



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



January 2010

Dear Certified Trainer:

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is pleased to present the first edition of the *CALI Quarter*, an informational newsletter for certified trainers. This newsletter is designed to provide you with updated information and valuable resources regarding the Connecticut Accountability for Learning Initiative (CALI).

For the past five years, CALI has been the organizing force behind district's continuous improvement efforts. Professional development and technical assistance is a central part of the initiative and builds upon the outstanding work already done by educators in closing Connecticut's achievement gaps. We know that although we have made progress in closing these gaps, there is much work to be done. As a certified CALI trainer, you play a crucial role in supporting this work and building the department's capacity to provide quality professional development and technical assistance. We welcome your suggestions for how we can continue to provide you with the resources necessary to strengthen your abilities as a trainer. Please e-mail your suggestions to Iris White, Education Consultant, Bureau of Accountability and Improvement, at iris.white@ct.gov.

Thank you for reading and best regards for a happy and healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. McQuillan".

Mark K. McQuillan
Commissioner of Education

**CALI Quarter
January 2010
Volume I**

I. Bureau of Accountability and Improvement Update

Iris White, Associate Education Consultant

iris.white@ct.gov

860-713-6794

New Bureau Website

The Bureau of Accountability and Improvement has a new website, which includes information about the work of the bureau to support CALI, including Multicultural Education, English Language Learners and No Child Left Behind.

<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2700&Q=322192>.

CALI Information and Resources: Materials from statewide CALI trainings are available on the CSDE website www.ct.gov/sde/CALI. These materials include the CALI Glossary, which has been revised to include language consistent with SRBI (Scientific Research Based Interventions).

Standards for School Data Teams: The Bureau has developed a rubric to articulate the components of an exemplary school data team. The standards can be accessed at:

<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2618&q=321744>.

Data Showcase: 5th Annual Connecticut Data Showcase: Stories of Success: Closing the Achievement Gap, April 28 and 29, 2010, Holiday Inn, Waterbury. Registration will be available after February 1 at <http://registereastconn.org/ds>.

Summer Certification Training: The following certification training has been scheduled for summer 2010. Registration will be available in April at www.sdecali.net.

Effective Teaching Strategies (ETS)

August 14-16, 2010

CES, Trumbull

Online Report Form for Basic Trainings: The Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Accountability and Improvement, is interested in compiling a complete and accurate picture of the effect of professional development made available through the CALI. The database also needs to be updated to allow participants to register for certification training in a timely fashion. Therefore, all educators who complete basic training in any of the modules must be reported to a central data repository.

All training completion must be reported using a new online tool available through sdecali.net. Any staff member may enter this report. The report tool is available at <http://sdecali.net/upload>. For technical questions regarding the report form, please contact Michael Mahony at mmahony@eastconn.org.

II. Module Updates:

Data Driven Decision Making (Decision Making for Results): The Leadership and Learning Center has updated the speaker's notes in *Decision Making for Results*, Slide #7. Several of the research links were no longer active. We were able to either update the links or find similar research articles to support the importance of using data to drive improvement. If you did not access this update on the Center's recent blog posting, please visit: <http://www.thecentercertifiedtrainers.blogspot.com> to update the slide. We will also post the revised presentation and e-mail all of our Data certified trainers with the link to access the presentation.

Effective Teaching Strategies (ETS): A follow up for ETS Certified Trainers will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2010, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. at CREC, Hartford. The purpose of this session is to provide trainers with an opportunity to share successes and challenges and receive updates on training materials. Registration is available at: www.sdecali.net.

Making Standards Work/Engaging Classroom Assessments (MSW/ECA): Earlier this year, the Leadership and Learning Center update the MSW seminar, titled "Engaging Classroom Assessments." All MSW certified trainers (with current license agreements) should have received a link to download the presentation. If you did not receive that e-mail or did not access the new presentation, please e-mail Lisa Almeida at lalmeida@leadandlearn.com and he will be happy to send you the link.

III. Leadership and Learning Center Update

Lisa Almeida
Senior Director Professional Certification
The Leadership and Learning Center
1.866.399.6019, ext 209
lalmeida@leadandlearn.com

A. The Trainer's Edge is the newsletter designed exclusively for you. We want to share your successes with other certified trainers. If you would like to be featured in a future newsletter, please let me know. I would be delighted to learn about your experience and successes and feature you in an upcoming edition.

If you missed any of the issues, you can download them with these links:

Issue 1 – February 2009

<http://www.leadandlearn.com/CertifiedTrainer/TrainersEdge-Issue1.pdf>

Issue 2 – May 2009

<http://www.leadandlearn.com/CertifiedTrainer/TrainersEdge-Issue2.pdf>

Issue 3 – July 2009

<http://www.leadandlearn.com/CertifiedTrainer/TrainersEdge-Issue3.pdf>

B. Sign-in sheets

We would like to share the latest research from The Center with the participants in the seminars that you deliver. To assist in this effort, we have created a sign-in sheet that we would like you to use when you present the content in which you are certified. Since you all represent The Center family, we want to support your colleagues as well. Please use this sheet and send it back to me so we can communicate with your colleagues. The sign-in sheet can be found at: <https://www.leadandlearn.com/ct>

The State of Connecticut Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons and does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws. Inquiries regarding the Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the Affirmative Action Administrator, State of Connecticut Department of Education, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, Connecticut 06145, 860-807-2071.