

STATE OF CONNECTICUT



February 18, 2020

Dear Superintendents,

The 2020 Census is fast approaching and the U.S. Census Bureau has identified over 550 "Tier 1" schools in Connecticut that fall into a 15 percent or above Low Response Score census tract. Based on the 2010 decennial response rates, people living in a tract are not likely to self-respond to the 2020 Census. State government is working with our partners in local government, civic organizations, nonprofits, and businesses to ensure Connecticut achieves a complete count in order to secure \$11 billion in federal funding our state deserves. Unfortunately, thousands of Connecticut children—a million nationally—were not counted in 2010 Census and our communities lost out on critical resources.

We'd like to solicit your help by encouraging teachers to bring the U.S. Census Bureau's <u>Statistics in Schools</u> (SIS) into their classrooms. The SIS program offers free materials for teachers, created by teachers, to educate students from pre-K through 12th grade about the value and everyday uses of census data in order to:

- Boost your students' statistical literacy and data research skills.
- Enhance learning in math, history, social studies, geography, sociology, and English.
- Bolster your existing lesson plans with fun, informative, and interactive activities.

We're celebrating national **Statistics in Schools Week from March 2 through March 6**. This is a great time to send every student home with the <u>SIS take-home flyer</u>. Available in 13 languages, it explains to adults the importance of the 2020 Census counting every child in their home.

Thank you for your support in this important endeavor. If you have any questions, please contact Peter Yazbak, CSDE Director of Communications, at 860-713-6528 or peter.yazbak@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz

Dr. Miguel A. Cardona
Commissioner of Education



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