



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools
Superintendents of Unified School Districts
Directors of Public Charter Schools
Directors of Approved Private Special Education Programs
Executive Directors of Regional Educational Service Centers

FROM: Dr. Shuana K. Tucker, Chief Talent Officer
Talent Office

DATE: September 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Resources to Implement the Flexibilities within the *CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation 2017 (Guidelines 2017)* and Adopting the Flexibilities for the 2021-22 School Year

On June 2, 2021, the State Board of Education (SBE) approved the [Educator Evaluation and Support 2022 \(EES 2022\) Council's](#) recommendation to adopt the [Flexibilities for Implementing the Guidelines 2017 for the 2021-22 School Year \(Flexibilities 2021-22\)](#) for district implementation during the 2021-22 school year. As stated in [Commissioner Russell-Tucker's memo on June 9, 2021](#), the Flexibilities 2021-22 prioritize a balanced approach to support educators, staff, and students and prioritizes the need to focus on:

- Social-emotional learning and overall well-being of students, staff, and educators;
- Equitable learning opportunities for all students;
- Culturally responsive teaching and learning practices;
- Academic achievement; and
- Engagement with families.

Resources Aligned to Flexibilities 2021-22

As districts prepare to meet with Professional Development and Evaluation Committees (PDEC), resources to support teachers, administrators, and evaluators are located on the [CSDE Talent Office Website](#). These resources, aligned to the Flexibilities 2021-22, include but are not limited to:

- Template PowerPoint outlining and highlighting the changes within Flexibilities 2021-22 for districts to share with the PDEC and other stakeholders;
- Strategies and resources that support social-emotional learning aligned to educator evaluation;
- Strategies and resources that support educator evaluation implementation;
- Sample student learning objectives by content area; and
- Dates and registration information for evaluator training.

Adopting the Flexibilities 2021-22

Local education agencies (LEAs) that choose to adopt these Flexibilities must do so through the mutual-agreement process of the PDEC and the local board of education. The Flexibilities 2021-22 are to be adopted in their entirety for the school year. LEAs should follow their most recently approved CSDE educator evaluation and support plan (EESP) for all other areas of the *Guidelines 2017* not described in the Flexibilities 2021-22.

The PDEC must determine, through mutual agreement with the local board of education, whether to adopt the Flexibilities for the 2021-22 school year or continue with their most recent CSDE-approved EESP.

Submitting to Adopt Flexibilities 2021-22 or an Amendment Request

LEAs intending to adopt the Flexibilities for the 2021-22 school year or submit a request for an amendment to their most recent CSDE-approved EESP should complete the [EESP checklist](#) prior to **October 1, 2021**. Upon receiving CSDE approval, state statute requires the amended plan be adopted by your local or regional board of education.

Contact the CSDE consultant assigned to your region to discuss questions from your PDEC.

- *Sharon Fuller*- sharon.fuller@ct.gov – (CES, EDADVANCE, LEARN)
- *Kimberly Audet*- kimberly.audet@ct.gov – (ACES, CREC, EASTCONN)

Thank you for your continued commitment to the evaluation and support of Connecticut's educators.

SKT:ka