

STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

Superintendents of Unified School Districts

Directors of Public Charter Schools

Executive Directors, Approved Private Special Education Programs

Executive Directors, Regional Educational Service Centers

Principals of Endowed and Incorporated Academies

FROM: Dr. Miguel A. Cardona, Commissioner of Education

DATE: January 15, 2020

SUBJECT: Connecticut Troops to Teachers Program

In May 2018, the Connecticut State Department of Education Talent Office was selected by the Department of Defense, National Troops to Teachers Program, to receive a five-year grant award of \$1.1 million to attract, recruit, and support U.S. veterans to become public school educators. Connecticut Troops to Teachers (CTTT) is dedicated to a vision of greater representation of veterans in the educational workforce. We value the unique insights, educational, interpersonal, and problem solving experiences of veterans, and believe those characteristics and skills can be leveraged within the field of education.

In order to better promote this program and engage more veterans in its vision, we need your assistance. We would like to recognize and honor all veterans currently serving as certified and non-certified staff, within your district. By engaging veterans, serving across our school communities in a variety of roles, we hope to broaden our outreach to potential educators within our veteran ranks by providing greater support for veterans by veterans.

Please forward this memo with the request to complete a three-minute survey found here to all certified and non-certified veterans in your district. This survey will capture important information regarding branch of service, current position, and other demographic data. We will also seek interest from veterans in attending a recognition event as well as their level of interest in contributing to the CTTT program.

As we plan for a potential recognition event in the spring, we would appreciate it if you could identify your staff, who are veterans, and forward the memo/link to the survey to facilitate a response by **February 7, 2020.** This will allow us to plan accordingly.

Please contact <u>kim.wachtelhausen@ct.gov</u>, 860-713-6841, with any questions. Many thanks for your assistance in this important matter.