Connecticut State Department of Education

DISTRICT PROFILE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2015–16



Area Cooperative Educational Services

Dr. Thomas Danehy, Superintendent • 203-498-6817 • www.aces.org

District Information

| Grade Range | PK-12 |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Number of Schools/Programs | 9 |
| Enrollment | 1,948 |
| Per Pupil Expenditures ¹ | N/A |
| Total Expenditures ¹ | N/A |

¹Expenditure data reflect the 2014-15 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 2016)

(2016® The College Board)

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Notes

Unless otherwise noted, all data are for 2015-16 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, 2015 Enrollment | | | | |
|--|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| | | District | State | |
| | Count | Percent of Total (%) | Percent of Total (%) | |
| Female | 809 | 41.5 | 48.3 | |
| Male | 1,139 | 58.5 | 51.6 | |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | * | * | 0.2 | |
| Asian | 70 | 3.6 | 4.9 | |
| Black or African American | 580 | 29.8 | 12.8 | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 641 | 32.9 | 23.0 | |
| Pacific Islander | * | * | 0.0 | |
| Two or More Races | 75 | 3.9 | 2.7 | |
| White | 577 | 29.6 | 55.9 | |
| English Learners | 54 | 2.8 | 6.4 | |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 1,340 | 68.8 | 38.0 | |
| Students with Disabilities ¹ | 742 | 38.1 | 13.7 | |

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 | | Expulsion ³ | |
| | Count | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Female | 125 | 15.5 | 76 | 9.2 |
| Male | 231 | 20.1 | 180 | 15.3 |
| Black or African American | 101 | 17.4 | 94 | 15.8 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 142 | 22.1 | 102 | 15.5 |
| White | 91 | 15.6 | 50 | 8.4 |
| English Learners | 12 | 21.1 | 11 | 19.0 |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 323 | 24.3 | 225 | 15.9 |
| Students with Disabilities | 251 | 32.4 | 129 | 15.6 |
| District | 356 | 18.2 | 256 | 12.8 |
| State | | 9.6 | | 7.0 |

Number of students in 2014-15 qualified as truant under state statute: 43

Number of school-based arrests: 46

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 | 113.1 |
| Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants | 22.5 |
| Special Education | |
| Teachers and Instructors | 92.0 |
| Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants | 263.5 |
| Administrators, Coordinators and Department Chairs | |
| District Central Office | 14.0 |
| School Level | 14.0 |
| Library/Media | |
| Specialists (Certified) | 2.0 |
| Support Staff | 0.0 |
| Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers | 14.6 |
| Counselors, Social Workers and School Psychologists | 28.0 |
| School Nurses | 12.0 |
| Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services/Support | 144.7 |

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 | 1 | 0.4 | 1.0 |
| Black or African American | 14 | 4.9 | 3.5 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 7 | 2.4 | 3.5 |
| Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Two or More Races | 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| White | 266 | 92.4 | 91.7 |

Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers²

| | Percent of Total (%) | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| District | 99.4 | | |
| District Poverty Quartile: High | | | |
| State High Poverty Quartile Schools | 97.6 | | |
| State Low Poverty Quartile Schools | 99.6 | | |

²Core academic classes taught by teachers who are fully certified to teach in that subject area.

Classroom Teacher Attendance: 2014-15

| | District | State |
|---|----------|-------|
| Average Number of FTE Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time | 11.9 | 9.4 |

Instruction and Resources

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

| | 11th | | 1 | 2th |
|--|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| | Count | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Black or African American | 7 | * | 9 | 28.1 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 11 | * | * | * |
| White | 8 | 29.6 | * | * |
| English Learners | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 22 | 40.0 | 16 | 14.2 |
| Students with Disabilities | 26 | 42.6 | 18 | 15.3 |
| District | 26 | 42.6 | 18 | 15.3 |
| State | | 61.2 | | 73.9 |

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 | N/A | N/A |
| Emotional Disturbance | N/A | N/A |
| Intellectual Disability | N/A | N/A |
| Learning Disability | N/A | N/A |
| Other Health Impairment | N/A | N/A |
| Other Disabilities | N/A | N/A |
| Speech/Language Impairment | N/A | N/A |
| District | N/A | N/A |
| State | | 68.8 |

