



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
*DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION*



January 29, 2021

Dear Superintendents,

The United States Department of Education has notified the Connecticut State Department of Education that, pursuant to section 313 of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260), Connecticut will be receiving an additional \$492,426,458 in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER II). This brings Connecticut's total ESSER funding to \$603,494,517. Attached for you is a summary of the ESSER II allocations by district and a guidance document to assist in your planning to use these funds.

Together we must remain committed to targeting, measuring, and erasing the educational disparities among our students that have been further exacerbated by the pandemic. We urge you to implement high impact strategies including, but not limited to, additional classroom supports, intensive small group tutoring in school and afterschool, extending the school day and school year, and enhanced summer school programming. Access to these opportunities must be focused on students whose progress decreased, students with disabilities, English learners, students experiencing homelessness, disengaged youth, or those with barriers to remote learning. The task of educational recovery and learning acceleration will take a concerted effort on the part of all adults who interface with our students including parents, educators, administrators, and community-based organizations. Using the tools at our disposal, we must identify students' educational needs, plan for the supports needed to mitigate these needs, and identify the resources available to implement those supports.

In partnership, we can find a path forward through these challenging times. Please do not hesitate to avail yourself of our resources and technical assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charlene M. Russell-Tucker".

Charlene M. Russell-Tucker  
Deputy Commissioner of Education