

Dear Governor Malloy,

I am aware that the removal of funding for Connecticard, CLC and grants to public libraries and the statues that authorize these programs are under consideration in your upcoming budget.

Support to public and school libraries through CLC, Connecticard and grants must be upheld for our democracy to flourish. Without these services to public and school libraries every school student in CT and every library user in CT will suffer. Roundtables for library professionals will not occur and the incredible work they produce will be lost. Four years ago I saw a need for a roundtable in CT to serve the elementary school library media specialists in Fairfield County. Without the support of CLC I never would have been connected to my college Jan Redfern in Oxford The wonderful events over the past four years we have organized at many of the school libraries in Fairfield County would never have happened. During these roundtables we have supported each other through the changes of No Child Left Behind, Common Core Implementation SBAC testing, and the many, many changes in technology that have occurred in our schools. We are better teachers and library media specialists because of our collegiality at these roundtables, and our students have benefitted from this immeasurably.

I implore you to reconsider the de-funding of Connecticard, CLC and the grants to public libraries for the sake of every public school student in CT.

Thank you,

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