



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



March 3, 2021

Dear Superintendents,

As a result of Dr. Cardona's confirmation by the United States Senate, I have been recommended by the State Board of Education to serve as the Acting Commissioner of the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), and Governor Lamont has appointed me to the position. Throughout my long career with the CSDE, I have valued and appreciated your leadership within the school communities you serve. I have enjoyed longstanding working relationships with many of you, and I look forward to our continued collaboration during this time to make sure that our students are afforded the best access to in-person education in the safest environment possible.

I am committed to ongoing collaboration with the Department of Public Health and other state agencies in order to provide you with continued guidance and technical assistance to advance equity, accelerate learning, and ensure the health and safety of school communities. Please know that your colleagues here at the Department thank you for your service to our students, schools, and community partners and stand ready to offer you additional supports. I look forward to our ongoing partnership as I step into this new role and ask that we continue to remain student-centered in all of our thoughts and decision making.

Be safe and be well,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charlene M. Russell-Tucker".

Charlene M. Russell-Tucker
Acting Commissioner of Education