

## FALL/WINTER 2017-2018

New England School Development Council  
Introduces Its Board of Directors 2017-2018

### OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

**CHAIR: BRENDAN F. MINNIHAN**

Superintendent, SAU #30, Laconia, NH

**VICE-CHAIR: DAVID B. ERWIN**

Superintendent, Berlin Public Schools, Berlin, CT

**TREASURER: MATTHEW A. KEEGAN**

Superintendent, Norwell Public Schools, Norwell, MA

**CLERK: JUDITH J. PAOLUCCI**

Superintendent, Smithfield Public Schools, Smithfield, RI

**RECORDING SECRETARY: DONALD J. BEAUDETTE**

Associate Professor, Boston University, MA

### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

**MARJORIE C. CHIAFERY**, Superintendent, SAU #26, Merrimack, NH

**PETER W. DILLON**, Superintendent, Berkshire Hills RSD, MA

**ELIZABETH E. FESER**, Superintendent, Milford, CT

**MICHAEL F. FITZPATRICK**, Superintendent, Blackstone Valley RVTHS, Upton, MA

**ELLEN H. HALLIDAY**, Superintendent, RSU #29, Houlton, ME

**COLLEEN B. JERMAIN**, Superintendent, Newport, RI

**WILLIAM H. KIMBALL**, Superintendent, Washington Central SU, Montpelier, VT

**VICTOR D. MERCURIO**, Superintendent, East Greenwich, RI

**KATHLEEN A. MURPHY**, Superintendent, SAU #90, Hampton, NH

**JEFFREY R. NEWTON**, Superintendent, East Lyme, CT

**JEFFREY J. PORTER**, Superintendent, MSAD #51, Cumberland & N. Yarmouth, ME

**PETER J. SANCHIONI**, Superintendent, Natick, MA

**TRACY E. WREND**, Superintendent, Lamoille South SU, Morrisville, VT

### May 2017 NESDEC Annual Meeting

*Culturally Responsive Teaching & The Brain*



Zaretta Hammond

**Zaretta Hammond**, author of *Culturally Responsive Teaching & The Brain*, was the 2017 NESDEC Annual Meeting Guest Speaker.

In addition to being an author and speaker at regional and national conferences, Ms.

Hammond has been on staff at national reform organizations, including the

National Equity Project and The Equity Initiative at the Bay Area School Reform Collaborative (an Annenberg funded reform initiative). She is a lecturer at St. Mary's College in California. She is also the author of the popular blog, [ready4rigor.com](http://ready4rigor.com).

In her May 4, 2017 address to the NESDEC Annual Meeting, Ms. Hammond reminded the audience that culturally responsive teaching should not be regarded as mysterious or as knowledge that only a few possess. Rather, when we as

educators are able to recognize culturally different ways of learning, we are less likely to mistake these different ways of learning for intellectual deficits. "For too long, the conversation has been dominated by the idea of the culture of poverty as an organizing social and intellectual frame for teaching marginalized culturally and linguistically diverse students...The chronic achievement gap in most American schools has created an epidemic of dependent learners unprepared to do the higher-order thinking, creative problem solving and analytical reading and writing" (Hammond, 2015).

Ms. Hammond referred to research documenting that underserved English learners, poor students, and students of color tend to receive less instruction in higher order thinking skills than other students, and receive instead a curriculum that is less challenging and more repetitive. As a result, many culturally and linguistically diverse students become dependent learners. Elaborating on her work, Ms. Hammond expressed her intention to offer new ways of thinking about culturally responsive teaching as an extension of brain-based learning, to employ instruction that provides opportunities to engage in what neuroscientists refer to as "productive struggle" (Means & Knapp, 1991; Ritchhart, 2002).

## NESDEC "On the Road"

NESDEC is a comprehensive educational services firm offering assistance to school districts throughout New England. In 2016-17, in addition to offering programs in our Professional Development Center at our Marlborough, MA headquarters, NESDEC conducted programs in several school districts.

### Maine

In collaboration with Superintendent **Jeff Porter** of Maine School Administrative District #51 (Cumberland and North Yarmouth, ME), NESDEC lent its support to a regional workshop to assist neighboring districts with their curriculum mapping efforts. The one-day session was designed to advance the curriculum development work of individual district teams, provide introductory sessions for new participants and foster collaboration and cross-district dialogues of best practices. Approximately 50 participants from around the region attended the workshop.

### Vermont

Working with Superintendent **Tracy Wrend** (Lamoille South SU) and Vermont Superintendents Association (VSA) Executive Director **Jeffrey Francis**, NESDEC helped to support a presentation entitled *Understanding and Mitigating Implicit Bias*. The morning workshop session was offered on May 18, 2017 at the Spring Conference of the VSA and Vermont Council of Special Education Administrators held in Fairlee, Vermont. The workshop presenters were **Robin Wright**, **Lena Tenney** and **Joshua Bates** of the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. The widely-acclaimed feature activity was designed to challenge participants to think critically about the ways in which implicit bias may be operating in their day-to-day lives and in their educational institutions.

