

# OVAE CONNECTION

## Sustainability Education Summit Being Held September 20—21

The U.S. Department of Education, in coordination with other federal agencies, is hosting the *Sustainability Education Summit: Citizenship and Pathways for a Green Economy* at the Washington Plaza Hotel on Sept. 20—21, 2010. The summit will be a working meeting to discuss elements of an agenda and possible action steps for education, business and industry, government and the environmental community to promote the transition to a sustainable, green economy. Sets of sector-specific action steps will be considered as part of a broad national approach, centering on higher education and the education system in general. The dual themes of “citizenship” and “pathways” indicate that sustainability is valued in education both as a motivator for responsible behavior and as preparation for tomorrow’s workforce in the context of the economic imperatives for sustainable industries. The summit will bring together national leaders from education, business and industry, government and NGOs to form shared visions and strategies for education’s role in building a sustainable, green economy. Among those on the agenda are: Secretary of Education Arne Duncan; Under Secretary of Energy Kristina Johnson; Michael Crow, president of Arizona State University; and Chad Holliday, chairman of the board of Bank of America and former CEO of DuPont.

Registration is at capacity, and a conference report will be made available early in 2011. Questions regarding the summit may be sent via email to [greensummit@ed.gov](mailto:greensummit@ed.gov) or Leigh Jenkins at [leigh.jenkins@ed.gov](mailto:leigh.jenkins@ed.gov).

## A Message from Assistant Secretary Brenda Dann-Messier

I would like to tell you about a very special coalition to ensure that all children who are eligible for Medicaid and CHIP are enrolled in coverage and stay enrolled for as long as they are eligible. Many of them are the sons and daughters of adult students in our programs nationwide. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan have created the Connecting Kids to Coverage Challenge to enroll 5 million children in Medicaid and CHIP within five years. Since last February, they have built an unprecedented coalition of partners, including 17 national organizations and a number of states that signed on to the Connecting Kids to Coverage Challenge. Although health coverage is currently available to children in families with incomes of up to about \$45,000 per year in nearly every state, an estimated 5 million uninsured children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP but not enrolled. Every child in every state counts. For more information, visit [the Connecting Kids to Coverage Challenge](#).

## Innovative Program at Connecticut’s Sound School

“Capturing student interest and energy is the key to engaging students and motivating them to stay in school—and it is the philosophy behind [The Sound School](#),” says Steven Pynn, the school’s principal. The Sound School is designed to engage high school students in both academic education and “real-world” contexts reinforcing the relevance of Student Success Plans (*a.k.a.* Programs of Study) to meet education and career goals. This Regional Vocational Aquaculture Center is part of the New Haven Connecticut Public School System. Students at The Sound School are studying finfish (*i.e.*, fish with fins), harvesting oysters, farming lobsters, and participating in marine science and research.

The Sound School is the first full-time center in Connecticut to concentrate in the study of aquaculture and marine trades. The science laboratories are among the most advanced in the country and were designed to industry standards. The school maintains a fleet of vessels including a 50 ft. research vessel. That vessel is operated by students who are involved in research studies in partnership with Yale University, the University of New Haven, Quinnipiac University, Sacred Heart University, Southern Connecticut State University, and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Solid training in mathematics, science and the marine trades allows students to pursue further education in college and the technical trades, or to apply their vocational and personal skills directly in the job market.