Connecticut State Department of Education

DISTRICT PROFILE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2014–15



Fairfield School District

Dr. David Title, Superintendent • 203-255-8371 • http://fairfieldschools.org/

District Information

| Grade Range | PK-12 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Number of Schools/Programs | 19 |
| Enrollment | 10,213 |
| Per Pupil Expenditures ¹ | \$15,660 |
| Total Expenditures ¹ | \$162,160,782 |

¹Expenditure data reflect the 2013-14 year.



Community Information

<u>CERC Town Profiles</u> provide summary demographic and economic information for Connecticut's municipalities

Related Reports/Publications

CT Reports (CMT/CAPT)
District and School Performance Reports
Special Education Annual Performance Reports
SAT®, AP®, PSAT® Report by High School (Class of 2015)
(2015® The College Board)

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Notes

Unless otherwise noted, all data are for 2014-15 and include all grades offered by the district.

In most tables, data are displayed only for the three major race/ethnicity categories. For additional race/ethnicity categories, please visit EdSight.ct.gov).

State totals are not displayed as they are not comparable to district totals.

Special Education tables reflect only students for whom the district is fiscally responsible.

* When an asterisk is displayed, data have been

suppressed to ensure student confidentiality. N/A is displayed when a category is not applicable for a district or school.

Students

| October 1, 2014 Enrollment | | | | | |
|--|--------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| | | District | State | | |
| | Count | Percent of Total (%) | Percent of Total (%) | | |
| Female | 5,035 | 49.3 | 48.3 | | |
| Male | 5,178 | 50.7 | 51.6 | | |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 10 | 0.1 | 0.2 | | |
| Asian | 564 | 5.5 | 4.7 | | |
| Black or African American | 256 | 2.5 | 12.9 | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 908 | 8.9 | 22.1 | | |
| Pacific Islander | 6 | 0.1 | 0.0 | | |
| Two or More Races | 307 | 3.0 | 2.5 | | |
| White | 8,162 | 79.9 | 57.2 | | |
| English Language Learners | 209 | 2.0 | 6.3 | | |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 957 | 9.4 | 37.6 | | |
| Students with Disabilities ¹ | 1 1/16 | 11 2 | 13.3 | | |

¹Students in this category are students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) only. This category does not include students with Section 504 Plans.

Chronic Absenteeism and Suspension/Expulsion

| | Chronic | | Suspension/ | |
|--|--------------------------|----------|-------------|--------------------|
| | Absenteeism ² | | Expu | lsion ³ |
| | Count | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Female | 201 | 4.1 | 36 | 0.7 |
| Male | 172 | 3.4 | 129 | 2.4 |
| Black or African American | 17 | 6.9 | 22 | 8.6 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 43 | 4.8 | 26 | 2.8 |
| White | 289 | 3.6 | 103 | 1.2 |
| English Language Learners | 9 | 4.3 | 18 | 8.5 |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 89 | 9.8 | 57 | 5.5 |
| Students with Disabilities | 76 | 7.0 | 50 | 3.9 |
| District | 373 | 3.7 | 165 | 1.6 |
| State | | 10.6 | | 7.2 |

Number of students in 2013-14 qualified as truant under state statute: 25

²A student is chronically absent if he/she misses ten percent or greater of the total number of days enrolled in the school year for any reason. Pre-Kindergarten students are excluded from this calculation.

³The count and percentage of students who receive at least one in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

Educators

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)1 Staff

| | FTE |
|--|-------|
| General Education | |
| Teachers and Instructors | 686.9 |
| Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants | 43.3 |
| Special Education | |
| Teachers and Instructors | 103.0 |
| Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants | 157.8 |
| Administrators, Coordinators and Department Chairs | |
| District Central Office | 14.0 |
| School Level | 40.8 |
| Library/Media | |
| Specialists (Certified) | 19.0 |
| Support Staff | 15.0 |
| Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers | 69.4 |
| Counselors, Social Workers and School Psychologists | 61.7 |
| School Nurses | 21.5 |
| Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services/Support | 428.0 |

¹In the full-time equivalent count, staff members working part-time in the school are counted as a fraction of full-time. For example, a teacher who works half-time in a school contributes 0.50 to the school's staff count.

