



STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

October 1, 2014

Dear Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum Director,

All certified teachers in your district are eligible to apply for a one-time grant designed to deepen professional knowledge and practice of the Connecticut Core Standards and the instructional shifts that support them. The Professional Learning Mini-Grants (ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 depending on the number of participants in each application) are a result of Governor Malloy's Common Core Implementation Task Force recommendations to increase teachers' understanding of the Connecticut Core Standards in English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics and how these standards may be applied across any content area.

The attached application should be completed by an eligible teacher and submitted by email to ccsminigrant@educationconnection.org by 11:59pm on Wednesday, November 12, 2014. Any application received after the deadline may be considered in future rounds if funds are available.

Successful mini-grant proposals may focus on one or more of the following potential areas of professional growth:

- *Developing clear and consistent knowledge of the Connecticut Core Standards (CCS)*
- *Providing support and training to support transition from existing district curricula to the new standards;*
- *Engaging all stakeholders including teachers, parents and the community through dialogue and training about the CCS;*
- *Supporting all teachers and instructional staff with the necessary time for professional development to master the instructional shifts associated with the CCS; and*
- *Providing the required resources to support effective implementation of the CCS at the classroom, team or building level.*

Attached you will find the Department of Education Connecticut Core Standards Professional Learning Mini-Grants Application. This document includes:

- *Application information (eligibility, criteria, and other information)*
- *Application template along with sample*
- *Budget template*
- *Mini-Grant Scoring Rubric*

This is a competitive application process designed to have an immediate impact on professional learning and implementation of the Connecticut Core Standards. Applications will be reviewed, scored, and awarded by a review team comprised of educators and representatives from Governor Malloy's Common Core Implementation Task Force. Awardees will be selected and notified by December 1, 2014 with funds dispersed soon after.

Once again, applications are due **by November 12, 2014**. Questions regarding this process and application can be forwarded to your Regional Service Center Staff Development representative.

Sincerely,

Dianna Roberge-Wentzell

Dianna Roberge-Wentzell
Chief Academic Officer

Attachment