⁴Ages 6-21

Students with Disabilities by Primary Disability¹

| | Dis | State | |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| | Count | Rate (%) | Rate (%) |
| Autism | 0 | 0.0 | 1.6 |
| Emotional Disturbance | 0 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| Intellectual Disability | 0 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Learning Disability | 0 | 0.0 | 4.6 |
| Other Health Impairment | 0 | 0.0 | 2.8 |
| Other Disabilities | 0 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| Speech/Language Impairment | 0 | 0.0 | 1.9 |
| All Disabilities | 0 | 0.0 | 13.4 |

¹Grades K-12

Overall Expenditures: 2014-15

| | | Per Pupil | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---------------|------------|--|--|
| | Total (\$) | District (\$) | State (\$) | | |
| Instructional Staff and Services | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Instructional Supplies and Equipment | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Improvement of Instruction and Educational Media Services | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Student Support Services | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Administration and Support Services | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Plant Operation and Maintenance | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Transportation | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Costs of Students Tuitioned Out | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Other | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Total | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Additiona | Additional Expenditures | | | | |
| Land, Buildings, and Debt Service | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |

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

Special Education Expenditures: 2014-15

| | Distr | State | |
|----------------------------|------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Total (\$) | Percent of Total (%) | Percent of Total (%) |
| Certified Personnel | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Noncertified Personnel | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Purchased Services | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Tuition to Other Schools | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Special Ed. Transportation | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Other Expenditures | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Total Expenditures | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Expenditures by Revenue Source:⁴ 2014-15

| | Percent of Total (%) | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| | Including Excluding | | | | |
| | School School | | | | |
| | Construction | Construction | | | |
| Local | N/A | N/A | | | |
| State | N/A | N/A | | | |
| Federal | N/A | N/A | | | |
| Tuition & Other | N/A | N/A | | | |
| | | | | | |

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).

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 | 54 | 71.2 | 54 | 64.5 | 23 | 52.6 |
| Black or African American | 386 | 53.1 | 383 | 41.2 | 125 | 39.4 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 502 | 53.8 | 499 | 46.1 | 164 | 39.9 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | * | * | * | * | 0 | N/A |
| Two or More Races | 50 | 59.4 | 50 | 50.6 | * | * |
| White | 403 | 60.3 | 402 | 52.4 | 164 | 46.6 |
| English Learners | 70 | 42.8 | 70 | 37.2 | 20 | 34.6 |
| Non-English Learners | 1330 | 57.1 | 1323 | 48.0 | 474 | 43.0 |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 957 | 50.6 | 950 | 41.5 | 339 | 38.4 |
| Not Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 443 | 68.8 | 443 | 60.3 | 155 | 51.8 |
| Students with Disabilities | 434 | 38.3 | 427 | 29.7 | 189 | 28.9 |
| Students without Disabilities | 966 | 64.5 | 966 | 55.3 | 305 | 51.1 |
| High Needs | 1008 | 50.6 | 1001 | 41.5 | 363 | 38.0 |
| Non-High Needs | 392 | 71.2 | 392 | 62.7 | 131 | 55.5 |
| District | 1400 | 56.4 | 1393 | 47.5 | 494 | 42.6 |

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 | 70.1 | 76.5 | 72.8 | 64.7 | 810 | 73.7 |
| Curl Up | 60.7 | 77.9 | 75.0 | 50.0 | 810 | 73.3 |
| Push Up | 32.7 | 51.9 | 53.1 | 44.1 | 810 | 49.5 |
| Mile Run/PACER | 52.3 | 79.1 | 70.6 | 38.2 | 810 | 70.5 |
| All Tests - District | 13.1 | 39.0 | 38.4 | 35.3 | 810 | 35.2 |
| All Tests - State | 50.6 | 49.8 | 50.6 | 51.1 | | 50.5 |

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

| | | 2014-15 | | | |
|--|---------------------------|----------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Cohort Count ² | Rate (%) | Target³ (%) | Target Achieved | Target³ (%) |
| Black or African American | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Hispanic or Latino | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| English Learners | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Students with Disabilities | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| District | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| State ⁴ | | 87.2 | | | |

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 2014 are available online.

