



DR. DIANNA R. WENTZELL, COMMISSIONER

For Immediate Release:

May 19, 2017

Contact: Abbe Smith 860.713.6525

Governor Malloy kicks off 2017 summer reading program

State honors reading achievements of top-performing schools and students

(HARTFORD, CT)—Gov. Dannel P. Malloy honored students and school representatives from throughout the state for their reading achievements today at the kickoff of the annual Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge.

During a ceremony at the State Library, Gov. Malloy, Commissioner of Education Dianna R. Wentzell, and State Librarian Kendall Wiggin stressed the importance of reading during the summer and recognized top-performing schools from the 2016 Summer Reading Challenge.

“If we want children to be successful in school and in life, we need to cultivate an early love of reading,” Governor Malloy said. “Connecticut is making progress in education – our students are among the top readers in the nation and our graduation rate continues to climb. But to keep moving Connecticut forward into the future, we need to help our children develop critical reading skills while they are young. I want to congratulate and thank all the participating schools, districts, and libraries.”

“Developing an early love of reading sets the foundation for success in school and beyond,” Commissioner Wentzell said. “Programs like the Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge are a great way to engage our youth in positive, academically enriching activities and safeguard against summer learning loss. We congratulate the schools and students honored today. We also thank all the local public libraries and schools that partner to support and encourage students and families with summer reading programs.”

“The State Library is proud to be a partner with the Department of Education in promoting the Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge,” said State Librarian Kendall Wiggin. “The Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge is a wonderful opportunity for our state’s students to visit their local libraries and discover a great book from among the nearly 14 million books in Connecticut’s public libraries.”

The Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge is a statewide program coordinated by the Connecticut State Department of Education in conjunction with the Connecticut State Library. Schools compete based on student population and grade level. The program recognizes the schools with the highest participation rates and the highest number of books read per student.

The summer reading program also supports community initiatives run by local public libraries and recognizes “Outstanding Public Library-School Partnerships.” Students have read millions of books since the program began in 1996. More information is available at <http://www.ct.gov/sde/ctread>.

-MORE-

Governor's Summer Reading Challenge 2016 Top-performing Schools

Elementary Schools

Alcott Elementary School – Wolcott
Alfred E. Burr Community School – Hartford
Booth Free School – Regional School District 12
Burnham School – Regional School District 12
Farmingville Elementary School – Ridgefield
Frisbie Elementary School – Wolcott
Goshen Center School – Regional School District 6
Interdistrict Discovery Magnet School – Bridgeport
Kent Center School – Regional School District 1
Morley Elementary School – West Hartford
Race Brook School – Orange
Ridgebury Elementary School – Ridgefield
Wakelee Elementary School – Wolcott
Washington Primary School – Regional School District 12
Whiting Lane Elementary School – West Hartford

Middle Schools

Ellington Middle School – Ellington
Granby Memorial Middle School – Granby
Hals Academy – Consolidated School District of New Britain
Irving Robbins Middle School – Farmington
Joseph S. Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy – Hartford
Tyrrell Middle School – Wolcott

High Schools

Lewis S. Mills High School – Regional School District 10
Norwich Technical High School – Connecticut Technical High School System
Shepaug Valley School – Regional School District 12

Unique/Private Schools

Riverview School – Unified School District 2
Talcott Mountain Academy
Walter G. Cady School – Unified School District 2

###

CONTACT: Abbe Smith, Director of Communications
Connecticut State Department of Education
Phone: 860-713-6525
Mobile: 860-381-7096
Email: Abbe.Smith@ct.gov