Connecticut State Department of Education

DISTRICT PROFILE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2018–19



Bethel School District

Dr. Christine Carver, Superintendent • 203-794-8601 • www.bethel.k12.ct.us

District Information

| PK-12 |
|--------------|
| 7 |
| 3,112 |
| \$15,657 |
| \$48,582,469 |
| |

¹Expenditure data reflect the 2017-18 school year.



Community Information

AdvanceCT Town Profiles provide summary demographic and economic information for Connecticut's municipalities

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Notes

Unless otherwise noted, all data are for 2018-19 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 safeguard student confidentiality, or to ensure that statistics based on a very small sample size are not interpreted as equally representative as those based on a sufficiently larger sample size.

N/A is displayed when a category is not applicable for a district or school.

Students

| October 1, 2018 Enrollment ² | | | | |
|---|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| | | District | State | |
| | Count | Percent of Total (%) | Percent of Total (%) | |
| Female | 1,456 | 46.8 | 48.4 | |
| Male | 1,656 | 53.2 | 51.6 | |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | * | * | 0.3 | |
| Asian | 208 | 6.7 | 5.2 | |
| Black or African American | 99 | 3.2 | 12.8 | |
| Hispanic or Latino of any race | 609 | 19.6 | 25.8 | |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | * | * | 0.1 | |
| Two or More Races | 93 | 3.0 | 3.6 | |
| White | 2,080 | 66.8 | 52.4 | |
| English Learners | 187 | 6.0 | 7.6 | |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 873 | 28.1 | 42.1 | |
| Students with Disabilities ³ | 402 | 12.9 | 15.4 | |

²This table represents students in grades PK-12 reported by the district in the Public School Information System (i.e., PSIS Reporting District).

³Students in this category are students with an individualized education program (IEP) only. This category does not include students with Section 504 plans or services plans.

NOTE: To protect student privacy, gender counts are suppressed (*) when fewer than 6 students enrolled in the district identify as non-binary.

Chronic Absenteeism and Suspension/Expulsion

| | Chronic | | Suspe | ension/ |
|--|--------------|----------|-------|----------|
| | Absenteeism⁴ | | Ехри | ılsion⁵ |
| | Count | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Female | 65 | 4.6 | 43 | 2.9 |
| Male | 58 | 3.6 | 150 | 8.8 |
| Black or African American | * | * | 10 | 9.5 |
| Hispanic or Latino of any race | 25 | 4.2 | 58 | 9.0 |
| White | 80 | 4.0 | 112 | 5.3 |
| English Learners | 13 | 6.6 | 14 | 6.6 |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 55 | 6.2 | 87 | 8.9 |
| Students with Disabilities | 34 | 9.0 | 51 | 11.1 |
| District | 123 | 4.1 | 193 | 6.0 |
| State | | 10.4 | | 6.7 |

Number of students in 2017-18 qualified as truant under state statute: 53 Number of school-based arrests: 12

⁴A student is chronically absent if they miss 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.

⁵This column displays the 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 | 197.0 |
| Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants | 12.0 |
| Special Education | |
| Teachers and Instructors | 36.1 |
| Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants | 50.0 |
| Administrators, Coordinators and Department Chairs | |
| District Central Office | 6.5 |
| School Level | 9.4 |
| Library/Media | |
| Specialists (Certified) | 5.0 |
| Support Staff | 4.0 |
| Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers | 12.0 |
| Counselors, Social Workers and School Psychologists | 12.4 |
| School Nurses | 6.0 |
| Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services/Support | 118.4 |

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 | 1.1 |
| Black or African American | 1 | 0.4 | 3.8 |
| Hispanic or Latino of any race | 4 | 1.4 | 3.8 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Two or More Races | 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| White | 263 | 94.3 | 90.5 |

Classroom Teacher Attendance: 2017-18

| | District | State |
|---|----------|-------|
| Average Number of FTE Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time | 8.9 | 10.0 |

