



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Adult Education Policy Forum

January 11, 2019



Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions
- Connecticut State Department of Education Updates
- Connecticut Association for Adult and Continuing Education (CAACE)
- VOCAL
- ATDN Professional Development Updates
- CT Adult Virtual High School (CTAVHS)
- Credit Diploma Program
- National External Diploma Program (NEDP)



Agenda continued



- GED Updates
- CARS Updates
- CCS Updates
- State Grant Update
- Teacher Evaluation
- Career Pathways
- Technology
- College and Career Readiness Standards
- Family Literacy
- Integrated English Language/Civics Education
- Federal Grant Update



Learning for life

CAACE

The Connecticut Association for Adult & Continuing Education

Happy New Year

Join us at the 38th Annual CAACE Conference

Thursday, March 28th & Friday, March 29th 2019

Together Towards Tomorrow!

Mystic Marriott

625 North Road, Groton, CT

[Special hotel pricing available through 02-27-19!](#)

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION SPECIAL

Register for the 2019 Conference by **Friday, January 18th** to receive 2018 rates. Prices will go up to 2019 rates after this date.

CAACE Workshops: Spring 2019

February 22nd: West Hartford

10AM-12:30 Response to Topics from Director's Summit

12:30-2:30 CSDE/ATDN workshop (free!)

May 3rd: Bristol

10AM-12:30PM School Safety

12PM-2:30PM Monitoring for Success in Enrichment and non-Mandated



Advocacy

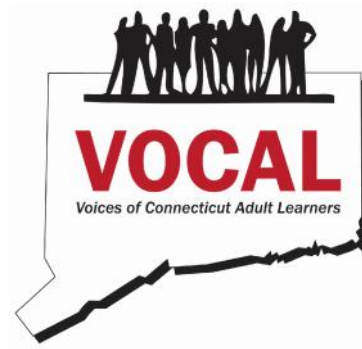
- New chairpersons of important General Assembly committees:
- **Education** - Rep. Robert Sanchez of New Britain is a new chair of the Education Committee. The new co-chair, Sen. Beth Bye, has been named the new Commissioner for the Officer of Early Childhood, so a new senator will need to be named as co-chair of this committee.
- **Higher Education and Employment Advancement** - Sen. Will Haskell, representing the Fairfield County towns of Westport, Weston, Wilton, Ridgefield, Redding, Bethel and New Canaan, is the new chair, along with veteran Rep. Greg Haddad of Mansfield.



Also of note:

- The new state pay equity act forbids an employer from asking a potential employee about their previous pay history. This is important information that programs can provide their students as they seek jobs. It is also a caution for programs when they hire experienced staff - don't ask about previous job pay rates! The new law description can be found at :

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2018/SUM/pdf/2018SUM00008-R02HB-05386-SUM.pdf>



- Voices Of Connecticut Adult Learners (VOCAL) -

VOCAL is an organization for adult learners who did not get the chance to complete school when they were younger and are now going back to school to better themselves. VOCAL members share their knowledge and experience as adult learners to inspire others and make a difference. They hope to get careers in many different areas to ensure a brighter future for themselves, their children and the community.

Mission

The mission of VOCAL is to advocate, promote, and establish a community of adult learner leaders.

Vision

There exists a system for student voice and leadership in adult education.

- **VOCAL Co-Chairs** -

TELLING OUR STORIES / MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Reverend David Hendricks, GED



Leonie Stennett, NEDP



Estela Segarra, ESL/Citizenship

Student/Teacher Achievement Recognition Salute (STARS)

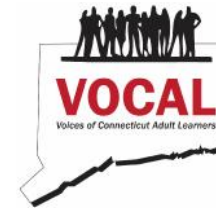


- Annual STARS -

Programs that have participated in VOCAL STARS since 2011:

1199 Training Fund
Center for Latino Progress
CREC
CURET
East Hartford
Hartford
Hartford Public Library
Manchester
Urban League
Vernon
West Hartford
Wethersfield

SAVE THE DATE



9th Annual
Greater Hartford

 **STARS** 

*Student/Teacher
Achievement Recognition Salute*

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Hartford Public Library
500 Main Street, Hartford

5:30 - 7:30PM

ATDN Professional Development



Fall 2018:

- 42 Workshops offered in CCRS, Teacher Evaluation, Disability, ESL, CCS, GED & NEDP attended by approximately 871 adult education staff participating
- A GED Day was held on November 28 at ACES with over 65 participants
- Our first GOALS 900 workshop offered by Linda Taylor of CASAS had more than 55 attending the all-day training focused on the new Reading GOALS series and assessment strategies aligned to CCRS
- The 26th Annual Disabilities Conference was held on October 26, 2018 with 235 participants at Water's Edge
- Two sessions were held on Career Workplace Training in Wallingford & Hartford



ATDN Professional Development



Spring 2019:

- 32 Workshops are being offered in CCRS, Teacher Evaluation, Disability, ESL, CCS, GED & NEDP
- An ESL Day will be held on February 1st at CREC Central with workshops in the morning focused on ELP standards for Beginners and Advanced users. The afternoon will include Erika Taylor, USCIS joining us on “ESL Students & Immigration in a New Era” and sharing the new resources on their website. A question & answer period will follow her presentation
- The February Friday Café session will host Lauri DiGalbo and be followed by a Family Literacy Grant meeting on February 1st at Wadsworth Mansion in Middletown
- Digital Learning Day scheduled at MDC, Hartford on February 28th with 8 workshops including Coding, Open Educational Resources, Nearpod, Google, Elements of CCR with Priyanka Sharma of NELRC, & other Digital Literacy workshops
- GED Testing Service will be offering workshops at the CAACE Conference in addition to our ATDN training workshops being offered in the Spring
- Working on more webinar offerings; more data reporting workshops, like TopsPro, Interpreting Reports, etc.
- Implementation of a new agency Registration system using CourseStorm for ease in registration, confirmation





Update

- Added to Flex Format for January start: **Civics 1**
- **Preparing for the GED & Accuplacer Prep – still open seats!**
- **Coming Term 3 – Allied Health** (new this academic year)
- CAACE Conference: AVHS Workshop/Presentation
- Next AVHS Directors Meeting - **Jan 28th @ 10am at Charter Oak State College**
 - **Discussions on:** GED & Accuplacer, ideas for new courses, move more term to f



Credit Diploma

The Credit Diploma Advisory Committee has worked very hard to update the CDP Administrative Manual.

Committee members:

Christine Bjork - ERACE
Kristin Hempel – EASTCONN
Diane Kearney – Manchester
Sabrina Mancini - CSDE
Antonio Musto - Waterbury
Heather Pelletier – Naugatuck
Michael Testani - Bridgeport
Marcy Reed – CSDE



Credit Diploma

CDP Administrative Manual – Changes:

- Increased recommended credits
- Updated language around online credits
- New rubrics/requirements for Independent Study Projects
- Updated language on Occupational License, Work Experience, Occupational Training and Community Service

When the Manual has been approved at SDE, copies will be sent out.

Sessions for School Counselors will be scheduled in the Spring.



NEDP Update

- NEDP Action plans have been reviewed and will be returned to providers for use in NEDP staff meetings.
- New CASAS marketing materials were sent to each site in November.
- NEDP new advisor/assessor training was completed on December 14th. Thank you to Naugatuck AE for hosting 14 trainees over 3 days!
- Annual administrative Policies and Practices meetings will be held on May 4th and 18th. Register at <http://www.edadvance.org/atdn>
- .



GED Updates

GED Ready Purchasing

- GED Ready purchasing has been streamlined for test takers and can now be purchased directly online at www.GED.com under the study tab. Students will receive an email order confirmation.
- If the test taker has an existing account within GED.com, they will receive an email allowing them to access the GED Ready purchase. If the student has not created an account or the email does not match one within the GED.com database, they will receive an email prompting them to create an account to be able to use the GED Ready purchase.
- Please note that anyone who is redeeming a voucher should be done through the link: “Have a voucher? Redeem here”. Students should NOT the “coupon code” field in the “buy now” link to redeem a GED Ready voucher.



GED Updates

GED Manager

New Account Security Feature

- Automatic, nightly, deactivation of GED Manager user account after 6 months of no activity.
 - Slated to begin on Jan. 8
- In addition to the 90-day password refresh

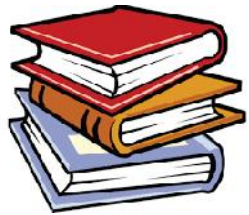


GED Updates

Extended Response Scoring Tool

- This new tool will give students a chance to practice their writing skills and help educators score and provide meaningful feedback to students on their Extended Responses. Although the tool is designed to be used with the GED Ready Practice Test, it can be used with other practice questions in the classroom!
- Using the tool, an educator can download the GED Ready passages and prompts from within the tool, easily tabulate a score on each of the three traits and obtain an overall score and personalize a printable ER feedback report for each student. The scoring tool can be [accessed here](#).





