

My name is Esther Bobowick and I am the Director for Professional Development Services at Cooperative Educational Services in Trumbull CT. Our Regional Educational Service Center provides services to 16 towns in Fairfield County. I am in favor of Bill 6686, The Teacher Education and Mentoring Program, which will provide for the development and support of a critically important Mentor Teacher training program for new teacher induction in Connecticut. Student achievement is the result of quality instruction. New teachers can grow to be outstanding instructors and facilitators of learning when properly guided by master teachers in their buildings. Mentor training provides key learning for master teachers related to how to assist new teachers with meeting curriculum standards, assessing student learning, creating a positive learning environment and differentiating instruction so that all students can be successful. Training mentor teachers to work with new teachers can **accelerate** a new teacher's ability to produce **results** in the classroom.

Passage of Bill 6686 will enable Connecticut to continue to be regarded at the national level as a leader in this field. I urge your participation in supporting this legislation.