Instruction and Resources

11th and 12th Graders Enrolled in College-and-Career-Readiness Courses during High School²

| | 11th | | 1 | 2th |
|--|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| | Count | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Black or African American | * | * | * | * |
| Hispanic or Latino of any race | 31 | 63.3 | 37 | 90.2 |
| White | 110 | 73.3 | 173 | 96.1 |
| English Learners | * | * | 9 | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 42 | 62.7 | 63 | 88.7 |
| Students with Disabilities | 16 | 57.1 | 34 | 87.2 |
| District | 161 | 70.3 | 232 | 94.7 |
| State | | 74.5 | | 85.2 |

²College-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 Peers³

| | Count | Rate (%) |
|----------------------------|-------|----------|
| Autism | 25 | 48.1 |
| Emotional Disturbance | * | * |
| Intellectual Disability | 0 | 0 |
| Learning Disability | 112 | 72.3 |
| Other Health Impairment | 41 | 71.9 |
| Other Disabilities | * | * |
| Speech/Language Impairment | 36 | 92.3 |
| District | 226 | 62.6 |
| State | | 67.6 |

³This table represents students ages 6-21 for whom the district is fiscally responsible (i.e., Nexus District students with an IEP or services plan).

Students with Disabilities by Primary Disability¹

| | Dis | State | |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| | Count | Rate (%) | Rate (%) |
| Autism | 56 | 1.9 | 1.9 |
| Emotional Disturbance | * | * | 1.1 |
| Intellectual Disability | * | * | 0.5 |
| Learning Disability | 155 | 5.1 | 5.5 |
| Other Health Impairment | 57 | 1.9 | 3.2 |
| Other Disabilities | 42 | 1.4 | 1.1 |
| Speech/Language Impairment | 43 | 1.4 | 1.8 |
| All Disabilities | 377 | 12.5 | 15.0 |

¹This table represents students in grades K-12 for whom the district is fiscally responsible (i.e., Nexus District students with an IEP or services plan).

Students with Disabilities Placed Outside of the District²

| | Dis | State | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| | Count | Rate (%) | Rate (%) |
| Public Schools in Other Districts | 8 | 2.1 | 8.2 |
| Private Schools or Other Settings | 11 | 2.9 | 5.0 |

²This table represents students in grades K-12 for whom the district is fiscally responsible (i.e., Nexus District students with an IEP or services plan).

Overall Expenditures: 2017-18

| | | Per F | Pupil |
|--|--------------|---------------|------------|
| | Total (\$) | District (\$) | State (\$) |
| Instruction | \$29,477,390 | \$9,500 | \$10,545 |
| Support services - students | \$3,382,068 | \$1,110 | \$1,373 |
| Support services - instruction | \$3,748,926 | \$1,230 | \$644 |
| Support services - general administration | \$507,067 | \$166 | \$462 |
| Support services - school based administration | \$2,387,562 | \$784 | \$1,007 |
| Central and other support services | \$2,256,622 | \$741 | \$671 |
| Operation and maintenance of plant | \$4,235,634 | \$1,390 | \$1,629 |
| Student transportation services | \$2,587,199 | \$822 | \$1,231 |
| Food services | | | \$13 |
| Enterprise operations | | | \$157 |
| Minor school construction | | | \$65 |
| Total | \$48,582,469 | \$15,657 | \$17,153 |

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

Special Education Expenditures: 2017-18

| | District | | State |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Total (\$) | Percent of Total (%) | Percent of Total (%) |
| Teacher Salaries | \$3,140,545 | 28.2 | 29.7 |
| Instructional Aide Salaries | \$1,196,097 | 10.7 | 9.6 |
| Other Salaries | \$2,209,192 | 19.8 | 10.4 |
| Employee Benefits | \$1,806,752 | 16.2 | 13.0 |
| Purchased Services Other Than Transportation | \$353,840 | 3.2 | 5.5 |
| Special Education Tuition | \$1,328,735 | 11.9 | 22.6 |
| Supplies | \$39,146 | 0.4 | 0.6 |
| Property Services | \$140 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| Purchased Services For Transportation | \$948,501 | 8.5 | 8.0 |
| Equipment | \$118,551 | 1.1 | 0.2 |
| All Other Expenditures | \$1,232 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Total | \$11,142,730 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Percent of Total Expenditures Used for Special Educa | ation | 22.9 | 24.4 |

