



# Bureau of Special Education

## Back-to-School Meeting

Connecticut State Department of Education | September 12, 2018

### SURROGATE PARENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Effective May 2018, Georgette Nemr was appointed to coordinate the Surrogate Parent Program(SPP) and serves as Connecticut State Department of Education point of contact on educational stability and school of origin as required under federal and state law.

Our focus for the year is to review, improve and streamline all program procedures and communications and to develop a process for continuous improvement of the SPP.

A new program Web page has been developed and is accessible at:

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Special-Education/Surrogate-Parent-Program>. The Web page contains the updated program procedures manual for contracted surrogate parents, forms and other related resources including contact information for current surrogates.

In an effort to ensure that Surrogate Parents are provided required and timely information on their assigned students, we ask that Special Education Directors and Supervisors provide copies of relevant student records in a timely manner including:

- Individualized Education Program (IEP);
- Report cards and progress reports;
- Evaluations pertaining to the education of the student. The term “evaluation” includes psychological evaluations, psychiatric evaluations, hospital discharge summaries, triennial evaluations, neurological evaluations, and evaluations concerning a child’s need for a related service; and
- Disciplinary records pertaining to the student including specific data on all suspensions.

We are closely working with our 70 Surrogate Parents and with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) Regional Educational Consultants, to ensure ongoing and timely communications and appropriate services for our students.

Over the next year, we will systematically reach out to all Special Education Directors to gain feedback on your experiences with the program.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Georgette directly at 860-713-6716 or by e-mail at [Surrogate.Parent@ct.gov](mailto:Surrogate.Parent@ct.gov).