Educators by Race/Ethnicity

| | | District | State |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| | Count Percent of Total (%) | | Percent of Total (%) |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Asian | 7 | 0.7 | 1.0 |
| Black or African American | 5 | 0.5 | 3.5 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 18 | 1.8 | 3.5 |
| Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Two or More Races | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| White | 986 | 97.1 | 91.8 |

Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers²

| | Percent of Total (%) | | |
|--|----------------------|--|--|
| District | 100.0 | | |
| District Poverty Quartile: Low | | | |
| State High Poverty Quartile Schools 97.9 | | | |
| State Low Poverty Quartile Schools | 99.6 | | |

 $^{^2\}mbox{Core}$ academic classes taught by teachers who are fully certified to teach in that subject area.

Classroom Teacher Attendance: 2013-14

| | District | State |
|---|----------|-------|
| Average Number of FTE Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time | 9.9 | 9.2 |

Instruction and Resources

11th and 12th Graders Enrolled in College-and-Career-Readiness Courses during High School³

| | 11th | | 12th | |
|--|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| | Count | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Black or African American | 27 | 90.0 | 22 | 81.5 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 53 | 93.0 | 59 | 92.2 |
| White | 591 | 94.9 | 554 | 94.5 |
| English Language Learners | 9 | * | 9 | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 63 | 90.0 | 58 | 82.9 |
| Students with Disabilities | 76 | 85.4 | 68 | 73.9 |
| District | 721 | 94.6 | 681 | 94.1 |
| State | | 58.4 | | 73.8 |

³College-and-Career-Readiness Courses include Advanced Placement®(AP), International Baccalaureate®(IB), Career and Technical Education(CTE), workplace experience and dual enrollment courses.

Students with Disabilities Who Spend 79.1 to 100 Percent of Time with Nondisabled Peers⁴

| | Count | Rate (%) |
|----------------------------|-------|----------|
| Autism | 78 | 59.1 |
| Emotional Disturbance | 25 | 43.9 |
| Intellectual Disability | 16 | 47.1 |
| Learning Disability | 319 | 92.2 |
| Other Health Impairment | 210 | 83.0 |
| Other Disabilities | 16 | 43.2 |
| Speech/Language Impairment | 167 | 86.1 |
| District | 831 | 78.9 |
| State | | 69.7 |
| | | |

⁴Ages 6-21

Students with Disabilities by Primary Disability¹

| | Dis | State | |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| | Count | Rate (%) | Rate (%) |
| Autism | 135 | 1.3 | 1.5 |
| Emotional Disturbance | 58 | 0.6 | 1.0 |
| Intellectual Disability | 35 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| Learning Disability | 346 | 3.4 | 4.4 |
| Other Health Impairment | 254 | 2.5 | 2.6 |
| Other Disabilities | 44 | 0.4 | 1.0 |
| Speech/Language Impairment | 224 | 2.2 | 1.9 |
| All Disabilities | 1,096 | 10.8 | 13.0 |

Students with Disabilities Placed Outside of the District²

| | District | | State |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|-------|
| | Count | Rate (%) | |
| Public Schools in Other Districts | 36 | 3.3 | 8.1 |
| Private Schools or Other Settings | 39 | 3.6 | 5.4 |

²Grades K-12

Overall Expenditures: 2013-14

| | | Per I | Pupil | | |
|---|-------------|---------------|------------|--|--|
| | Total (\$) | District (\$) | State (\$) | | |
| Instructional Staff and Services | 88,489,633 | 8,628 | 9,134 | | |
| Instructional Supplies and Equipment | 1,342,890 | 131 | 334 | | |
| Improvement of Instruction and Educational Media Services | 9,894,093 | 965 | 498 | | |
| Student Support Services | 11,968,582 | 1,167 | 1,001 | | |
| Administration and Support Services | 17,556,461 | 1,712 | 1,694 | | |
| Plant Operation and Maintenance | 16,049,264 | 1,565 | 1,572 | | |
| Transportation | 8,368,377 | 774 | 813 | | |
| Costs of Students Tuitioned Out | 6,440,182 | N/A | N/A | | |
| Other | 2,051,300 | 200 | 186 | | |
| Total | 162,160,782 | 15,660 | 15,289 | | |
| Additional Expenditures | | | | | |
| Land, Buildings, and Debt Service | 19,736,924 | 1,924 | 1,272 | | |

³Expenditures may be supported by local tax revenues, state grants, federal grants, municipal in-kind services, tuition and other sources.

