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# How Adults Can Buffer Stress for Young Children and Reduce Challenging Behaviors



This is a professional learning opportunity to support teachers and leaders engaged in the work of designing early learning environments that buffer stress, reduce challenging behaviors, and promote children's healthy development ages 3-8.

Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019 9:00 am - 2:30 pm Goodwin College 1 Riverside Drive East Hartford, CT 06118

### Audience: Prek - Grade 3

Administrators, Teachers, Related Service Staff, Board of Education Members, & Community Partners. Teams are encouraged to attend.

## **Topics And Guest Speakers:**

Opening Remarks: Dr. Miguel Cardona, CT Commissioner of Education Beth Bye, CT Commissioner of Early Childhood



# Executive Function and Active Engagement in Learning: Approaches to Increase Self-Regulation and Outcomes for Children

**Elizabeth Aschenbrenner** and a panel of school district administrators and teachers will present.

**Elizabeth Aschenbrenner, Project Director** has worked with districts over the past 6 years to incorporate executive function skills of children in preschool, kindergarten and the primary grades to increase student engagement and self-regulation in the context of standards, curriculum and cognitive rigor. Her work is funded by school districts, the CT Office of Early Childhood, and the LEGO™ Community Fund US. She serves on the CT Birth − Grade 2 Leadership Team. Her teaching and administrative experiences have been in bilingual, multicultural schools in California, Connecticut and Texas.



#### **Classroom Strategies to Decrease and Respond to Disruptive Behaviors**

**Amanda P. Williford, Ph.D. is a Clinical Psychologist and a Research Associate Professor** at the Curry School of Education, University of Virginia. She conducts research exploring how young children best develop school readiness skills, with special emphasis on the development of social-emotional skills. Her primary research focus is on developing and evaluating classroom-based interventions for young children who display disruptive behavior problems and/or deficits in behavioral and emotional self-regulation.

Registration Link: <a href="http://casci.ac/4736">http://casci.ac/4736</a> \$40/pp includes coffee and lunch

Contact: Andrea Brinnel Andrea. Brinnel@ct.gov or Rosie Vojtek rvojtek@casciac.org

## Partners

CT Office of Early Childhood, CT State Department of Education, Birth to Three Leaders, UConn Neag School of Education, CT Association of Public School Superintendents, Enfield KITE, EASTCONN, CT Association of Boards of Education, CT Association of Schools, RESC Alliance, and CT Children's Medical Center