



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



September 23, 2016

Dr. Beth Schiavino-Narvaez
Superintendent of Schools
Hartford Public Schools
960 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Dr. Schiavino-Narvaez:

Districts were recently asked to provide 2015-16 and 2016-17 budgeted appropriation information in order for the Department of Education to determine the 2016-17 Minimum Budget Requirement (MBR). Based on the information submitted, Hartford **is currently in noncompliance by \$1,207,043**. Attached is the calculation used to determine Hartford's MBR.

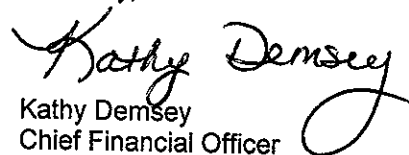
However, districts are afforded a deduction for new and documentable savings. Legislation allows for a deduction for any district that realizes new and documentable savings through increased district efficiencies approved by the Commissioner of Education or through regional collaboration or cooperative arrangements pursuant to Section 10-158a of the Connecticut General Statutes. Any district that realizes such savings may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to half of the amount of savings experienced as a result of such district efficiencies, regional collaboration or cooperative arrangement, provided such reduction shall not exceed one-half of one percent of the district's budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. If your district has experienced savings and you wish to apply for this deduction, please contact me for further instructions.

If you are not applying for the savings deduction, please indicate by January 1, 2017, if you anticipate the city providing the board of education with the additional funds during this fiscal year. If additional funds are appropriated, please notify Kevin Chambers at 860-713-6455 immediately so your data can be updated accordingly.

Please note that pursuant to Section 10-262i(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes, failure to meet the 2016-17 MBR results in a forfeiture of Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant funds in the amount equal to two times the shortfall. Such forfeiture would be deducted from the district's 2018-19 ECS grant. Based on the current shortfall of \$1,207,043, the reduction to the ECS grant would equal \$2,414,086. The State Board of Education may waive such forfeiture if the city agrees to appropriate to the board of education in 2018-19 an amount in excess of the MBR that is at least equal to the penalty. In addition, the State Board of Education may waive the forfeiture for other good cause.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 860-713-6464 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Kathy Demsey
Chief Financial Officer

KD:kk

cc: Dianna R. Wentzell, Commissioner of Education
Peter Haberlandt, Director, Legal and Governmental Affairs
Luke Bronin, Mayor, City of Hartford
Paula Altieri, Chief Financial Officer, Hartford Public Schools
Kevin Chambers, Education Consultant, Bureau of Grants Management
Attachment

