf)

Sincerely,

Mark K. McQuillan  
Commissioner of Education