**CT Definition of Professional Learning (June 2015)**

High-quality professional learning is a process that ensures all educators have equitable access throughout their career continuum to relevant, individual, and collaborative opportunities to enhance their practice so that all students advance towards positive academic and non-academic outcomes.

**Cultural Competence:** Professional learning that enhances both educator practice and outcomes for each and every student facilitates educators’ self-examination of their awareness, knowledge, skills and actions that pertain to culture and how they can develop culturally-responsive strategies to enrich the educational experiences for all students.

**Learning Communities:** Professional learning that enhances both educator practice and outcomes for each and every student occurs within learning communities committed to continuous growth, collective responsibility, family and community engagement and alignment of district and school vision and goals.

**Leadership:** Professional learning that enhances both educator practice and outcomes for each and every student requires and develops leadership capacity at all levels to advocate for and create systems for professional learning.

**Resources:** Professional learning that enhances both educator practice and outcomes for each and every student requires purposeful planning for the identification, use, allocation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of equitable resources to support educator learning.

**Data:** Professional learning that enhances both educator practice and outcomes for each and every student requires the use of both quantitative and qualitative student, educator and system data to plan, implement, monitor and assess professional learning.

**Learning Designs:** Professional learning that enhances both educator practice and outcomes for each and every student integrates research on effective adult learning and uses flexible learning designs to achieve intended outcomes.

**Implementation:** Professional learning that enhances both educator practice and outcomes for each and every student applies change research and uses tools to identify and support the developmental stages of change and ensures the fidelity of implementation.

**Outcomes:** Professional learning that enhances both educator practice and outcomes for each and every student is aligned with district/school goals, relevant Connecticut standards, and other agreed-upon standards for educator practice and student growth.