Due to the overwhelming success of the 2005 Principals’ Summer Institute, the Connecticut State Department of Education, Connecticut Association of Schools, and SERC are again collaborating to sponsor the 2006 Principals’ Summer Institute themed “Change and Improvement Inside and Out”.

The Institute is designed to focus on the leadership tools needed by principals in today’s climate of accountability and school reform, and to enhance Connecticut’s efforts regarding an effective accountability model. It will provide participants with personal and professional strategies to maximize their effectiveness as school leaders to ensure high achievement for all students.

Come and enjoy two and a half days with your school leaders to explore how to best utilize your skills as a school leader. Connecticut colleagues as together you explore your role in the school improvement and change process, and understand how to ensure high achievement for all students.

**Institute Theme**

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**2006 Participant Comments**

“I came away feeling that I do make a difference and that reform can and will happen in my building.”

“I enjoyed the opportunity to spend time (talking, sharing, laughing) with colleagues. The site was outstanding.”

“It was very organized and overall the presenters were excellent. I’ve gained insight and spent time reflecting on how I can improve as a principal. I am ready to implement what I’ve learned for the next school year!”

“Excellent planning, implementation and execution...Great Job!”

“Outstanding, Informative, Extremely Helpful!”

**Registration Information**

Registration will be on a “first come, first served” basis with regional consideration. Due to limited seating, only those who can attend and actively participate in the full Institute, Tuesday through Thursday, should apply. The closing date for submitting applications is May 23, 2006. Please complete the application form in full (duplicates accepted), and return completed application with check or purchase order to: Principals’ Summer Institute, SERC, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1520. Applicants will receive written confirmation from SERC verifying participation shortly after the closing date.

Direct content questions to Christopher Ozmun, Consultant, at SERC, (860) 632-1485, extension 377. Direct registration questions to Kristy Giacco, Education Services Specialist, at extension 249.

**Fees**

The registration fee of $200.00 per person includes accommodations for two nights at the Heritage Inn as well as all meals throughout the Institute. Applications received after May 23, 2006 will be considered as space permits with a registration fee of $250.00 per person. Purchase orders will be accepted, but payment MUST be received prior to June 15, 2006. Check or purchase order should be made payable to Rensselaer at Hartford.

**CEUs**

SERC will award 2.0 CEUs per full participation in the entire Institute. Participants must be pre-registered, receive written confirmation from SERC, attend all sessions, complete an evaluation form, and provide evidence of post-activity application/reflection. Evaluation forms and information about the post-activity application/reflection will be available at the Institute.
Tuesday Evening & Wednesday Evening
June 28th ~ 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
June 29th ~ 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The Principal Thing is Your Attitude:
A Check-up from the Neck Up
David Welsh, Ph.D.

David Welsh is a psychologist based in Fort Worth, Texas. With twenty-five years of experience in public schools at all levels, from early childhood to secondary, Dr. Welsh knows what life is like "in the trenches." In addition to his consultation work with school systems across the Southwest, Dr. Welsh is also in demand from coast to coast for his dynamic keynote presentations and staff development workshops.

Participants at Connecticut’s first Institute in 2005 praised Dr. Welsh for his positive, practical approach to the complex problems of education. Using real-life stories and abundant humor, Dr. Welsh left his audience entertained, energized, and informed. In addition to producing and hosting his own weekly television talk show for many years, Dr. Welsh is the author of The Boy Who Burned Too Brightly (2001).

Wednesday
June 28th ~ 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Negotiating Change:
The Key to Organizational Survival
Irina Tyler-Wood, B.A., J.D.

Irina Tyler-Wood is the Managing Principal and a founding member of THOUGHTBRIDGE. Prior to her work at THOUGHTBRIDGE, she practiced corporate law in Washington, D.C., and had careers in education and government.

While at Harvard Law School, she worked as a negotiation teaching fellow with Roger Fisher and served as the Assistant Director of the Conflict Clinic at the Harvard Negotiation Project.

Ms. Tyler-Wood consults nationally and internationally with corporate, government, and other public sector clients in resolving complex, high stakes disputes. She has advised and trained corporate and government clients to enable them to implement major change initiatives, resolve complex multi-party disputes, and create, enhance, and/or repair strategic business relationships. Ms. Tyler-Wood has done extensive work in education, training, and advising educators from universities and public school systems in areas ranging from collective bargaining contracts to school reform initiatives.

Thursday
June 29th ~ 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

First Things First:
From "Brutal Facts" to the Best Schools We've Ever Had
Mike Schmoker, Ed.D.

Mike Schmoker has worked on issues relating to school/district improvement, assessment, curriculum, and staff development as a central office administrator in two Arizona school districts. Dr. Schmoker is the author of two books and numerous articles, including Results: The Key to Continuous School Improvement (1999).

During the last several years, he has consulted with a number of successful school and district improvement teams throughout the United States and Canada.

Dr. Schmoker is a co-contributor to the new book, On Common Ground: The Power of Professional Learning Communities (2005), edited by Rick and Becky Dufour. The book highlights the commonalities among North America’s educational leaders. Dr. Schmoker, along with Doug Reeves of the Center for Performance Assessment, emphasizes the need for the use of data in a professional learning community to effect continuous improvement in student achievement.

Agenda

Tuesday Evening
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Reception
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Dinner
7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Opening Remarks
Betty J. Sternberg, Ph.D. Commissioner, CT State Department of Education
8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The Principal Thing is Your Attitude: A Check-Up from the Neck Up
David Welsh, Ph.D.

Wednesday
7:00 a.m. ~ 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Negotiating Change: The Key to Organizational Survival
Irina Tyler-Wood, B.A., J.D.
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Negotiating Change: The Key to Organizational Survival (continued)
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. The Principal’s Role in Student Achievement: Partnering with the Department of Education on One Common Agenda
Fran Rabinowitz, Associate Commissioner, CT State Department of Education, Division of Teaching and Learning
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Networking, Reflection, & Rejuvenation

Wednesday Evening
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Dinner
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. The Principal Thing is Your Attitude: A Check-Up from the Neck Up (continued)
David Welsh, Ph.D.

Thursday
7:00 a.m. ~ 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. First Things First: From "Brutal Facts" to the Best Schools We’ve Ever Had
Mike Schmoker, Ed.D.
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. First Things First: From "Brutal Facts" to the Best Schools We’ve Ever Had (continued)
2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Closing Remarks and Evaluation