Special Education Expenditures: 2013-14

| | Dist | rict | State |
|----------------------------|------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Total (\$) | Percent of Total (%) | Percent of Total (%) |
| Certified Personnel | 16,100,773 | 42.1 | 35.1 |
| Noncertified Personnel | 3,891,620 | 10.2 | 14.2 |
| Purchased Services | 3,517,294 | 9.2 | 5.2 |
| Tuition to Other Schools | 6,115,764 | 16.0 | 22.0 |
| Special Ed. Transportation | 2,458,474 | 6.4 | 8.6 |
| Other Expenditures | 6,201,622 | 16.2 | 14.9 |
| Total Expenditures | 38,285,547 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Expenditures by Revenue Source:⁴ 2013-14

| | Percent of Total (%) | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| | Including | Excluding | | | |
| | School | School | | | |
| | Construction | Construction | | | |
| Local | 93.9 | 94.1 | | | |
| State | 4.6 | 4.2 | | | |
| Federal | 1.5 | 1.7 | | | |
| Tuition & Other | 0.1 | 0.1 | | | |

⁴Revenue sources do not include state-funded Teachers' Retirement Board contributions, vocational-technical school operations, SDE budgeted costs for salaries and leadership activities and other state-funded school districts (e.g., Dept. of Children and Families and Dept. of Correction).

¹Grades K-12

Performance and Accountability

District Performance Index (DPI)

A District Performance Index (DPI) is the average performance of students in a subject area (i.e., ELA, Mathematics or Science) on the state summative assessments. The DPI ranges from 0-100. A DPI is reported for all students tested in a district and for students in each individual student group. Connecticut's ultimate target for a DPI is 75.

| | English Language Arts(ELA) | | Mat | h | Scien | ce |
|--|----------------------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
| | Count | DPI | Count | DPI | Count | DPI |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Asian | 291 | 81.4 | 291 | 77.9 | 121 | 68.4 |
| Black or African American | 131 | 63.7 | 127 | 54.3 | 56 | 50.9 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 486 | 68.4 | 479 | 59.9 | 225 | 57.7 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Two or More Races | 166 | 79.1 | 160 | 72.2 | 61 | 66.4 |
| White | 4369 | 77.8 | 4316 | 70.1 | 1855 | 65.9 |
| English Language Learners | 150 | 57.0 | 148 | 50.6 | 47 | 44.5 |
| Non-English Language Learners | 5303 | 77.4 | 5235 | 69.8 | 2274 | 65.3 |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 529 | 63.9 | 518 | 55.1 | 248 | 54.0 |
| Not Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 4924 | 78.3 | 4865 | 70.8 | 2073 | 66.2 |
| Students with Disabilities | 694 | 57.1 | 680 | 49.5 | 310 | 48.7 |
| Students without Disabilities | 4759 | 79.8 | 4703 | 72.1 | 2011 | 67.4 |
| High Needs | 1161 | 61.3 | 1139 | 53.4 | 512 | 52.3 |
| Non-High Needs | 4292 | 81.1 | 4244 | 73.5 | 1809 | 68.4 |
| District | 5453 | 76.9 | 5383 | 69.3 | 2321 | 64.9 |

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP): Percent At or Above Proficient¹

| | NAEP | NAEP 2013 | |
|-----------------|---------|-----------|----------|
| READING | Grade 4 | Grade 8 | Grade 12 |
| Connecticut | 43% | 43% | 50% |
| National Public | 35% | 33% | 36% |
| MATH | Grade 4 | Grade 8 | Grade 12 |
| Connecticut | 41% | 36% | 32% |
| National Public | 39% | 32% | 25% |

¹NAEP is often called the "Nation's Report Card." It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. This table compares Connecticut's performance to that of national public school students. Performance standards for state assessments and NAEP are set independently. Therefore, one should not expect performance results to be the same across Smarter Balanced and NAEP. Instead, NAEP results are meant to complement other state assessment data. To view student subgroup performance on NAEP, click here.

