TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Melissa K. Wlodarczyk Hickey, Reading/Literacy Director, Academic Office

DATE: June 25, 2018

SUBJECT: Adoption of the *Computer Science Teacher Association (CSTA) K-12 Standards* and the *International Society for Technology Education (ISTE) Standards for Students*

At the June 2018 Connecticut State Board of Education (Board) meeting, the Board approved the *Computer Science Teacher Association (CSTA) K-12 Standards* and the *International Society for Technology Education (ISTE) Standards for Students* for use by Connecticut school districts.

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) recognizes that students are part of a world in which technology is evolving rapidly, forging new fields of study, creating new types of jobs, and requiring new sets of skills. Not only must students understand the **use** of digital tools, but they must also learn how to **create** those tools.

Since the adoption of the Connecticut Computer Science Position Statement, Connecticut educators have expressed a need to provide students access to creating digital tools through a comprehensive computer science education. To provide districts with the foundation to build a quality computer science curriculum, in the summer of 2017, the CSDE organized grade-band committees to review the 2017 *Computer Science Teacher Association (CSTA) K-12 Standards*. The committees determined these standards are coherent and comprehensible. To assist schools and districts in implementing the standards, they crafted the Connecticut Computer Science Guidelines.

The CSDE worked with the Connecticut Commission for Educational Technology (CET), to gather feedback on the adoption of the updated 2016 *International Society for Technology Education (ISTE) Standards for Students*. Stakeholders determined these standards provide a framework to assist students in using information and for amplifying digital age learning, citizenship, and teaching across the content areas.

The standards and helpful resources have been posted on two dedicated pages of the CSDE's Web site: *Computer Science Teacher Association (CSTA) K-12 Standards* and *International Society for Technology Education (ISTE) Standards for Students*. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Michalek, Education Consultant, at 860-713-6557 or e-mail at Jennifer.Michalek@ct.gov.

MH:mh
cc: Dr. Dianna Wentzell, Commissioner of Education
Ellen E. Cohn, Deputy Commissioner
Jennifer Michalek, Education Consultant
Doug Casey, Executive Director, Connecticut Commission for Educational Technology