



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell
Commissioner of Education

DATE: June 15, 2017

SUBJECT: Gifted and Talented Education: Survey of Identification and Service Practices

Public Act 17-82 requires that by January 1, 2018, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) will develop and disseminate guidelines regarding the provision of services to gifted and talented students in schools. Such guidelines are expected to include best practices for: (1) addressing the intellectual, social and emotional needs of gifted and talented students; (2) using technology to extend and advance curriculum materials; and (3) providing educator training and professional development.

CSDE wants these guidelines to be informed by current practices in Connecticut's public schools. Unfortunately, the information we possess is nearly a decade old. Therefore, to assemble the most current information of public school practices regarding the identification of gifted and talented students and the services provided to them, the CSDE is partnering with researchers from the National Center for Research on Gifted Education at the University of Connecticut to conduct a survey. This survey is customized for Connecticut, but is modeled after a national survey so as to provide important comparative information. The results from this survey will enable the CSDE not only to share information with districts, parents, legislators, and policy makers, but also to work collaboratively to develop the guidelines required by this statute.

Please look for an email in the coming days with a link to the survey and pass that along to the appropriate person in your district. We expect that the survey will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. We are asking that districts respond to this survey by **Friday, July 21, 2017**.

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Dr. Gil Andrada by phone at 860-713-6883 or via email at Gilbert.Andrada@ct.gov.

Thank you.

cc: Ajit Gopalakrishnan, Chief Performance Officer