Physical Fitness Tests: Students Reaching Health Standard²

| | Percent of Students by Grade ³ (%) | | | | All Teste | d Grades |
|----------------------|---|------|------|------|-----------|----------|
| | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | Count | Rate (%) |
| Sit & Reach | 85.0 | 89.2 | 85.6 | 84.2 | 3,013 | 86.1 |
| Curl Up | 92.0 | 91.7 | 93.6 | 86.7 | 3,013 | 91.2 |
| Push Up | 80.3 | 84.7 | 82.9 | 75.4 | 3,013 | 81.1 |
| Mile Run/PACER | 89.3 | 88.9 | 90.1 | 85.3 | 3,013 | 88.5 |
| All Tests - District | 66.4 | 72.7 | 69.4 | 57.2 | 3,013 | 66.9 |
| All Tests - State | 50.8 | 51.0 | 50.3 | 51.9 | | 51.0 |

²The Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA) is administered to all students in Grades 4, 6, 8 and 10. The health-related fitness scores gathered through the CPFA should be used to educate and motivate children and their families to increase physical activity and develop lifetime fitness habits.

³Only students assessed in all four areas are included in this calculation.

Cohort Graduation: Four-Year¹

| | | 2013-14 | | | 2014-15 |
|--|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Cohort Count ² | Rate (%) | Target ³ (%) | Target Achieved | Target³ (%) |
| Black or African American | 23 | 82.6 | 89.4 | No | 89.9 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 58 | 93.1 | 78.7 | Yes | 80.4 |
| English Language Learners | * | * | | | |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 104 | 82.7 | 84.5 | No | 85.5 |
| Students with Disabilities | 81 | 69.1 | 75.2 | No | 77.3 |
| District | 728 | 93.8 | 93.4 | Yes | 93.5 |
| State ⁴ | | 87.0 | | | |

¹The four-year cohort graduation rate represents the percentage of first-time 9th graders who earn a standard high school diploma within four years. Statewide, district and school results for cohorts of 2010 through 2013 are <u>available online</u>.

11th and 12th Graders Meeting Benchmark on at Least One College Readiness Exam⁵

| | Participation ⁶ | Meeting I | Benchmark |
|---|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Female | 88.0 | 522 | 68.0 |
| Male | 77.7 | 416 | 57.9 |
| Black or African American | 54.4 | 15 | 26.3 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 65.3 | 48 | 39.7 |
| White | 85.7 | 801 | 66.3 |
| English Language Learners | 26.1 | * | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 58.6 | 37 | 26.4 |
| Students with Disabilities | 38.5 | 6 | 11.5 |
| District | 83.0 | 938 | 63.1 |
| State | 67.2 | | 37.3 |

⁵College readiness exams and benchmark scores are as follows:

- SAT® composite score of 1550 or higher
- ACT® meets benchmark score on 3 of 4 exams (benchmark score varies by subject)
- AP® 3 or higher on any one AP® exam
- IB® 4 or higher on any one IB® exam
- Smarter Balanced Level 3 or higher on both ELA and math

⁶Participation Rate equals the number of test-takers in 11th and 12th grade divided by the number of students enrolled in those grades, as a percent. Sources:

 $\mathsf{SAT}^{\circledast}$ and $\mathsf{AP}^{\circledast}$ statistics derived from data provided by the College Board.

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ACT® statistics derived from data provided by ACT, Inc.

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IB® statistics derived from data provided by the International Baccalaureate Organization.

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College Entrance and Persistence

| | Class of 2014 | Class of 2013 |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| | Entrance ⁷ | Persistence ⁸ |
| | Rate (%) | Rate (%) |
| Female | 85.9 | 95.4 |
| Male | 78.5 | 94.2 |
| Black or African American | 76.2 | * |
| Hispanic or Latino | 75.0 | 88.9 |
| White | 83.1 | 94.8 |
| English Language Learners | 59.3 | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 69.4 | 84.0 |
| Students with Disabilities | 68.5 | 88.2 |
| District | 82.4 | 94.8 |
| State | 72.6 | 88.8 |

⁷College entrance refers to the percent of high school graduates from the year who enrolled in college any time during the first year after high school.

