

Series 2003-2004
Circular Letter: C-13

TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Theodore S. Sergi
Commissioner of Education

DATE: August 29, 2003

SUBJECT: Local Graduation Competency Requirements – Update

As you know, by September 1, 2002, you were responsible for having your local district adopt graduation requirements for the class of 2006 which specify the basic skills necessary for graduation and include a process to assess the student's level of competency in those skills. Over the past two years, we have worked with individual school districts and through the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) to help you develop these competencies and discuss the issues related to the implementation of the requirements for the class of 2006. Our website (www.state.ct.us/sde/) contains an array of examples from 14 districts showing how each district met the requirement.

As we move toward the implementation year of 2006, there are a number of activities we are planning to assist you:

1. We are requesting a copy of your most recent approved graduation requirements from each of you and will select a number of them as strong examples to be posted on our website.
2. In cooperation with CAS, we will be running a number of meetings on selected implementation issues related to this requirement.
3. The Bureau of Curriculum and Instruction will be contacting a number of your districts to help us create further written materials that will assist you in meeting the requirements of this legislation.

To begin our work this year, I ask that you send a copy of your approved graduation competencies and any other related documents you wish to share with us to:

Dr. Betty J. Sternberg, Associate Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning
P.O. Box 2219
Hartford, CT 06145

no later than **September 26, 2003**. Or you can send them via e-mail at betty.sternberg@po.state.ct.us

Thank you for your attention to this important initiative.

TSS:bsb