

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Coventry Board of Education Invites Community to Assist in Developing
Candidate Profile for New Superintendent of Schools**

Coventry, CT—The Coventry Board of Education and the C.E.S. Executive Search Team invite the Coventry community to participate in focus group meetings on Monday, May 16 at Library Media Center at the CHS/CNHMS complex to identify key qualifications that the community finds crucial to the success of the next superintendent of schools. A complete schedule of meeting times is below.

Those individuals who are unable to make a focus group session or do not wish to attend are encouraged to complete a brief online survey that will also be considered to determine the professional experience, qualities and personal characteristics that are most important in the new Coventry Superintendent of Schools candidate.

“The Board of Education felt that Residents and school staff should be given the opportunity to help identify the qualifications the next superintendent of schools will bring to Coventry,” explained Cheryl Trudon, Chair of the Board of Education.

The survey will be available to the Coventry community on the district website from May 13 through midnight on May 20. The survey is anonymous, and all staff, students and parents are encouraged to participate.

The data collected at the focus group sessions, along with the survey results, will be assessed by the C.E.S. Executive Search Team. The data will serve as a guideline for superintendent candidates and will aid the Board in the interview and decision-making process.

C.E.S. Executive Searches was selected by the Coventry Board of Education to conduct a comprehensive search for a new superintendent of schools after the current superintendent, Dr. Donna Bernard, announced her plans to retire.

The C.E.S. Team provides boards of education in Connecticut with a comprehensive approach to hiring superintendent, assistant superintendents and central office staff in a cost effective manner, and the full resources of the regional educational service center are devoted to finding qualified candidates for executive positions in public education.

“Establishing a clear understanding of the Coventry community’s expectations of its next superintendent is critical to the success of the search and to the eventual success of the new superintendent, “ stated Dr. James Ritchie, one of two lead consultants from C.E.S. “The data we collect will serve as a guide during the next phase of the search and will assist the new superintendent once s/he is appointed.”

With the help of the C.E.S. Executive Searches Team, a new Superintendent will be selected by the Board of Education this summer, and should anticipate beginning employment on or before the start of the new school year. A total compensation package will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

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**SCHEDULE
Monday, May 16, 2011
Library Media Center at the CHS/CNHMS**

2:45PM - Coventry Public Schools Administration
3:45PM - Coventry Public Schools Teachers and Staff
6:00PM - Parents and Community Members
7:15 PM - Board of Education