



## To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

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| <b>DATE:</b>       | <b>October 29, 2020</b>                                |
| <b>SUBJECT:</b>    | <b>Windham School District Family Literacy Program</b> |
| <b>CATEGORY:</b>   | <b>Partnership Opportunity</b>                         |
| <b>NEXT STEPS:</b> | <b>Share with appropriate staff</b>                    |

This *To the Administrator Addressed* letter is being sent on behalf of the Windham School District (WSD). The WSD would like to partner with various Texas school districts to provide a Family Literacy program. The Family Literacy Program is designed to help incarcerated parents with educational needs to become effective, supportive, active partners in the education of their children with the goal of eliminating the potential for generational incarceration and increasing student growth of both the parent and child. Components include academic, career and technical education and parenting skills classes for the incarcerated parent, participation in parent-teacher conferences via conference call with school districts in which their children are enrolled, and opportunities to practice and apply appropriate classroom and parent-child activities, such as reading together, that will occur virtually or through visitation in the future.

The focus of this program is to allow incarcerated parents a chance to be involved in their children's education. WSD will provide the incarcerated parent with the knowledge and skills in order to be supportive partners in their children's lives. Participation from the school district is requested in order for the incarcerated parent to apply their newly learned skills in situations such as parent-teacher conferences. WSD will gain consent from the custodial parent/caregiver prior to initiating contact with the partnering district and will also accept referrals. Our hope is that our collaborative efforts will lead to increased participation from incarcerated parents and custodial parents/caregivers to support the success of school age children in academic and behavioral endeavors.

WSD will host a Zoom meeting in the near future for the purpose of a program overview. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact WSD by email at [superintendent@wsdtx.org](mailto:superintendent@wsdtx.org). WSD looks forward to future partnerships with your school district and the success that will follow.