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- New England League of Middle Schools
- National Federation of State High School Associations

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# THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS

September 12, 2014

Dear Principal:

On behalf of the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS), I am inviting you to a year-long leadership training program, *The Principals' Leadership Series*, which is designed for school-based leaders in Connecticut.

Building on successful programs in previous years, the foundation for the 2014-2015 Series remains the McREL research document, *Simply Better: Doing What Matters to Change the Odds for Student Success*. The format has been designed so that at each session a presenter will cover the key elements of the McREL document. Each presentation will be followed by a facilitated discussion about the application of the content to each participant's school and school district. Relating the presentations and discussions to the current research on school and district improvement, as well as highlighting the alignment to their current alliance district improvement plans, will be central to this work.

CAS Executive Coaches will serve as facilitators for each of the cohorts of 12 to 14 principals/assistant principals with the CAS coach remaining with the same cohort throughout the series. To the extent practicable, participants will be grouped by school level. I expect that 50 school leaders will participate.

This is the schedule for the series:

**November 19 and 20**

Leadership in an Era of Stress and Transition:  
Introduction and Overview of Simply Better

Mike Wasta, Consultant  
Bryan Goodwin, McREL

**December 2**

Guaranteeing Challenging, Engaging and  
Intentional Instruction

Anthony Rigazio-Digilio, CCSU

**January 6**

Ensuring Curricular Pathways to Success

Diane Ullman  
District Management Council

**February 17**

Providing Whole Child Supports

To Be Announced

**March 17**

Creating High Performance School Cultures

Robert McCain, CREC

**April 21**

Developing High-Reliability District Systems

Kathy Greider, Farmington PS

**May 5**

Leadership Project Presentations and Wrap-Up

CAS and CSDE Staff

The first two days (including an overnight) of the leadership will take place at the Heritage Inn in Southbury; the remaining sessions will take place at CAS in Cheshire. With the exception of November 19 and 20, all sessions are scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. School leaders selected for participation **MUST** be willing and able to attend all sessions. **(There are no stand-alone sessions.)**

**Because space is limited and available on a first come first serve basis, please respond either by fax (203-250-1345) or by email ([tbreslin@casciac.org](mailto:tbreslin@casciac.org)) with the attached registration form no later than Friday, September 26th. The form must be signed for you to participate.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Timothy M. Breslin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Timothy M. Breslin, Ph.D.  
Assistant Executive Director