May 20, 2016

Dear Superintendent:

It's that time of year again—time to encourage your school leaders and students to participate in **CONNECTICUT READS—the 2016 Governor's Summer Reading Challenge**. On May 20, 2016, Governor Dannel P. Malloy kicked off the annual Summer Reading Challenge highlighting the importance of reading to Connecticut's educators and students.

Many districts hold a variety of activities to support summer reading and strive to coordinate their activities with community-wide programs run by their local public libraries. School and public library partnerships increase students' access to books and reading activities during the summer months. The Governor's Summer Reading Challenge builds upon and links these efforts by reinforcing the importance of reading.

Many public libraries will utilize the Evanced Summer Reader system for managing their reading programs. The system allows student's access to their summer reading logs anywhere they have an Internet connection (including mobile devices). Schools that coordinate with their public library may choose to have students use this online reading log, rather than a paper one. In addition, libraries using Evanced Summer Reader can assist schools with reporting requirements for the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge.

As in the past, all information and printable materials for the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge can be found on the CSDE Web site at http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2683&q=320322.

I ask that you forward this e-mail to your principals and literacy leaders so that they can include all materials in their summer programming.

Please contact Joanne White at joanne.white@ct.gov or 860-713-6751 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dianna R. Wentzell

Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell
Commissioner of Education

DRW:jw
cc: Kendall F. Wiggin, State Librarian
        Joanne R. White, Education Consultant

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