



For Immediate Release:

January 9, 2013

Contact: Kelly Donnelly 860.713.6525

Dr. Sarah Barzee Named Interim Chief Talent Officer

Hartford, CT—Dr. Sarah Barzee was named Interim Chief Talent Officer today by the State Board of Education, which will be effective January 10th. In her most recent role as Division Director for Leadership Development, Dr. Barzee has worked to support Connecticut educators through guiding the implementation of the state's new educator evaluation and support system. As Interim Chief Talent Officer, her role will expand to include oversight of the state's professional development policies, educator recruitment initiatives, and leadership development efforts.

Dr. Barzee succeeds Dr. Diane Ullman in the CTO role. Dr. Ullman will continue her work with the SDE in the capacity of Senior Advisor to the Commissioner in the area of educator evaluation and support.

"Dr. Barzee is extremely capable, clearly talented, and a true asset to the State Department of Education," said State Board of Education Chair Allan Taylor. "We congratulate her on her appointment and look forward to working with her."

Commissioner Pryor said: "As a key member of our core team, Dr. Barzee's able leadership has already shaped our work in the area of teacher and leader evaluation and support. We are confident that Sarah will succeed in her new, even more senior position. I am also grateful to Dr. Ullman for her continuing and invaluable service."

Prior to her role at CSDE, Dr. Barzee was assistant executive director for the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) where she managed and implemented CREC's services to school districts, other agencies, and CREC programs. She served as a liaison between CREC and local school districts, governmental agencies, colleges, universities, businesses, and other external organizations in addition to providing overall direction and coordination of CREC's educational programs and services. Before joining CREC, Dr. Barzee was employed, for over seven years, by the State Education Resource Center (SERC) in various capacities, including as Associate Director. A former principal, adjunct professor, and teacher for both regular and special education students, Dr. Barzee holds a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in leadership from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan; a sixth year certificate in educational administration and supervision from the University of Hartford; and a master's degree and a bachelor's degree in special education from Saint Joseph College.

###

Kelly Donnelly
Director of Communications and Community Partnerships
Connecticut Department of Education
165 Capitol Avenue, Room 312
Hartford, Connecticut 06106
Phone: 860-713-6525
Email: Kelly.Donnelly@ct.gov