



School Governance Council Update

March 8, 2012

In This Issue

How to Attend Topical Networking Session 1 on the Freedom of Information Act: March 20, 2012

Save the Dates

- Topical Networking Session 2: April 23, 2012
- Topical Networking Session 3: May 13, 2012

Request for Information: Please Respond for Your School

Statewide Conference on School-Family-Community Partnerships: May 9, 2012

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Web page for School Governance Councils

<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/SGC>

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) communicates periodically with School Governance Councils through the Update in order to provide information on new policies and training opportunities, and to solicit feedback from councils.

REGISTER NOW

Topical Networking Sessions for Councils

CSDE is working the Connecticut Parent Information and Resource Center (CT PIRC) and the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) to host informational networking meetings for councils this spring.

Session 1: Everything You Always Wanted to Know about the Freedom of Information Act



- ✓ *Does your council have questions about the Open Meetings Act?*
- ✓ *Have you wondered if your meeting agendas should be sent to the town hall? to the state?*
- ✓ *When does email between council members constitute a "meeting"?*

School Governance Councils, as publically elected bodies, are required to follow the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. Come and learn more about this important public access law and how it applies to School Governance Councils.

March 20, 2012

Registration 5:30 p.m. ♦ Program 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Featured speakers:

Thomas Hennick, Public Education Officer at the Freedom of Information Commission.

Patrice McCarthy, Deputy Director and General Counsel at the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education

Agenda:

5:30

Registration and refreshments

6:00 - 7:00

Presentation on Freedom of Information Act

7:00 to 7:30.

Facilitated discussion with members of councils from across CT

Three Ways to Participate

1 Attend The Session in Person

The topical networking session for School Governance Council members will take place at:

Rensselaer at Hartford

275 Windsor Street, Hartford, CT 06120

Note: Directions will be sent to you when you register.

To attend in person, you must register.

Please click on the following link or copy and paste into your Web browser:

<http://ctserc.info/info.php?id=285> .

Note about registering: You will need a SERC member number to register. If you are not sure if you are a SERC member or have never been to a SERC session, call Lauren D. Jones at (860) 632-1485 ext. 256 to get a SERC number.

If you know your SERC member number and have already created a username, please log in and register. If you know your SERC member number, but have not used the online registration, please click “Create an Account” at the top of the page to set up an Online Member User Account. Once your account has been set up, you may submit applications online, manage your member profile, and track your enrollment status in professional development activities. Click “SERC Policy” for additional information about CEUs, an Inclement Weather Advisory, and Workshop Cancellation.

For questions regarding registration please contact: Lauren D. Jones, Education Services Specialist, at (860) 632-1485, ext. 256 or ljones@ctserc.org, or Holly King, Unit Coordinator, at (860) 632-1485, ext. 242 or king@ctserc.org.

2 Live Stream and Watch on Your Computer

If you are unable to attend the session in person, you can watch it in “real time” on your computer. If you are interested in viewing the live stream of the session, please contact Lauren D. Jones, Education Services Specialist, at (860) 632-1485, ext. 256 or ljones@ctserc.org and provide your name, phone number, and email address. Live streaming log-in instructions will be forwarded to you prior to the event.

Please note, only the presentation on the Freedom of Information Act will be broadcast. We are not able to televise or record the facilitated discussion following the presentation.

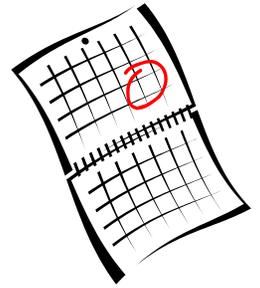
3 Watch Later on the Internet

The session will be recorded and available to watch at your convenience on the Internet approximately two weeks after the actual session. Information on the location of the Web site will be sent to schools.

Materials from all sessions will be available on the CSDE web site approximately two weeks after the actual session.

Consider watching with other members as part of a council meeting.

Save the Dates – Networking Sessions in April & May



Future topical networking sessions will also be held on:

April 23, 2012

May 15, 2012

Registration 5:30 p.m. ♦ Program 6:00 to 7:30

More information on these events will be sent shortly.

Request for Information: Please Respond Now if You Haven't Already

*If your school has already completed the short on-line survey, Thank You!
If your school has not responded, please do so now.*

The CT State Department of Education (CSDE) has been asked to report on the number of School Governance Council members who have participated in training programs related to parent or civic leadership. In order to prepare this report, we are asking councils to complete a **short** survey.

The survey asks each school to report on the number of council members who have participated in:

- The Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI)
- Parents Seeking Educational Excellence (Parent SEE)
- People Empowering People (PEP)
- Aspira's Parents for Excellence (APEX) Program
- Other models of parent leadership (please list program name)

Please go to this link to complete the survey:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dEtIV3NERlIDaok1LWpBNkwyZU9PSnc6MQ>

Only one response to the survey is needed from the school; not a separate response from each member.

SPACE IS LIMITED - REGISTER NOW

Statewide Conference on May 9, 2012 School-Family-Community Partnerships

A key role for School Governance Councils is to assist their school in building school-family-community partnerships for student success. Join us on May 9, 2012 to learn

about successful family engagement strategies from two national leaders.

At this day-long activity, Dr. Joyce Epstein and Dr. Mavis Sanders, nationally recognized researchers, authors, and teachers, will share successful school-created strategies from their new book, *Multicultural Partnerships: Involve All Families*.

Multicultural Partnerships: Engage All Families

National Presenters



Joyce Epstein, Ph.D. Director
Center on School, Family, and Community
Partnerships and the National Network of
Partnership Schools (NNPS)
Johns Hopkins University



Mavis Sanders, Ph.D. Professor of
Education
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

For more details and registration information go to: <http://bit.ly/zM4tzQ>
Presented by the CT State Department of Education (CSDE) and the CT Parent
Information and Resource Center (CT PIRC)
