The Principals' Center of the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) and the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) are again collaborating on a Connecticut-Shandong Principal and Teacher Shadowing Project, part of the Connecticut-Shandong Sister School Initiative. The aim of the project is to build partnerships between school leaders, promote mutual intercultural understanding, and create opportunities for professional development. Priority will be given to personnel from schools with existing partnerships in Shandong Province.

The partnerships are designed to:
1. Develop deeper knowledge of another educational system
2. Develop greater understanding of the partner school in its social context
3. Establish a mutually beneficial on-going relationship
4. Promote intercultural understanding

Project Description:
CAS has received a grant from the CSDE to administer the Shadowing Project. Principals and teachers from Connecticut schools will be partnered with peers in China. The Connecticut principals and teachers will visit China and meet with their Chinese counterparts in Shandong Province April 14-26, 2010.

Role of CAS:
1. Selection of participants: schools, principals, and teachers.
2. Design and coordination of orientation sessions. Orientation will include information about the education system, its administrative structure, educational reform, assessment, the use of technology, and other topics of interest determined by participants.
3. Partial funding for travel pending grant approval.
4. Travel planning.
5. Program evaluation.

Activities of participants in China:
1. Learn about Chinese education and educational reform in practice.
2. Study the roles and responsibilities of senior administrators.
3. Explore opportunities for student and faculty exchanges and joint educational projects.
4. Visit classrooms to observe pedagogy and examine curriculum materials.
5. Tour local sites of interest.
6. Live with host families or on campus.

Cost for participants: $1,850 contribution.

If interested, please complete the PSP application, or contact:
Dennis Carrithers, Director, Principals' Center, Connecticut Association of Schools at (203) 250-1111 or dcarrithers@casciac.org.