March 5, 2020

SECRETARY GALVIN ADDRESSES SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS TOMORROW ABOUT UPCOMING 2020 CENSUS

Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin, the designated 2020 Census Liaison for Massachusetts, will be addressing a meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents' Urban Superintendent Network tomorrow about the fast-approaching 2020 United States Census. The meeting is being held at Assabet Valley Collaborative at 28 Lord Rd. in Marlborough at 11 a.m.

Galvin will be speaking to the superintendents about the need for the cooperation of local schools in reaching out to the parents of school-aged children and educating them about the importance of responding to the 2020 Census.

Major targets of outreach efforts made by Galvin's office are foreign-born parents of children in local schools. Immigrant residents are often less likely to respond to the census, either because they are not aware that they should be included in the count or due to fear of responding. The federal census is required to count all residents, whether or not they are citizens, and all personal information gathered in the census is completely confidential.

Galvin's office will be providing multi-lingual fliers to be sent home in children's backpacks to explain how the census works and what the information is used for. Census data guides how more than $675 billion in federal funding is distributed to states and communities each year for schools, health care facilities, roads, transportation, social services, and more.

With cities and towns recently mailing out their local census forms, Galvin will also be speaking about the differences between those forms, which are used by the town each year to maintain voter lists and state jury lists, and the federal census, which the U.S. Constitution requires be held every 10 years to count every person in the country.

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