Source: National Student Clearinghouse

²Cohort count includes all students in the cohort as of the end of the 2013-14 school year.

³Targets are calculated when there are at least 20 students in a cohort in the base year (i.e., 2010-11).

⁴Targets are not displayed at the state level.

⁸College persistence refers to the percent of students who enrolled in college the first year after high school and returned for a second year (Freshman to Sophomore persistence).

Next Generation Accountability Results

These statistics are the first results from Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System for districts and schools. This system is a broad set of 12 indicators that help tell the story of how well a school is preparing its students for success in college, careers and life. It moves beyond test scores and graduation rates and instead provides a more holistic, multifactor perspective of district and school performance and incorporates student growth over time.

| Indi | cator | Index/Rate | Target | Points | Max | % Points | State Average |
|---|---------------------|---------------|--------|--------|------|----------|---------------|
| ELA Performance Index | All Students | 76.9 | 75 | 100.0 | 100 | 100.0 | 67.9 |
| ELA Performance index | High Needs Students | 61.3 | 75 | 81.7 | 100 | 81.7 | 56.7 |
| Math Performance Index | All Students | 69.3 | 75 | 92.4 | 100 | 92.4 | 59.3 |
| iviatii Perioriiiante intex | High Needs Students | 53.4 | 75 | 71.2 | 100 | 71.2 | 47.8 |
| Science Performance Index | All Students | 64.9 | 75 | 86.5 | 100 | 86.5 | 56.5 |
| Science Performance index | High Needs Students | 52.3 | 75 | 69.8 | 100 | 69.8 | 45.9 |
| Chronic Abcontociem | All Students | 3.7% | <=5% | 50.0 | 50 | 100.0 | 10.6% |
| Chronic Absenteeism | High Needs Students | 7.3% | <=5% | 45.3 | 50 | 90.6 | 17.3% |
| Preparation for CCR | % Taking Courses | 94.3% | 75% | 50.0 | 50 | 100.0 | 66.1% |
| Preparation for CCN | % Passing Exams | 63.1% | 75% | 42.1 | 50 | 84.2 | 37.3% |
| On-track to High School Grad | duation | 71.8% | 94% | 38.2 | 50 | 76.4 | 85.6% |
| 4-year Graduation All Studer | nts (2014 Cohort) | 93.8% | 94% | 99.8 | 100 | 99.8 | 87.0% |
| 6-year Graduation - High Needs Students (2012 Cohort) | | 90.2% | 94% | 95.9 | 100 | 95.9 | 77.6% |
| Postsecondary Entrance (Class of 2014) | | 82.3% | 75% | 100.0 | 100 | 100.0 | 72.8% |
| Physical Fitness (estimated part rate) and (fitness rate) | | 95.2% 66.9% | 75% | 44.6 | 50 | 89.3 | 87.6% 51.0% |
| Arts Access | | 37.8% | 60% | 31.5 | 50 | 63.1 | 45.7% |
| Accountability Index | | | | 1099.0 | 1250 | 87.9 | |

| Gap Indicators | Non-High Needs Rate ¹ | High Needs Rate | Size of Gap | State Gap Mean + 1 Stdev ² | Is Gap an Outlier? ² |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Achievement Gap Size Outlier? | | | | | Υ |
| ELA Performance Index Gap | 75.0 | 61.3 | 13.7 | 17.3 | |
| Math Performance Index Gap | 73.5 | 53.4 | 20.1 | 19.6 | |
| Science Performance Index Gap | 68.4 | 52.3 | 16.1 | 17.2 | |
| Graduation Rate Gap | 94.0% | 90.2% | 3.8% | 15.2% | N |

¹If the Non-High Needs Rate exceeds the ultimate target (75 for Performance Index and 94% for graduation rate), then the ultimate target is displayed and used for gap calculations.

