Welcome
Connecticut School Discipline Collaborative
Virtual Meeting and Webinar
June 16, 2020
“We are confronted with the urgency of now...This may well be mankind’s last chance to choose between chaos or community.”

THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING
Reminders for Questions

• Please share your name and the organization you represent.

• Please remember:
  – Please ensure that your volume/speaker is on.
  – Please **Mute** mic when not speaking.
  – Please **Unmute** mic to speak when called on by Facilitator.
  – Monitor time to ensure all perspectives are heard.
Agenda Overview

• Opening & Welcome

• Deputy Commissioner Updates for the Collaborative

• Webinar: Schooling for Critical Consciousness

• Question & Answers

• Wrap Up and Next Steps
Welcome and Introduction
Charlene Russell-Tucker, Deputy Commissioner
Connecticut School Discipline Collaborative

Overarching Goal:
• To advise the Commissioner of Education and State Board of Education on strategies for transforming school discipline in Connecticut.

Outcome:
• To reduce the overall and disproportionate use of exclusionary discipline in Connecticut schools.
Meeting Objectives for Today

• To review the State Level Priorities during COVID-19 Pandemic with an equity focus.

• To provide updates for the School Discipline Collaborative.

• To introduce the research behind “Schooling for Critical Consciousness.”
A Special Thank You

Thank you to the School Discipline Collaborative for your unwavering support:

• *Your dedication and commitment to Connecticut’s children.*
A Reflection on Our Work Together

Milestones

- Launch of the Connecticut School Discipline Collaborative – Deep Dive: Race in Education & CT Discipline Data
- Provided Input on State Board Draft Position Statement & October Feedback Informed State Discipline Report
- State Board Adoption of Position Statement & Presentation and Release of School Discipline Report
- Second Meeting of the School Discipline Collaborative - Deep Dive: Local Districts’ Presentations

October 2018  December 2018  February 2019
A Reflection on Our Work Together

Milestones

- School Discipline Collaborative Participation in the Dismantling Systemic Racism Conference
- Fourth Meeting of the School Discipline Collaborative – Commissioner Cardona’s Vision & Student Voice
- Input on development of Family Guides on Suspension/Expulsions

April 2019  May 2019  November 2019  January 2020
A Reflection on Our Work Together

Milestones

Fifth meeting of the School Discipline Collaborative-Commissioner Cardona’s state level priorities & insight on critical consciousness in schools.

June 2020
Updates for the Collaborative
Charlene Russell-Tucker, Deputy Commissioner
Updates for the Collaborative

• **School Discipline Report** released on February 20, 2020

• Developed Professional Support Webinar Series for Families and Educators:
  – Providing social-emotional supports and resources to families during COVID-19
  – Hearing student’s voices during COVID19 on distance learning
  – Providing social-emotional support on self-care to mental health providers during COVID19
  – Grief supports for the school community

• Resources to Support Student Learning During School Closures Due to COVID-19 - [COVID-19 Resources for Families and Educators](#)

• Support for Students with Special Needs
School Discipline Emerging Trends
Suspension Rates by Race and Gender, 2018-19

- Males are suspended / expelled at substantially higher rates than females.
- Black/African American females are nearly five times as likely, and Hispanic/Latina females are more than three times as likely as white females to receive a suspension or expulsion.
Among females, within all district types, Black/African Americans have the highest suspension rates.

In Alliance Districts, non-Alliance local districts, Endowed Academies, and RESCs, Black/African and Hispanic/Latina females receive suspensions / expulsions at disproportionately higher rates than White females i.e., Relative Risk Index is greater than 2.0 for both groups.
Coming Soon! Family Guides Update
John D. Frassinelli, Division Director
Webinar: Schooling for Critical Consciousness

Dr. Daren Graves, Professor, Simmons University
Dr. Scott Seider, Associate Professor, Boston College
Wrap Up and Next Steps
Thank you

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