From the Commissioner

This brochure includes information about the 2007-2008 New Administrator Mentor Program which is coordinated by the Connecticut Principals’ Center at CAS. The Center is asking you to recommend new candidates for the program in order to provide new administrators from your district with direct support from experienced school and district leaders who will serve as their mentors. In addition, the Center will provide nine professional development programs over the course of the next two years for mentors and mentees to participate in together.

I strongly encourage you to nominate new administrators from your district to participate in the Tier I (year 1) program and to support last year’s Tier I participants by continuing in the Tier II (year 2) program. In the absence of a formal requirement for administrator mentorships, I believe it should be an expectation that all beginning administrators in the state have an opportunity to be part of a mentoring program. I ask that you support the Center in its mission to provide such opportunities by identifying new administrators, urging - or even expecting - them to participate and allowing them the time and opportunity to attend the related professional development activities.

Our new administrators need and deserve guidance and support from experienced professionals to help them meet the challenge of their new responsibilities. Research shows that a good mentoring experience plays an important role in a new administrator’s success. This can be a rewarding investment in your district’s future.

Thank you.
Mark K. McQuillan
Superintendent of Schools

Mentor-Mentee Committee

Dr. Dale Bernardoni
Chair; McKinley School
Stephen Anderson
EC Goodwin Technical High School
Anna Cutaia-Leonard
CT State Department of Education
Lorraine Giannini
Marlborough Elementary School
Linda Hartzler
CAS & CSDE Consultant
Debbie Kapprove
East Hartford Public Schools
Francis Kennedy
Stafford High School
Edward Lazaroff
Horace Porter School
Christine Mahoney
East Granby Public Schools
Rosie O’Brien Vojtek
Ivy Drive School
Dr. Gilbert Rebhun
SCSU Consultant
Kathryn Walsh, Ed. D.
Parish Hill Middle/Senior High School

Mike Buckley, Director,
The Connecticut Principals’ Center
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.3 CEU’s are awarded for the successful completion of each program.
1. Now that you’re in the job, how do you get off on the right foot and begin to set the stage for success? September 21, 2007
(8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

Dr. Dale Bernardoni, principal of the McKinley School in Fairfield, will focus upon building and sustaining a culture of excellence and leading change that positively impacts students.

2. How do you avoid the legal landmines that ensnare new administrators? December 14, 2007
(8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

Attorney Thomas Mooney, a partner of Shipman and Goodwin, L.L.C., and a professor at UCONN’s Neag School of Education, brings participants through scenarios of legal issues relative to teacher evaluation, publications, FOI, technology, discipline and due process.

3. How do you make sure teachers are doing what they’re supposed to be doing to ensure student learning – and what do you do when they’re not? January 25, 2008
(8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

Dale Vanne, CREC consultant and former Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Administration in South Windsor, will focus on communicating high expectations to staff and “walking the walk,” tying policies and practices to staff performance, and dealing with challenging staff issues.

4. How can you benefit from the experience of others? April 4, 2008
(8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

Experienced administrative members of the Mentor-Mentee Committee conduct separate sessions such as “Implementing Change with Veteran Teachers,” “Writing Summative Evaluations,” and “Resolving Conflict before Grievances.” Participants select from a menu of choices.

5. How can you benefit from the experience of others? April 4, 2008
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