²If the size of the gap exceeds the state mean gap plus one standard deviation, then the gap is an outlier.

| Subject/Subgroup | | Participation Rate (%) |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| FIA | All Students | 98.0 |
| ELA | High Needs Students | 96.2 |
| Math | All Students | 96.7 |
| IVIALII | High Needs Students | 94.4 |
| All Students | | 99.4 |
| Science High Needs Students | | 99.2 |

Connecticut's State Identified Measurable Goal for Children with Disabilities (SIMR)

Increase the reading performance of all 3rd grade students with disabilities statewide, as measured by Connecticut's English Language Arts (ELA) Performance Index.

Grade 3 ELA Performance Index for Students with Disabilities:

District: 56.4 State: 50.1

Supporting Resources

Two-page FAQ

Detailed Presentation

Using Accountability Results to Guide Improvement: comprehensive documentation and supports

Narratives

School District Improvement Plans and Parental Outreach Activities

The Fairfield Board of Education approved a five-year District Improvement Plan in July, 2015. This Plan outlines core strategies, specific actions and student achievement measures to guide the continuous improvement of the school district through 2020. Improving special education programs and services, improved attendance, and engaging families are all part of the District Improvement Plan. In addition, each of the 18 schools within the district has developed a School Improvement Plan aligned to the District Improvement Plan. Each school developed strategies and specific actions to support growth in student achievement and school climate aligned to the goals in the District Improvement Plan. The school improvement process includes school-based improvement teams as well as discipline and grade-based teams, which develop and monitor instructional and communication strategies and goals to support the School Improvement Plan.

Many of our schools host parent coffees and workshops designed to address issues pertinent to parents, such as: transitions from elementary to middle and middle to high school: curriculum topics of interest, such as addressing the needs of emerging readers and using just right books, how to support math instruction; supporting students dealing with anxiety and stress, school climate, and the college application process including financial aid. Most of our schools have a process for welcoming new families and also publish monthly newsletters that highlight activities occurring within the schools. All of our schools have very active PTAs and volunteer support in which parents are actively involved as classroom volunteers, Reading buddies, School Climate Committee members, maintaining school gardens, raising funds to support technology in the classroom and assisting families in need. Several of our schools house before and after school childcare, some of which are supported by the PTA as well. Our student management system and our district and school websites promote continuous and effective communication between our parents, students, staff, and the community.

Efforts to Reduce Racial, Ethnic and Economic Isolation

Fairfield Public Schools participates in the Open Choice Program with Bridgeport Public Schools. For the past six years, an average of sixty students from Bridgeport have been welcomed to school in Fairfield. Many of our students participate in Magnet and Vocational Programs offered by surrounding towns. Twenty of our students attend the Six To Six Magnet School sponsored by CES, fourteen students attend the Discovery Inter-district Magnet School sponsored by Bridgeport, fifty-eight students attend the Fairchild Wheeler Inter-district Magnet High School for Biotechnology, Engineering, and Information Technology sponsored by Bridgeport, eighty-seven students attend Bridgeport's Aquaculture program, five students attend the Agriscience School in Trumbull, and eight students participate in the Global Studies Program in Norwalk. In addition to these choice programs, some of our schools participate in the One Book, Two Schools Program which involves the entire school community and a sister school community in Bridgeport. Generally the chosen reading provides opportunities to discuss a social topic across both communities and helps to support literacy.

Equitable Allocation of Resources among District Schools

Fairfield uses a common class size guideline across all 11 elementary schools to ensure consistency. The limits are 23 students in grades K through grade two and 25 students in grades 3 through 5. An exception is McKinley Elementary School where the limits are 2 students lower because of the high concentration of struggling learners. The distribution of special education teachers, math/science teachers and Language Arts specialists is also driven by a formula which treats schools equitably based on enrollment and student need. Our two Title I schools receive additional support beyond this base due to the Title I supplemental funding. At the middle and high schools, teacher load is equitable because of the teacher load limits in the Fairfield Education Association contract. Team sizes are also standardized across the 3 middle schools. All schools at a given level (elementary, middle, and high school) are provided a per-pupil allocation for supplies, textbooks, field trips, and other school-related expenses based on enrollment. Both high schools offer the same courses, the same athletic teams and music/art programs. Every effort is made to ensure equity across all schools.