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

| | Participation ⁶ | Meeting B | enchmark |
|---|----------------------------|-----------|----------|
| | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Female | 27.8 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Male | 24.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Black or African American | * | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 31.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| White | 19.4 | 0 | 0.0 |
| English Learners | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 26.8 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Students with Disabilities | 26.3 | 0 | 0.0 |
| District | 25.1 | 0 | 0.0 |
| State | 95.6 | | 40.7 |

⁵College readiness exams and benchmark scores are as follows:

- SAT® meets benchmark score on SAT, Revised SAT or Connecticut School Day SAT
- 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:

SAT® and AP® 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 2015 | Class of 2014 |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| | Entrance ⁷ | Persistence ⁸ |
| | Rate (%) | Rate (%) |
| Female | * | * |
| Male | * | * |
| Black or African American | * | * |
| Hispanic or Latino | * | * |
| White | * | * |
| English Learners | N/A | N/A |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | * | * |
| Students with Disabilities | * | * |
| District | * | * |
| State | 71.9 | 88.3 |

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 2014-15 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 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 | icator | Index/Rate | Target | Points | Max | % Points | State Average |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|------|----------|---------------|
| ELA Performance Index | All Students | 56.4 | 75 | 37.6 | 50 | 75.1 | 67.7 |
| LLA Performance muex | High Needs Students | 50.6 | 75 | 33.7 | 50 | 67.5 | 56.7 |
| Math Performance Index | All Students | 47.5 | 75 | 31.6 | 50 | 63.3 | 61.4 |
| Math Performance index | High Needs Students | 41.5 | 75 | 27.7 | 50 | 55.3 | 49.9 |
| Science Performance Index | All Students | 42.6 | 75 | 28.4 | 50 | 56.9 | 57.5 |
| Science Performance muex | High Needs Students | 38.0 | 75 | 25.3 | 50 | 50.7 | 47.0 |
| ELA Academic Growth | All Students | 51.5% | 100% | 51.5 | 100 | 51.5 | 63.8% |
| ELA ACademic Growth | High Needs Students | 48.1% | 100% | 48.1 | 100 | 48.1 | 58.3% |
| Math Academic Growth | All Students | 55.7% | 100% | 55.7 | 100 | 55.7 | 65.0% |
| Matif Academic Growth | High Needs Students | 51.5% | 100% | 51.5 | 100 | 51.5 | 57.4% |
| Chronic Absenteeism | All Students | 18.2% | <=5% | 23.6 | 50 | 47.2 | 9.6% |
| CHIOTIC Absenteeisiii | High Needs Students | 23.7% | <=5% | 12.5 | 50 | 25.0 | 15.6% |
| Dranaration for CCD | % Taking Courses | 24.6% | 75% | 16.4 | 50 | 32.8 | 67.6% |
| Preparation for CCR | % Passing Exams | N/A | 75% | 0.0 | 50 | 0.0 | 40.7% |
| On-track to High School Gra | duation | 76.9% | 94% | 40.9 | 50 | 81.8 | 85.1% |
| 4-year Graduation All Stude | nts (2015 Cohort) | N/A | 94% | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 87.2% |
| 6-year Graduation - High Needs Students (2013 Cohort) | | N/A | 94% | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 78.6% |
| Postsecondary Entrance (Class of 2015) | | 6.4% | 75% | 8.5 | 100 | 8.5 | 71.9% |
| Physical Fitness (estimated p | part rate) and (fitness rate) | 90.5% 35.2% | 75% | 23.5 | 50 | 46.9 | 89.2% 50.5% |
| Arts Access | | 9.3% | 60% | 7.7 | 50 | 15.5 | 47.5% |
| Accountability Index | | | | 524.3 | 1150 | 45.6 | |

| Gap Indicators | Non-High Needs Rate ¹ | High Needs Rate | Size of Gap | State Gap Mean + 1 Stdev² | Is Gap an Outlier?² |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Achievement Gap Size Outlier? | | | | | Υ |
| ELA Performance Index Gap | 71.2 | 50.6 | 20.6 | 16.5 | |
| Math Performance Index Gap | 62.7 | 41.5 | 21.2 | 18.9 | |
| Science Performance Index Gap | 55.5 | 38.0 | 17.5 | 17.2 | |
| Graduation Rate Gap | | | | | |

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

 $^{^{2}}$ If the size of the gap exceeds the state mean gap plus one standard deviation, the gap is an outlier.

| Sul | oject/Subgroup | Participation Rate (%) ³ | |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ELA | All Students | 98.3 | ³ Minimum |
| ELA | High Needs Students | 97.7 | participation standard is 95%. |
| Math | All Students | 97.8 | |
| IVIALII | High Needs Students | 96.9 | |
| Science | All Students | 97.3 | |
| Science | High Needs Students | 96.5 | |

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: 38.7 State: 51.4

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

Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) is the Regional Educational Service Center (RESC) in south central Connecticut that exists to improve public education through high quality, cost effective programs and services. Our ACES Schools & Programs are the Center for Autism Spectrum and Developmental Disorders, Mill Road School, Village School, Whitney High School East

West/CREATE and Whitney High School North. Our school's outreach ranges from engaging parents through trainings to providing practical information and resources to parents on transition and behavioral needs to hosting Student/Parent Art Days at Whitney East, Book Fairs at Mill Road School during parent conferences or the dissemination of information through the ACES website and the School Messenger system. Our schools engage parents in communication through various web based applications along with more personalized methods of parent engagement such as PTO, Parent Nights, Trunk n Treat at Village, Whitney East/West/Create Community Walk for Diabetes and raising funds at Village for local animal shelters.