### Massachusetts

NESDEC, in collaboration with Natick, MA Superintendent **Peter Sanchioni**, supported the Natick Public Schools' *Innovation and Learning Summit* and the *Natick Wellness Summit*. This is the second time that NESDEC has offered its support for these highly-regarded programs. The *Innovation and Learning Summit* featured numerous professional learning sessions facilitated by expert practitioners. During the *Wellness Summit*, attendees had the opportunity to learn about best practices and research focused upon ways to creatively incorporate physical activity into teaching methods and school policy.



## Start School Later

NESDEC joined forces with **Start School Later** to assist a group of eleven Massachusetts school districts in advancing their efforts to implement a later start time for their high school students.

NESDEC hosted the all-day "Getting It Done" seminar at its Sullivan Professional Development Center in Marlborough, MA. **Jennifer Silberman** (Start School Later Outreach Director) served as coordinator for the event. The conference activities included a presentation by **Dr. Judith Owens**, Director of Pediatric Sleep Disorders at Children's Hospital in Boston, entitled *Translating Science into Practice to Help Students*.



Dr. Judith Owens  
Center for Pediatric Sleep Disorders  
Boston Children's Hospital

After Dr. Owens' presentation, attendees participated in a question/answer/sharing session conducted by Start School Later Implementation Director **Phyllis Payne**. The event concluded with break-out sessions focusing upon building consensus among stakeholders, facilitated by **Tom Conrad** (Superintendent; Nauset, MA Public Schools), **Jose Libano** (Principal; Sharon, MA High School) and Dr. Owens. Each participating school district also received a Start School Later Toolkit as a resource to help guide future efforts toward implementing a later start time.



NESDEC is a Coalition Partner with **Start School Later**. For more information about Start School Later and its resources for assisting school districts, visit [www.startschoollater.net](http://www.startschoollater.net).

# OF INTEREST...

## Title IX Compliance: A High Priority for School Leaders

Title IX has far-reaching implications that go well beyond school athletics to include equal opportunities, regardless of gender, across the broad spectrum of a district's education programs. One of the best ways to ensure that students enjoy the protections of Title IX and that the school district avoids the major headaches and potential expense associated with non-compliance issues is through district self-assessment and periodic training of personnel.

NESDEC can help. To assist districts in achieving and maintaining compliance with Title IX, NESDEC Legal Associate **Attorney Jeanne Colachico** has designed a *Title IX Self-Assessment Inventory*. This unique instrument provides a framework for reviewing and assessing district policies and procedures required by Title IX. The *Title IX Self-Assessment Inventory* is available annually to NESDEC affiliates at no cost. In addition, NESDEC has the capacity to offer school districts customized on-site Title IX training for school personnel. School leaders interested in learning more about the Title IX Self-Assessment Inventory or NESDEC's reasonably priced training are invited to contact the NESDEC office.

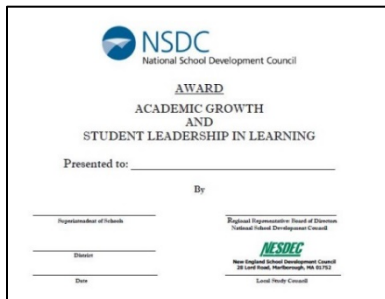
## NESDEC National

NESDEC, in association with its partner, the National School Development Council (NSDC), is pleased to once again offer its affiliated school districts the opportunity to present the

### **National School Development Council Award for Academic Growth and Student Leadership in Learning**

to deserving high school students. The award is designed to be presented to selected high school seniors in the fall. The timing of the award is meant to coincide with the period of the year

when seniors typically are applying to colleges, universities, technical schools or other post-secondary institutions. The number of awards available to a school district is based upon high school student enrollment. NESDEC affiliated superintendents are invited to learn more about the award and/or order awards for their school district by contacting the NESDEC office. The awards are offered free of charge exclusively to NESDEC-affiliated districts. Order forms and more information about the award were sent to NESDEC affiliates early in the 2017-2018 school year.



*NSDC Award for Academic Growth and Student Leadership in Learning*

## Continuing Declines Expected in New England's PK-12 Enrollments

The US Department of Education, from 2013 to 2025, anticipates changes in PK-12 enrollment of **+7.8%** in the South; **+4.47%** in the West, **-2.7%** in the Midwest; and **-4.8%** in the Northeast.

State	Fall 2013	Fall 2025 Projected	PK-12 Decline	% Change, 2013-2025
CT	546,200	468,600	-77,600	-14.2%
ME	183,995	161,900	-22,095	-12.0%
MA	955,739	910,700	-45,039	-4.7%
NH	186,310	159,100	-52,410	-14.6%
RI	142,008	133,900	-8,108	-5.7%
VT	88,690	79,600	-9,090	-10.3%

Source: USDE, National Center for Education Statistics, *Projections of Education Statistics to 2025*, Table 3, pages 40-41.

Despite overall declines regionwide, NESDEC found in over 300 sets of enrollment projections during 2016-17 that about 29% of the districts are expected to increase their enrollment by some amount over the next decade – with 71% of the districts forecast to decline below their 2016-17 PK-12 total enrollments.

