CT Literacy Conference

Creating Stronger Literacy Outcomes Together

CONNECTICUT Education

CENTRAL SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

UCONN NEAG SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

CT Literacy Conference

Welcome!

Dr. Dena Mortensen
Central Connecticut State University

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CT Literacy Conference Chairs



Dr. Dena Mortensen
Central Connecticut State University
Department of Literacy, Elementary, and Early Childhood Education
Assistant Professor of Literacy
Director, The Literacy Center



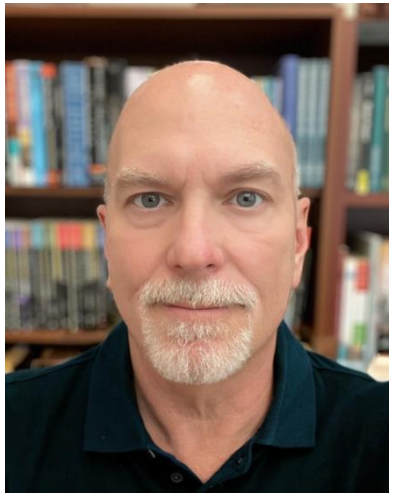
Dr. Michael Coyne
University of Connecticut, NEAG School of Education
Professor, Educational Psychology
Co-Director, Center for Behavioral Education and Research (CBER)



Dr. Melissa K. Hickey
Director of the Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success, Connecticut State Department of Education

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Welcome to the Literacy Conference!



Dr. John Tully
Interim Dean
Central Connecticut State University
School of Education



Dr. Kimberly T. Kostelis
Interim President
Central Connecticut State University



Charlene M. Russell-Tucker
Commissioner
Connecticut State Department of Education

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Creating Stronger Literacy Outcomes Together!



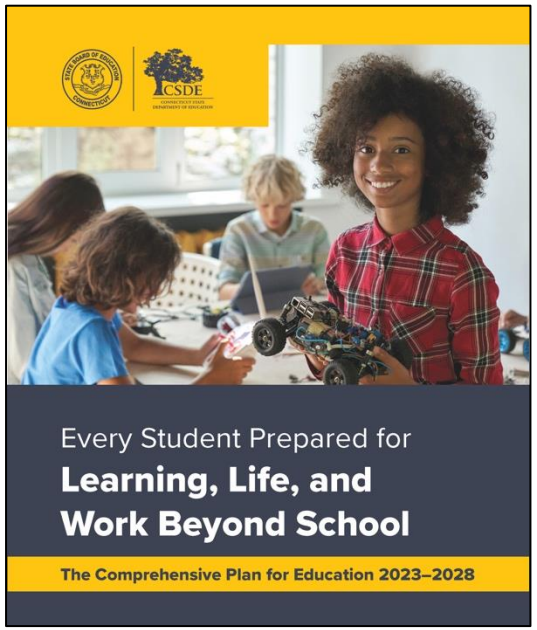
Patricia Billie Miller
State Senator, 27th District
Deputy President Pro Tempore
Banking Committee Chair
General Bonding Subcommittee Chair



Fran Rabinowitz
Executive Director
Connecticut Association of
Public School Superintendents

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Every Student Prepared for Learning, Life, and Work Beyond School: State Board of Education Comprehensive Plan (2023-2028)



Ensure Equitable Access to Education

All learners are supported, including those with high needs, and have equitable access to education regardless of background or advantage, including access to great teachers and leaders, and a diverse educational workforce.

Ensure Safe and Healthy Learning Environments

Learning spaces are safe, compassionate, and culturally responsive. They are designed to support the academic, physical, and social-emotional well-being of all learners, including learners of color, multilingual learners, those with a disability, learners experiencing food and housing insecurities, learners coming from low-income families, and those who identify as LGBTQ.

Elevate Curriculum Frameworks

Elevate Connecticut's curriculum frameworks to provide support for the development of rigorous, engaging instruction and the reliable assessment of universally required skills for life beyond school and a lifelong love of learning.

Create Multiple Career Pathways

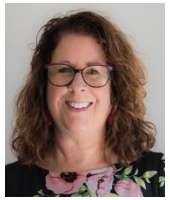
Create opportunities for all students to explore multiple career pathways through coordinated and rigorous programs that are developed in partnership with institutions of higher education and local/regional employers, and that align to economic opportunity and advance students in careers of their choice.

CSDE Strategic Focus Areas

Every Student Prepared for Learning, Life, and Work Beyond School

- Expand our Educator Workforce
- Support Safe and Healthy Learning Environments
- Ensure Students are Present and Engaged
- Elevate and Support High Quality Instructional Materials
- Modernize and Expand Post-Secondary Pathways
- Improve Outcomes for All Students, including Students with Varying Abilities
- Strengthen and Promote School, Family, and Community Partnerships

The Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success



Dr. Melissa K. Wlodarczyk Hickey
Director of the Center



Erin Edwards, Associate
Education Consultant



Cody Fusco, Associate
Education Consultant



Candice LaConti, Education
Consultant



Katyria Rivera
Administrative Assistant



Caroline Messenger, Associate
Education Consultant



Deirdre Savarese, Associate
Education Consultant

Every Connecticut student has the right to read at or above grade level independently and proficiently by the end of third grade.

Reflection: From Connection to Impact

Take a moment to silently consider and jot down:

- **Why are you here?**
- **What do you hope to learn today?**

As you move through the sessions, keep those questions in mind. Think about what you want to take back to your classroom, school, district, or community and how today's learning might help strengthen literacy outcomes for students.

Your Day: From Connection to Impact

- **Connect**: Welcome
  - Build connections and set intentions.
- **Learn**: Dr. Truckenmiller
  - Discover new ideas and perspectives.
- **Explore**: Breakout Sessions
  - Hear from colleagues and gain practical strategies.
- **Apply**: Learning to Practice
  - Reflect and identify next steps.
- **Impact**: Making Commitments
  - Commit to bringing about change to strengthen all student outcomes, empower every learner's journey, and deepen collective knowledge and skills.

CT Literacy Conference Housekeeping

- Session selections: first-come-first-served based on fire code capacity. All participants must have a seat.
- Elevators (session G upstairs)
- Bellin - Please enter through this room (Alumni Hall)
- Wi-Fi – Back of conference program
- Bathrooms
- Expect to see students!
- Breakfast and boxed lunch provided – snacks and additional food located in the Devil's Den. Starbucks in in the library and DD is across campus.

From Connection to Impact



Dr. Charles Hewes
Deputy Commissioner of Academics & Innovation
Connecticut State Department of Education