GED Updates

Policy for GED® Ready Requirement

- There will be a new policy regarding GED® testing in Connecticut. All GED test-takers will be required to take the GED Ready, the official practice test, prior to taking the actual GED.
- Test-takers will be required to score at the “Likely to Pass” level in one subject before taking the actual GED test in the same subject.
- There is no expiration date to the GED Ready tests and there will be no changes to the registration process at local programs.





SAVE THE DATE
July 24 – 26, 2019 • Chicago, IL
GED Testing Service Annual Conference



CARS Updates



- CARS data entry deadline for the first semester is **Friday, January 25, 2019**
 - semester data include the completion of attendance, achievements, credits earned and assessments
 - all data are to be error free
 - contact the CARS helpdesk at ewhelpdesk@ca.com if you have questions or issues
- Providers are reminded that the *Student Information Form* has been updated to match the federal reporting requirements.



CARS Updates continued

REMINDER

- CARS data administrators are reminded to:
 - review the user list and the access levels users have within CARS;
 - check “*not active*” for any users who are no longer with the program; and
 - enter CDP transfer credits individually and as detailed as possible and NOT by one summarized/combined entry.
- Programs must also use the “data verify” feature on the CARS Web Site to ensure that their data are error free.
 - Remember, “warnings” indicate data anomalies and may require corrective action while “errors” must be corrected unless indicated in writing by the CSDE.
- Please validate the **unique ten-digit Educator Identification Number (EIN)** on the staff screen and ensure the years of teaching experience in adult education for your staff is current and correct. Directors should be reviewing for accuracy.
 - Please count only the **years of teaching experience in adult education** and select one of three choices from the drop-down list:
 - Less than 1 year
 - 1-3 years
 - More than 3 years



CARS Updates continued

- Importance of Data in WIOA times
 - Please review your data for accuracy
 - Directors should be reviewing a CARS Data Verify report every month
 - The **Social Security Number** is an important field for state and federal reporting
 - Please use the Data Downloads feature available in CARS to see the percentage of students missing an SSN.
- Attempted Duplicate students
 - A new safeguard has been established to help eliminate duplicates in the statewide database. Please make sure all CARS staff are following appropriate search procedures.





CARS Updates continued



- Merge requests are done weekly by Sabrina
 - Please refer to pages 32 and 33 of the *CARS Policies and Guidelines* manual for instructions pertaining to a merge request and to obtain the business rules that apply to any merge request
 - Merge requests that do not have a SSN on original student but there is an SSN for duplicate user will NOT be merged.
 - The **Social Security Number** is an important field for state and federal reporting
- FY 2018 State and Local Program Profiles for all state and federal adult education providers will be available on the CSDE Web site
- FY 2018 Provider Performance Summary (PPS) will be emailed and meetings will be held regionally.



Connecticut Competency System (CCS) Updates

CASAS Tests - Reading GOALS 900 Series:

Greater Opportunities for Adult Learning Success

The Reading GOALS 900 series (Forms 901-908) has been approved for NRS reporting purposes for ABE and Adult Secondary Education (ASE) programs through 2025.

- It is available for use in CARS and must be selected in to deliver for CASAS eTesting online



CCS Updates

*CASAS NRS Approved Assessments for ABE/GED approved through 2025:

- Reading GOALS (900 Series)
- Math GOALS is pending approval from OCTAE

*CASAS NRS Approved Assessments for ESL approved through Feb 2021:

- Life and Work Reading (80 Series)
- Beginning Literacy, (Forms 27/28)

*Life and Work Listening (980 Series) expires June 2019

- Listening GOALS is pending approval from OCTAE



CCS Updates

- CASAS eTest units cost **\$1.20** for 2018-2019
- The agreement between CASAS and the CSDE provides the discounted rate as well as license and support to access the [TOPSpro Enterprise](#) data management application through June 30, 2019.
- CASAS maintains an [HTTPS](#) connection and secure browser environment. (No longer supporting Silverlight application)
- Administering tests via eTests Online requires a Chromebook or a Windows PC with Internet access. (iPads are currently being piloted)
- Windows computers must meet software requirements (Windows 8/10 for CASAS eTest delivery)



