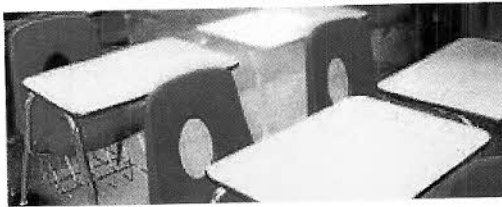


The Register Citizen (<http://www.registercitizen.com>)

## Merrill: Close Connecticut schools on Election Day

By The Associated Press

Monday, December 16, 2013



HARTFORD >> Secretary of the State Denise Merrill is encouraging Connecticut schools to close on Election Day.

Merrill appeared Monday before a task force that's developing guidelines for regional educational service centers to use in creating uniform regional school calendars.

Merrill said more than 100 schools where polling places are located are already closed on Election Day for mostly student security reasons. In many of those districts, the teachers use that day for professional development. She said she's recommending that other districts follow suit.

Merrill said schools make great polling places. They're centrally located and have adequate parking.

She urged the task force to consider that state law requires primary elections to be held in the same polling place as the general election.

The task force faces a Jan. 1 deadline.

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