



Commissioner's Back-to-School Meeting

Connecticut State Department of Education | August 15, 2017
www.ct.gov/sde/backtoschool

2017–18 Academic Office Professional Learning Opportunities

The Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) Academic Office provides guidance and leadership regarding legislated educational mandates to help local education agencies (LEAs) prepare students to succeed in college, careers, and civic life. Find more professional learning opportunities posted on the CSDE Academic website (www.ct.gov/sde/AcademicOffice).

Professional Learning Opportunities

ReadConn: *Only a few team openings available!*

Don't miss out on this amazing professional learning opportunity! Register your school-based teams at <http://surveys.pcgus.com/s3/READCONN-Registration>. ReadConn is designed to support the implementation of the Connecticut Core Standards (CCS) in English Language Arts: Foundational Skills regardless of instructional approach. School-based teams will have their learning supported through online modules, face-to-face events, virtual coaching, and webinars. ReadConn was developed to increase knowledge and expertise in spotting student skills gaps, leading direct foundational skill instruction, and monitoring students' progress. For more information, contact Joanne White at joanne.white@ct.gov.

CCS Online Learning Modules: *Anytime, anywhere access!*

The CSDE, in collaboration with Public Consulting Group (PCG), offers access to online professional learning focusing on the CCS. Module topics include: Focus on Content Standards (K-5 and 6-12), Focus on Practice Standards (K-5 and 6-12), Focus on Instructional Shifts in ELA, Focus on ELA and Literacy Instruction, Supporting Connecticut Core Standards Success for ALL Students, CCS Mathematics Success for Students with Disabilities, and CCS Success for English Learners. To register, please visit <http://surveys.pcgus.com/s3/connecticut-core-standards-online-course-registration>.

Connecticut Career and Technology Education (CTE): *Save the date!*

The Annual CTE Conference will be occurring on November 29, 2017, at the Sheraton Hartford South in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. The conference is designed to support secondary and postsecondary career and technical educators, administrators, and counselors. Registration opens in mid-September. For more information, contact Suzanne Loud at suzanne.loud@ct.gov and Harold Mackin at harold.mackin@ct.gov.

English Learners (ELs): *Robust professional learning plan!*

A robust professional learning plan is in development for 2017-18, including a kick-off event, webinars, web-based modules, and a series of topically based professional learning. Sessions will be developed with diverse stakeholders in mind to provide a range of options for general education teachers, TESOL and bilingual teachers, administrators, and parents and families. For more information, contact Megan Alubicki Flick at megan.alubicki@ct.gov.

continued

Mathematics: *Argumentation Modules!*

The Bridging Practices among CT Mathematics Educators website (<http://teachers.bridges.education.uconn.edu/>) was developed using Mathematics and Science Partnership (MSP) grant funds and is designed to enhance teachers' understanding of mathematical argumentation. This site contains argumentation professional learning modules and tools. For more information, contact Jennifer Michalek at jennifer.michalek@ct.gov.

Mathematics and Science Partnership Conference: *Innovative work!*

The CSDE in partnership with the RESC Alliance is sponsoring an MSP conference designed to spotlight STEM and increase K-12 student achievement in mathematics and science. The conference is scheduled for September 27, 2017. For more information, contact Jennifer Michalek at jennifer.michalek@ct.gov and Ron Michaels at ronald.michaels@ct.gov.

Science: *No-cost, web-based, self-paced modules!*

Next Generation Science-CT (<http://ngss.ccat.us/>) offers modules that provide an introduction to Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and a broad overview of the changes to science teaching and learning as envisioned in the *Framework for K-12 Science Education* (National Research Council, 2012). For more information, contact Ron Michaels at ronald.michaels@ct.gov.

Social Studies: *Webinar series coming this fall!*

The CSDE will host a webinar series on the following topics: veterans and veteran's history, labor history and free market capitalism in Connecticut, World War I and its impact on Connecticut, and Armenian Genocide. For more information, contact Stephen Armstrong at stephen.armstrong@ct.gov.

Grant Management System (Titles I, II, III, and State Bilingual Grants): *Web based!*

The CSDE has implemented a new system to reduce the burden placed on LEAs when applying for grant funding, while at the same time ensuring funds are spent in accordance with federal and state guidelines. The grant application component automates the program submission and review processes allowing LEAs to enter budget data and define program-specific activities. For more information, contact Marlene Padernacht (Title I) at marlene.padernacht@ct.gov, Jim Dargati (Title II) at james.dargati@ct.gov, and Megan Alubicki Flick (Title III and State Bilingual Grants) at megan.alubicki@ct.gov.