Adult Education State Grant Update

FY 2018-19

- **FY 2019** State Grant Revision Applications: **ED-245** and **ED-245A** are available on the CSDE Web site
- This year's form includes space to discuss progress on goals stated on the **FY19 ED-244** and **ED-244A** forms
- ED-245 and ED-245A revision application forms must include the completed **Excel Budget Templates**
- Due to the Bureau on or before **March 15, 2019**
- Reminder that grants must be delivered and also sent electronically as follows:
 - One original copy with superintendent signature via mail or delivery service
 - One electronic copy: e-mail to Marcy.Reed@ct.gov



Adult Education State Grant Update

FY 2019-20

- Letters were sent to all superintendents regarding 2020 grant funds on Monday, January 7, 2019.
- The **FY 2020** State Grant Application, forms **ED-244** and **ED-244A** for adult education providers and CEE agency heads are available on the CSDE Website.
- Due to the Bureau on or before **Monday, April 15, 2019**.
- **ED-244** and **ED-244A** application forms must also include the completed **Excel Budget Templates**.
- For FY20 ED-244 and ED-244A budgets please use the revised Budget Buddy.
- The Preliminary FY 19-20 Support Percentages will be released in February. A notice will be sent out when they are posted.



Adult Education Teacher Evaluation Plan Highlights

- New Directors training was held at the Summer Institute
- Directors who have not completed the training should contact [EdAdvance](#)
- A Teacher Evaluation Roundtable will be held Friday, January 25, 2019 at Naugatuck Adult Education. This training is designed to discuss use of the **Adult Education Educator Evaluation and Support Plan**.
(Please register with [EdAdvance](#))
- All documents and a copy of the plan may be found on the CSDE website:

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Adult-Ed/Policies-and-Procedures/Teacher-Evaluation>



Career Pathways Update

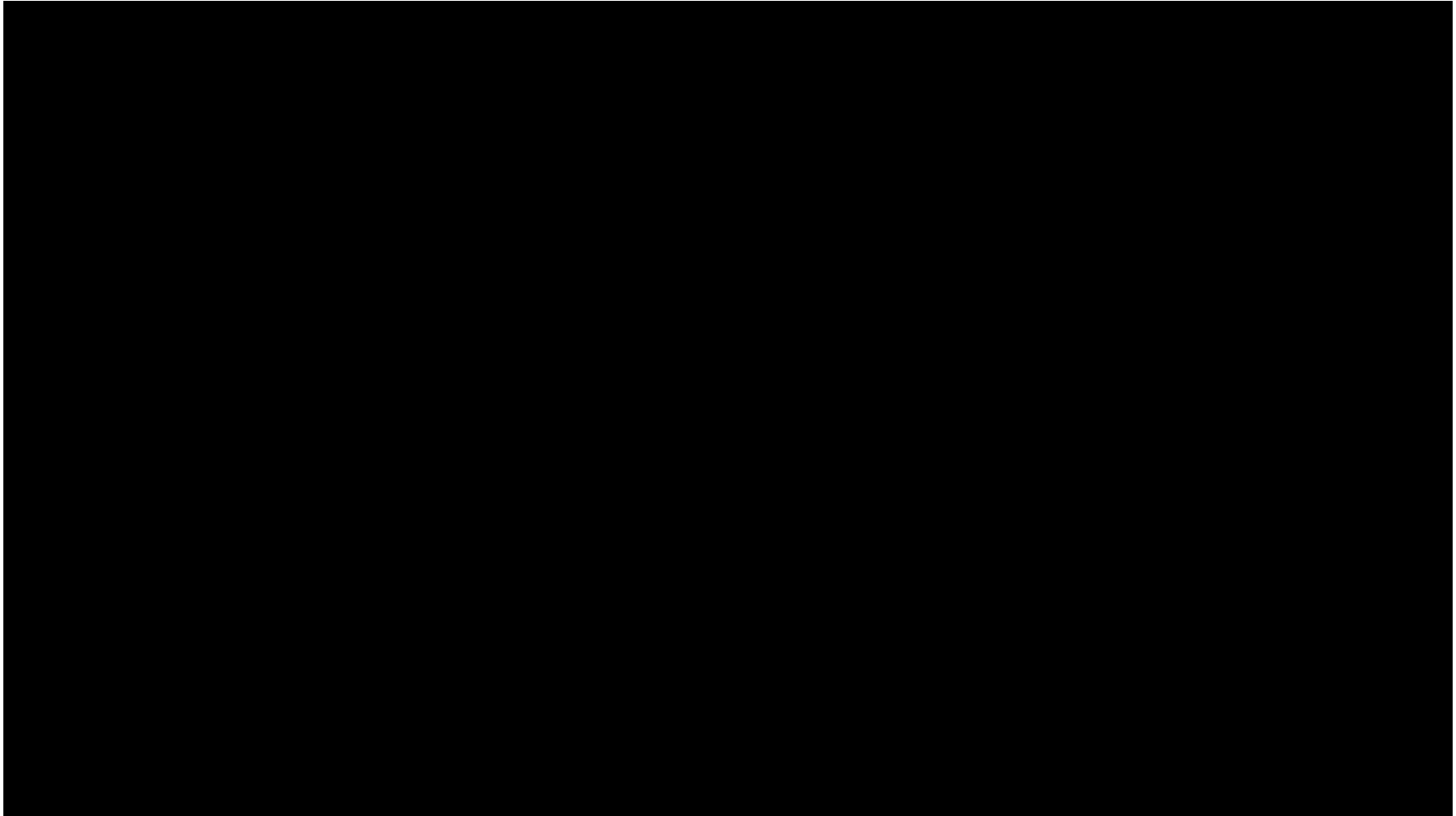
The Career Pathways Taskforce is continuing to work on the online toolkit:

