

DR. DIANNA R. WENTZELL. COMMISSIONER

For Immediate Release:

December 9, 2015

Contact: Abbe Smith 860.713.6525

## CT Education Commissioner Wentzell Issues Statement following Senate Passage of Every Student Succeeds Act

"Under Governor Malloy's leadership, Connecticut has been ahead of the curve in developing a holistic school accountability system and working collaboratively with teachers to strengthen classroom instruction. We are pleased that the Every Student Succeeds Act maintains a focus on ensuring high expectations for all kids and creating equitable access to high-quality education. We are closely reviewing the new legislation to see what this would mean for Connecticut should the President sign it into law.

In particular, we wish to thank Senator Murphy, who has been strong and steadfast advocate for a law that reflects an accountability system that matches Connecticut's vision for equity and excellence. We also want to thank Congressman Courtney for his support of the reauthorization bill. With record high graduation rates and students who are among the top readers in the country, Connecticut is making real progress and is committed to further strengthening our education system so that all Connecticut children have access to the kind of education that prepares them for success in college, career and life.

Moving forward, we will continue working collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure Connecticut maintains momentum and continues to be a national leader in meaningful and impactful school improvement."

###

**CONTACT:** Abbe Smith, Director of Communications

Connecticut State Department of Education

Phone: 860-713-6525 Mobile: 860-381-7096 Email: Abbe.Smith@ct.gov