



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT**

George Mastoras

(617) 378-3926

[gmastoras@timeandlearning.org](mailto:gmastoras@timeandlearning.org)

*Statement from Jennifer Davis, Co-Founder & President of the National Center on Time & Learning (NCTL), on today's announcement of expanded learning time grants in Connecticut.*

"We congratulate the seven schools in four districts in Connecticut that have been awarded \$800,000 in grants to support expanded learning time. I applaud Governor Malloy and the Connecticut State Department of Education for their investment in expanding opportunities for the students at these schools. With expanded learning time, these schools will be able to provide their students with more time for core academics, targeted intervention and support, and engaging enrichment classes as well as more time for teachers to collaborate and plan.

All of the expanded learning time schools receiving grants participate in the TIME Collaborative. The TIME Collaborative, led by NCTL with leadership support from the Ford Foundation, helps schools redesign their schedule by adding 300 hours beyond the traditional 6.5 hour, 180 school day schedule. This additional time allows for engaging activities such as arts, music, and hands-on science instruction. We look forward to continuing to support these schools as well as working with more schools in Connecticut considering expanded learning time.

These grants were awarded as part of the federal 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program, which supports both expanded learning time initiatives and before- and after-school programs."

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*The National Center on Time & Learning (NCTL) ([www.timeandlearning.org](http://www.timeandlearning.org)) is dedicated to expanding learning time to improve student achievement and enable a well-rounded education. Through research, public policy, and technical assistance, NCTL supports national, state, and local initiatives that add significantly more school time for academic and enrichment opportunities to help all children meet the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*