



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** Superintendents of Schools

**FROM:** Irene E. Parisi, Chief Academic Officer *IEP*

**DATE:** July 22, 2020

**SUBJECT:** FREE K-12 Readiness to Learn Model Curriculum

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and EdAdvance in partnership with New Britain Public Schools are providing at no cost a series of age-appropriate curriculum resources that have been specifically designed to support the reopening of schools. EdAdvance's Curriculum Development Team worked collaboratively with the New Britain Public Schools staff to develop these "Readiness to Learn" units.

The resources, segmented for grade bands K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12 include associated lesson planning templates, and have been crafted to support and re-engage learners upon their return after an extended absence. These units will support teachers in welcoming and getting to know students, establishing routines, and building a community of mutual respect, appreciation, and support among the learners in their class.

Unit resources are aligned with five distinct pillars using New Britain's curriculum renewal project values as the model. Each unit strives to be:

- Culturally Responsive, using diverse resources and perspectives.
- Focused on the importance of Social-Emotional Learning.
- Supportive of assessment through reflection, teacher observation, and student work.
- Tied to researched, best practices to support special education students as active participants.
- Flexible in their application – all the activities in the units have suggested modifications for in-person, socially distanced or remote learning applications.

Interested districts are invited to designate at least one, limit of two, curriculum leader (Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum Director, Instructional Coach, Teacher Leader) to participate in a **free and required** 4 hour professional learning module. The professional learning module takes place in 2 hour sessions aligned in grade band specific cohorts K-5, 6-8 or 9-12 on two non-consecutive days. After module completion, participants will be ready to plan for district-wide access and implementation of this timely and robust curriculum resource. To register, click <https://tinyurl.com/readinesstolearnunits>

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cc: Desi D. Nesmith, Deputy Commissioner of Education for Academics and Innovation