<https://sites.google.com/danbury.k12.ct.us/career-pathways-toolkit/>

If you would like a presentation on the resources for an in-house meeting, please contact Marcy Reed marcy.reed@ct.gov



The Future of Work



Technology

Digital Learning Day is Thursday, February 28, 2019!
at ACES, Hamden

Sessions include:

- Digital Literacy
- What's new on 'the Google'?
- Nearpod
- Coding

For a full list of sessions and to register, go to
the EdAdvance ATDN Website:

<http://edadvance.org/adult-learners/atdn-professional-development>



College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) Full Implementation July, 2017

- **CCRS ELA and Math 100 series for all ABE/GED, CDP teachers ongoing sessions being offered**
- **CCRS ELA and Math 200 Series for identified teachers continue to be offered**
- **February- meeting with CCRS coaches to review sustainability plan and future training sessions**



Family Literacy

- Family Literacy Grantees Meeting in conjunction with the Friday CAFÉ on February 1 at the Wadsworth Mansion, Middletown
- Friday Café presenter is Lauri Digalbo with the topic: *Essential to Engaging Families: Creating Cognitive and Emotional Comfort*
- Adult Education FLP Grantees meeting immediately following Friday CAFÉ. Registration information coming soon!



Integrated English Language/Civics Education

- A mandatory meeting of all Integrated English Language and Civics Education (IEL/CE) grantees will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm at the Meriden Public Library. RSVP to Sue. Email sent December 28, 2018.
- Focus will be on working collaboratively to complete the IEL/CE Self-Assessment Tool developed by the Building Opportunities Collaborative.
- Technical Assistance visits to Programs during January and February. Email sent December 28, 2018.



Federal Grant Update

- The FY 2019 PEP Mid-Year Report and budget revisions are due to the Bureau on Thursday, February 14, 2019 no later than 3:00 pm.
- Documents may be accessed from the CSDE Web site:
<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Adult-Ed/Federal/Federal-Legislation-and-Grants/Documents>
- One complete packet of original materials with original signatures delivered/mailed to CSDE, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, 540 Columbus Blvd, Suite 508, Hartford, CT 06103 and complete packet emailed to susan.pierson@ct.gov



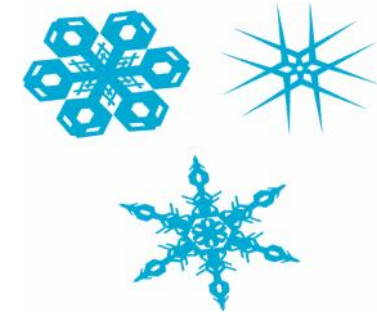
Federal Grant Update

- OCTAE Federal Monitoring completed in October, 2018
- Report due in January
- Strong possibility of a new RFP in Spring 2019
 - Priority Areas should stay the same, but fewer grants awarded
 - “Incentives”
 - “Demonstrated Effectiveness”





Thank you for coming



**Next Policy Forum:
Friday, June 7, 2019**

