

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Hartford, Connecticut

Series: 2007-2008  
Circular Letter: C-3

TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Mark K. McQuillan  
Commissioner of Education

DATE: August 8, 2007

SUBJECT: Fall Kindergarten Entrance Inventory

The 2007 amendment of Connecticut General Statute Section 10-14n requires the Commissioner of Education to assess the “*preparedness of students entering kindergarten*” in the fall of the kindergarten year<sup>1</sup>. To meet this requirement, CSDE will administer the Fall Kindergarten Entrance Inventory in mid-October 2007. All kindergarten teachers in the state are required to provide ratings on each of their students via a secure online tool between October 15 and October 31, 2007. Your support, along with the support of elementary school principals in your district, is vital for this important data collection to be successful and for the requirements of the legislation to be satisfied.

To facilitate the administration process I ask that you designate a contact person in your district to work with the Department’s Bureau of Student Assessment, similar to the current CMT/CAPT District Test Coordinator position. I am attaching a form to this letter requesting the name and contact information of the person in your district who will be responsible for this task. Please return this electronic form by September 15, 2007, to Karen Adesso, Bureau of Student Assessment, at [karen.addesso@ct.gov](mailto:karen.addesso@ct.gov).

In addition, this administration relies on the updated student registration file in the Public School Information System (PSIS). The “summer rollup” process should be completed by September 15, 2007. If not completed on time, kindergarten teachers will need to manually enter the name and date of birth of all of their students, prior to submitting any assessment data.

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<sup>1</sup> “(h) Within available appropriations, the Commissioner of Education shall, not later than October 1, 2007, develop and implement a state-wide developmentally appropriate kindergarten assessment tool that measure a child’s level of preparedness for kindergarten, but shall not be used as a measurement tool for program accountability pursuant to section 10-16s, as amended by this act.”

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The Fall Kindergarten Entrance Inventory is designed to provide a statewide snapshot of the skills of students who are new to kindergarten, based on teachers' observations of the students in their classes. The Inventory has been aligned to the *Connecticut Preschool Curriculum Framework*. The skills and behaviors to be measured have been reviewed by a committee of preschool and kindergarten teachers, including special education and ELL teachers, as appropriate for students at the beginning of the kindergarten year. The skills are categorized into six domains: language, literacy, numeracy, physical/motor, creative/aesthetic and personal/social skills. Teachers will categorize their students into three performance levels.

Thank you for your assistance in this effort. To have an accurate baseline of the skills students can demonstrate at the beginning of kindergarten, we need to have 100 percent participation. This information is critical to address the mandate from the legislature. I appreciate your support and look forward to sharing the results of the Fall Kindergarten Entrance Inventory with you.

If you have any questions about the administration process or the inventory, you may contact Karen Adesso, Bureau of Student Assessment at the Connecticut State Department of Education, at 860-713-6827 or at [karen.adesso@ct.gov](mailto:karen.adesso@ct.gov).

MKM:ka

Attachment: Designated Kindergarten Inventory District Coordinator Form

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## KINDERGARTEN INVENTORY DISTRICT COORDINATOR

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Please provide the contact information of the Kindergarten Inventory Coordinator for your district. Please contact Karen Adesso, Program Manager, with any questions at 860-713-6827 or at [karen.adesso@ct.gov](mailto:karen.adesso@ct.gov).

District:

Kindergarten Inventory Coordinator:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Mailing Address: