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090511

Pankosky, Valerie

From: Randall Skigen [skigen@optonline.net]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 10:35 AM
To: Pankosky, Valerie
Subject: FW: Dodd-Lieberman letter

Val—

Can you forward to the full board. Thanks.

From: Starr, Joshua [mailto:JStarr@ci.stamford.ct.us]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 10:09 AM
To: Siladi, Mara; Murphy, Hugh; Dennies, Sandy; Skigen, Randall; Arnold, Sarah; Gagne, Denise; Hamilton, Winifred; Karwan, Amy; Nicholson, Joanna; Hoherchak, Monica; Jackie Heftman; AttorneyRubino@aol.com; Lorenti, Angela; Malloy, Dannel; Mathews, Ed; Nabel, Susan; Polo, Steven; RKing@ci.stamford.ct.us; JWade@ci.stamford.ct.us
Subject: FW: Dodd-Lieberman letter

See attached letter. It reinforces the fact that Ct. has some work to do...

Josh

Joshua P. Starr, Ed.D.
 Superintendent of Schools
 Stamford Public Schools
 (203) 977 - 4543
www.stamfordpublicschools.org



Stamford Public Schools

EXCELLENCE IS THE POINT.

From: Joe Cirasuolo [mailto:jcirasuolo@capss.org]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 9:51 AM
To: Abbey, David; Adamowski, Steven; Addley, Alan; Agostine, James ; Aubin, Pamela; Baldwin, Karen; Baruzzi, Fred; Beitman, Alan; Belair, Jerome; Benson-Clarke, Judy; Bernard, Donna; Berry, Louise; Binkowski, Kathleen; Bisceglia, Matt; Bivona, Anthony; Blackstone, Paul; Bookman, Alan; Brady, John; Burrows, Adam; Caron, Kim; Case, Kevin; Castagnola, Joseph; Cavallaro, Neil; Chamberlain, Patricia; Charles, Patricia; Chesley, Gary; Chittum, James; Cicchetti, Michael; Cirasuolo, Joe; Clark, Ann; Clouet, Christopher; Colen, Paula; Collins, Randall; Connellan, Timothy; Conway, Mary; Corda, Salvatore; Cornish, Irene; Cortright, Mary; Counter, George; Cressy, David; Cronin, Robert; Cruz, Eleanor; Cullinan, Stephen; Czajkowski, Ania; D'Agostino, Julius; dcalchera@capss.org; DiBiasio, Guy; Distasio, Anthony; Douglas, Bruce; Doyen, Sally; Drezek, Craig ; Edmondson, Craig; Erardi, Joseph; Erwin, David; Fenn, Lawrence; Feser, Elizabeth; Fiftal, Donald; Fish, Robert; Fishman, Therese; Florio, Greg; Forcella, Thomas; Fossbender, Allen; Foye, Richard; baranf@woodstockschools.net; Frechette, Michael; Fuller, Doreen; Gallacher, John; Goens, George; Golden, Judith; Graner, Michael; Guzman, William; Halligan, Kathleen; Harding, David; Henrici, Kenneth ; Howes, Timothy; Hughes, Abigail; Iassogna, Ralph; James, Thomas; Jolin, Michael; Kisiel, Richard; Klein, David; Kohlhagen, Michael; Kozaczka, Robert; Kurtz, Doris; Landon, Elliott; Leake, Donna ; Linton, Jeffrey; Little,

5/11/2009

Good evening,

I wanted to let you know that Senators Dodd and Lieberman sent the attached letter to Governor Rell this afternoon. If you have any questions, or if you would like to discuss this or other education issues with our office, please feel free to contact me any time. I appreciate your continued communication with me and Senator Dodd as we work together for Connecticut students, teachers, and schools.

Thanks and have a great weekend,

Maddy

Madeline H. Gitomer
Legislative Assistant
Subcommittee on Children and Families
Senator Christopher Dodd, Chairman
404B Hart Senate Office Building
Phone: (202) 224-2823

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****Please note that my email address has changed to Madeline_Gitomer@Help.Senate.Gov.**

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5/11/2009

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 8, 2009

Governor M. Jodi Rell
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Rell:

As you are aware, Congress made an historic investment through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), setting aside almost \$542 million in state fiscal stabilization funds for Connecticut. These funds may be used to stabilize state and local budgets, save and create jobs, avoid reductions in education and public safety services, and equally importantly, to support innovative educational initiatives, including school reform and modernization. Understanding the difficult budget situation faced by the state, we ask that you provide greater clarity to our local officials and school districts in regards to the utilization and distribution of the state fiscal stabilization funds as soon as practicable.

The state fiscal stabilization fund, passed by Congress as part of the ARRA, provides a flexible source of funding for state and local governments to help prevent layoffs at primary, secondary and post-secondary public institutions. Funding was also provided to states to avoid reductions in critical public safety services, including fire protection and police. Specifically, the education stabilization funds should also be used to improve teacher quality, create better data systems to track student achievement, improve student assessments, and provide more support for interventions in low-performing schools. In addition, expeditious and innovative utilization of this funding will also position states like Connecticut for nearly \$5 billion in competitive grant opportunities intended for those states that make progress in student achievement and reform goals.

The U.S. Department of Education posted its application for the first two-thirds of these funds on April 1. Over the past month, several states have had their applications approved, including California, South Dakota, Illinois, Mississippi, Minnesota, Oregon, Utah, and Maine. Notably, some of these states have not yet enacted their 2010 budgets. Given the dire situation faced by many of our school districts, some who have been discussing potential layoffs for months, we urge you to clearly outline how ARRA stabilization funds will be distributed and apply for these funds as soon as possible. As many localities finalize their budgets for the next school year, guidance on how much money they will receive and when they will receive it will ensure their ability to make informed decisions on budget issues relating to staffing and education funding.

We look forward to your response and hope to continue to work together to ensure that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act saves and creates jobs for our schools and communities in Connecticut.

Sincerely,



CHRISTOPHER J. DODD
United States Senator



JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN
United States Senator