NEWS

Connecticut Department of Education

State Department of Education Contact: Office of Communications (860) 713-6548

For Immediate Release

NASBE seeks public input for Connecticut Commissioner of Education search

October 17, 2006

(Hartford, CT)--The National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) in conjunction with the Connecticut State Board of Education (CSBE) is seeking input on the skills and characteristics for the next Connecticut Commissioner of Education. NASBE has been retained by the CSBE to conduct a nationwide search to identify candidates for one of the most critical positions in state government.

"We are asking Connecticut citizens and interested groups for their advice because we value their opinions on what skills, experience and outlook the next Commissioner of Education should possess," said Allan Taylor, Chairman of the CSBE. "The successful candidate will work with the Board to move forward an aggressive agenda that will provide children the best possible educational opportunities."

Anyone interested is encouraged to respond to the following questions at CTsearch@nasbe.org:

- What are the most critical education issues in Connecticut?
- What skills, experiences, and characteristics do you believe are essential for the next Connecticut Commissioner of Education to address these issues?
- What advice would you give to the Board as it proceeds with this process?

The search process has begun and the Board hopes to name a new Commissioner by the end of the year.

The Connecticut public school system serves more than 578,000 students (Pre-K through Grade 12) in 1,188 schools and programs. The Connecticut State Board of Education and the Connecticut State Department of Education protect the educational interests of the

state by providing leadership and service to the 197 school districts (includes charters and regional school districts) that work directly with these students and adult learners.

NASBE is a non-profit organization founded in 1958. The organization works to strengthen state leadership in educational policymaking, promote excellence in the education of all students, advocate equality of access to educational opportunity, and assure continued citizen support for public education.

For additional questions about the Commissioner of Education search, contact Michael Hill, Deputy Executive Director, NASBE, at (800) 368-5023, extension 1109. Additional information can be located at www.nasbe.org.

###