

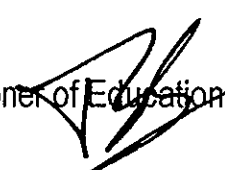


STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Series 2000-01
Circular Letter: C -1

TO: Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Theodore S. Sergi, Commissioner of Education 

DATE: July 1, 2000

SUBJECT: Back-To-School Superintendents' Meeting

I am looking forward to meeting with you on August 18th in Room 2C of the State Legislative Office Building in Hartford from 9:00 –11:00 a.m. CAPSS and the SDE will have an opportunity to discuss new developments at the state and local levels as we prepare for the opening of a new school year. This is the twelfth consecutive year of student enrollment increases in our state. The 2000-01 statewide public school enrollment is projected to be more than 559,000 students.

While I spend all summer agonizing over my Back-To-School Message, you won't be surprised by the themes: "Closing the Achievement Gaps" and "Improving the School Climate – Duty to Others". These two special initiatives will be presented in the never-ending context of Great Expectations, Reaching Every Student, and Working Together to Improve Student Achievement.

In 2000-01 we must disaggregate and study all our data – not just CMT – and work harder to close the gaps; and we must take aggressive steps to instill in each child a heightened sense of "duty to others." (If you didn't receive my previous mailings on these two topics, please see the SDE web page at <http://www.state.ct.us/sde>.) I encourage you to challenge each of your school principals to do something new and exciting on these two issues for 2000-01.

May the summer be a restful and reflective one for you and your family. Thank you and see you on August 18th.