## The World's 10 Biggest Cities by 2030

According to the *United Nations' World Urbanization Prospect*, by 2030, the ten biggest cities in the world will be:

10. Mexico City, Mexico: 23.9 million people
9. Lagos, Nigeria: 24.2 million people
8. Cairo, Egypt: 24.5 million people
7. Karachi, Pakistan: 24.8 million people
6. Dhaka, Bangladesh: 27.4 million people
5. Beijing, China: 27.7 million people
4. Mumbai, India: 27.8 million people
3. Shanghai, China: 30.8 million people
2. Delhi, India: 36.1 million people
1. Tokyo, Japan: 37.2 million people



"While population growth in the US and Europe stagnates, the number of people living in the Middle East, Asia, and Africa is going to skyrocket." (Source: *Harrington, Rebecca; Business Insider; June 19, 2017*)

### **NESDEC Executive Searches 2016-2017**

*We congratulate the following school leaders appointed following NESDEC Executive Search Assistance:*

- Dr. Brian Blake**  
Superintendent, Ipswich, MA
- Ms. Patricia Buell**  
Superintendent, Brooklyn, CT
- Dr. Laura Chesson**  
Superintendent, Groton-Dunstable RSD, MA
- Ms. Denise Clemons**  
Superintendent, Torrington, CT
- Dr. Stephen Donovan**  
Executive Director, North River Collaborative
- Dr. Mark Garceau**  
Superintendent, Westerly, RI
- Dr. Victoria Greer**  
Superintendent, Sharon, MA
- Mr. Ron Griffin**  
Superintendent, Scituate, MA
- Ms. Kim Holley**  
Executive Director, Ben Bronz Foundation, Inc.
- Dr. Andrew Keough**  
Superintendent, Dover-Sherborn, MA
- Mr. Gary Mala**  
Executive Director, EASTCONN
- Dr. Judith Paolucci**  
Superintendent, Smithfield, RI
- Mr. Steven Rioux**  
Superintendent, Killingly, CT
- Ms. Susan Rothermich**  
Director of Business and Finance, Hopkinton, MA
- Dr. Roy Seitsinger**  
Superintendent, Preston, CT
- Dr. Robert Tremblay**  
Superintendent, Framingham, MA
- Dr. Arthur Unobskey**  
Superintendent, Wayland, MA
- Mr. David Verdolino**  
Director of Finance, Acton-Boxborough RSD, MA

### **NESDEC Current Executive Searches 2017-18**

*Acton-Boxborough RSD, MA – Superintendent Search  
Hopkinton, MA – Superintendent Search  
Newburyport, MA – Superintendent Search  
SAU #21 (Hampton Falls, North Hampton, Seabrook, South Hampton and Winnacunnet, NH) – Superintendent Search  
Wilmington, MA – Superintendent Search*

**For more information, please call the NESDEC Search Office at 508-481-9444, email us at [search@nesdec.org](mailto:search@nesdec.org), or visit [http://www.nesdec.org/executive\\_search/currentsearches.aspx](http://www.nesdec.org/executive_search/currentsearches.aspx)**

### **NESDEC Planning and Management Projects 2016-2017**

*We are pleased to have completed planning projects in the following districts:*

- Burlington, MA**  
Enrollment and Demographic Study
- Chelsea, MA**  
School Facilities Educational Adequacy Assessment
- Easton, CT**  
Best Educational Use of Facilities Study
- East Providence, RI**  
Demographic Study
- FLLAC Educational Collaborative**  
Strategic Planning
- Framingham, MA**  
Demographic Update; Human Resources Audit
- Hampden-Wilbraham RSD, MA**  
Demographic Analysis Update
- Hebron, CT**  
Best Educational Use of Facilities Study
- Ipswich, MA**  
Human Resources Audit
- Medfield, MA**  
Strategic Plan
- Nashoba RSD, MA**  
Demographic Study
- North Branford, CT**  
Strategic Plan
- North Kingstown, RI**  
Demographic Analysis Update; Facilities Study
- Old Saybrook, CT**  
Strategic Plan
- Plainville, MA**  
Demography
- Saugus, MA**  
Athletics Audit; Cost/Benefit Analysis, Food Services Audit
- SAU #85 (Sunapee, NH)**  
Strategic Planning
- Seekonk, MA**  
Best Educational Use of Facilities Study
- Southwick-Tolland-Granville RSD, MA**  
Best Educational Use of Facilities Study
- Sudbury, MA**  
Demographic Study
- Watertown, MA**  
Extended Day Program Review

### **NESDEC Current Planning Projects 2017-18**

*Central Falls, RI – Demographic Study (with Architect)  
Milford, MA – Long Range School Facilities Master Plan  
Norfolk, MA – Demographic Study  
RSU 26, Orono, ME – Demographic Study  
SAU #11 (Dover, NH) – Strategic Planning  
Seekonk, MA – Strategic Planning  
Springfield, MA – Long-Range School Facilities Master Plan  
Sudbury, MA – Strategic Planning  
Taunton, MA – Demographic Study  
Wilton, CT – School Facilities Best Use Study  
Worcester, MA – Feasibility Study for South High School (with Architect)*

Member:



Coalition Partner:

