



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



May 14, 2015

Connecticut Teacher of the Year Council
P.O. Box 988
Southington, CT 06489

To Whom It May Concern:

The Connecticut Teacher of the Year Program pays tribute to the profession and heightens the interest in teaching as a career. Since 1952, the program has recognized and honored teacher excellence. It does not attempt to select the "best" teacher; rather, the program identifies, from among many outstanding district teachers of the year, one teacher to serve as a visible and vocal representative of what is best in the profession.

The Connecticut Teacher of the Year Council (Council) is authorized by the Commissioner's Office to play an active and vital role in preserving and improving the Connecticut Teacher of the Year Program. The Council, comprised of Connecticut State Department of Education Staff, Connecticut Teachers of the Year and respected members of the education community, supports the program by soliciting corporate and organizational sponsorship, managing the selection process, and producing the annual Teacher of the Year Ceremony. Their work is essential to the continuing success of the Teacher of the Year Program.

The Teacher of the Year Program is not only important to me as the Commissioner of Education, it is also important to the over 100 teachers honored each year at the annual ceremony, and it is important to the profession. It is respected and supported by Connecticut's Governor, legislators, school districts and the educational community.

We offer our thanks and appreciation to all those involved in making the Connecticut Teacher of the Year Program a success every year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dianna R. Wentzell".

Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell
Commissioner of Education

DRW:cpe