The aim of our schools is to inform parents regarding relevant and useful opportunities available to assist with educational and career readiness. Pet Therapy at Mill Road, adaptive tennis equipment and lessons at CASDD along with the Whitney North's ServSafe Culinary Arts Training program are examples of plans developed to improve social, emotional and vocational skills. ACES engages our employers at our Annual BAC Dinner by recognizing the outstanding contributions they have made to our vocational services. ACES WIMS magnet students met with students from Whitney High East to celebrate kids of all ages getting into computer science and loving it. Rachel's Challenge presented at Mill Road and students participated in training for the Friends of Rachel Club and Mentoring Program.

ACES CREATE (Continued Relevant Education and Transition Experiences) at Whitney East/West is a transition program that affords students the opportunity to prepare for life after high school while accruing high school credits if necessary. This unique program provides comprehensive transition services to accommodate special education students with varying ability levels in a safe, supportive and nurturing environment. The ACES Summer Academy provided students grades 9-12 a researched-based online learning system to provide customized, accredited learning opportunities with courses ranging from credit recovery, college preparatory, and enrichment classes. Each of these opportunities is enhanced by the support of the curriculum department that focused on the provision of training around assessment, data collection and interventions to support student learning. The ACES Programs at the West Haven High School and Yale New Haven Hospital, St Raphael Campus fills a critical gap in services.

Efforts to Reduce Racial, Ethnic and Economic Isolation

As a RESC, ACES works together with our 25 member school districts to reduce academic and social issues stemming from racial, ethnic, and economic isolation. To successfully achieve our mission, ACES operates 3 interdistrict magnet schools enrolling over 1600 students, coordinates several interdistrict collaborative programs, and facilitates the Open Choice program.

ACES interdistrict magnet schools are designed to attract students across many school districts increasing educational opportunities for students of diverse backgrounds to learn along side one another. Each school reinforces its mission of diversity while delivering a high quality curriculum with unique academic focus. Technology allows students to access their learning through multiple resources and has been said to be a great divide for student learning. We have made a tremendous focus to provide state of the art technology support and services for all of our students in order to assist them in their learning. Most of our schools offer their students a one2one laptop/iPad experience. We also serve as laboratory schools for our state universities as well as a visitation site for Turn Around Schools. Our magnet schools have also had the opportunity to participate along with other school districts in the interdistrict grant partnerships. Here, our schools' teachers and students work along with fellow schools from other districts. We have co-partnered for technology, math, social studies, science and language arts enrichment.

ACES has been instrumental in Minority Teacher Recruitment (MTR) efforts in CT. The MTR Advisory Council has developed and implemented strategies to increase the number of minority educators, including our highly successful annual MTR Job Fair. As a member of the RESC MTR Alliance, ACES played a key role in securing funding from the State Pipeline, The Alternate Route to Certification and Teacher Preparation Opportunities. We partner with organizations, colleges & universities to promote teaching as a profession.

ACES has a district-wide Diversity Committee comprised of all employed stakeholders from our agency which meets on a regular basis. The committee has helped to enhance the collaboration of our magnet schools participation in all activities.

Equitable Allocation of Resources among District Schools

ACES is the Regional Educational Service Center for twenty-five school districts in south central Connecticut. Each local school district appoints a representative to the ACES Governing Board. Our Board works collectively to set a strategic direction for our organization based on the educational needs of the region and our own school system. ACES operates schools and programs based on these needs and the Governing Board ensures the equitable allocation of resources among the programs. Each of our full-time Interdistrict Magnet Schools has a steering committee which monitors and approves resource allocations in its respective program.

Local funding, State of Connecticut magnet school support, and grant resources are utilized to achieve and enhance equity among our programs. Building level principals and directors meet monthly with ACES Central Administration to discuss issues relating to available resources in meeting their academic goals. This process also assists as the district and agency plan for budget development. The budget process includes each school's steering committee, the building administrator(s), ACES Central Administration and the ACES Governing Board.