



NEWS

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DR. DIANNA R. WENTZELL, COMMISSIONER

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State Board of Education Approves Five-Year Comprehensive Plan Aimed at Ensuring Equity and Excellence in Education

(HARTFORD, CT)—The Connecticut State Board of Education on Wednesday voted to approve its five-year comprehensive plan, *Ensuring Equity and Excellence for All Connecticut Students*, an action that paves the way for deeper, more targeted support of local public school districts toward the goal of providing an outstanding education for every child in the state.

The State Board of Education is charged with developing and releasing a comprehensive master plan for education in Connecticut. This blueprint sets forth the state’s vision for education and provides a direction for policy considerations and administrative actions for the next five years that are designed to ensure that every student succeeds within that culture of high expectations.

The plan can be accessed here: [*Ensuring Equity and Excellence for All Connecticut Students*](#).

“All Connecticut children deserve a high-quality education that empowers them to achieve success in college, career and civic life. This plan serves as Connecticut’s blueprint for transforming that vision into reality,” said State Board of Education Vice Chairperson Theresa Hopkins-Staten. “I look forward to the work ahead and collaboration among many partners toward the goal of ensuring every student – regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, income, or disability status – has access to an outstanding education.”

“When we set high expectations for our students, they rise to that challenge. This comprehensive plan sets high expectations for Connecticut as we maintain a laser-sharp focus on improving the quality of education in our state so that every students has the tools and knowledge to succeed in life,” said Education Commissioner Dianna R. Wentzell. “I thank the Board for their work and all of the thousands of parents, educators, community partners and advocates who contributed important ideas that helped make this plan a guiding document that reflects the hopes and aspirations we all have for our children.”

As part of the planning process, the State Board of Education and Commissioner Wentzell recommitted to their ongoing efforts to pursue both excellence and equity for all Connecticut’s students. A team of professionals representing all six of Connecticut’s regional educational service centers was convened and asked to help the board design a strategic plan that would achieve this goal over the next five years.

The process for developing the plan involved engagement of a wide range of stakeholders, including members of the public and 46 focus groups. The board received feedback and more than 15,000 comments from over 6,700 respondents who took an online survey that sought to gain insight and perspective about the aspirations, challenges and concerns pertaining to education in Connecticut. The feedback received during this process helped inform and provide direction in the development of this five-year comprehensive plan.

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