



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Mark K. McQuillan, Commissioner of Education *Mark K. McQuillan*

DATE: June 15, 2010

SUBJECT: Online Credit Recovery Opportunity

I am pleased to alert you to a new pilot program we will be implementing in the next few weeks. The program, *Success Through Online Credit Recovery*, will enable hundreds of Connecticut students to earn credits this summer in courses in which they have previously been unsuccessful, thus allowing them to complete graduation requirements or start the fall semester on schedule to graduate with their peers.

During the pilot of this program in the summer of 2010, the state will support free enrollment for the first 300 students who register. (Registration must be completed by the LEA, not the student.) As an added incentive to participating LEAs to increase student success, LEAs will receive a voucher for one future credit recovery course enrollment for every successful student in this summer's pilot!

The *Success Through Online Credit Recovery* program is made possible in collaboration with Florida Virtual Schools, with support of the federal Title IID program. The courses are each designed around practical applications of the specific content, and are structured to engage students. Credit recovery courses will be offered in English, mathematics, science, and social studies. An attached flyer lists the specific courses available and other details of the program. Each course takes between 6-10 weeks to complete, and can be taken by students through existing summer school programs or by students independently at home or on a community-based computer.

As you may know, legislation passed in May 2010 requires LEAs with dropout rates of greater than 8% to offer online courses as one way for students to recover credits. This is an ideal opportunity for you to get your district involved in online credit recovery, and at no cost to you.

Please share the attached flyer and registration spreadsheet with staff, particularly high school principals and guidance counselors. Clearly, this must be done quickly, as summer is almost upon us.

If you have questions about the program, please contact CSDE's educational technology consultant, Karen Kaplan, at karen.kaplan@ct.gov

cc: High School Principals