Expenditures by Revenue Source:⁴ 2017-18

| | Percent of Total (%) Excluding School |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Construction |
| Local | 81.9 |
| State | 16.0 |
| Federal | 2.1 |
| Tuition & Other | 0.1 |

⁴Revenue sources do not include state-funded Teachers' Retirement Board contributions, Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) operations, CSDE-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 | 105 | 81.8 | 104 | 82.3 | 44 | 83.5 |
| Black or African American | 38 | 63.0 | 38 | 60.3 | 15 | * |
| Hispanic or Latino of any race | 325 | 65.2 | 324 | 61.1 | 131 | 62.3 |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Two or More Races | 51 | 74.7 | 51 | 73.4 | 21 | 76.5 |
| White | 1,110 | 75.0 | 1,110 | 70.4 | 482 | 73.3 |
| English Learners | 165 | 61.0 | 163 | 59.0 | 57 | 56.3 |
| Non-English Learners | 1,479 | 74.5 | 1,479 | 70.3 | 643 | 73.0 |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 490 | 65.2 | 488 | 60.8 | 210 | 62.4 |
| Not Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 1,154 | 76.5 | 1,154 | 72.6 | 490 | 75.5 |
| Students with Disabilities | 194 | 51.0 | 193 | 46.9 | 88 | 52.1 |
| Students without Disabilities | 1,450 | 76.1 | 1,449 | 72.1 | 612 | 74.4 |
| High Needs | 638 | 63.3 | 636 | 59.4 | 269 | 61.2 |
| Non-High Needs | 1,006 | 79.4 | 1,006 | 75.3 | 431 | 78.1 |
| District | 1,644 | 73.1 | 1,642 | 69.1 | 700 | 71.6 |

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

| | NAEP | NAEP 2013 | |
|-----------------|---------|-----------|----------|
| READING | Grade 4 | Grade 8 | Grade 12 |
| Connecticut | 40 | 41 | 50 |
| National Public | 34 | 32 | 36 |
| MATH | Grade 4 | Grade 8 | Grade 12 |
| Connecticut | 45 | 39 | 32 |
| National Public | 40 | 33 | 25 |

NAEP 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 performance on NAEP by student group, click here.

Physical Fitness Tests: Students Reaching Health Standard²

| | Percent of Students by Grade ³ (%) | | | | All Teste | d Grades |
|----------------------|---|------|------|------|-----------|----------|
| | 4 | 6 | 8 | HS | Count | Rate (%) |
| Sit & Reach | 61.4 | 82.1 | 90.4 | 81.4 | 919 | 78.9 |
| Curl Up | 79.8 | 93.1 | 97.3 | 83.3 | 919 | 88.6 |
| Push Up | 45.7 | 71.8 | 80.8 | 73.0 | 919 | 67.9 |
| Mile Run/PACER | 67.7 | 81.7 | 76.7 | 58.6 | 919 | 71.7 |
| All Tests - District | 30.0 | 67.9 | 65.8 | 46.5 | 919 | 53.2 |
| All Tests - State | 56.1 | 53.5 | 50.9 | 51.4 | | 52.9 |

²The Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment (CPFA) is administered to students in Grades 4, 6, 8 and High School (HS). 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

| | 2017-18 | | |
|--|---------------------------|----------|--|
| | Cohort Count ² | Rate (%) | |
| Black or African American | 7 | * | |
| Hispanic or Latino of any race | 27 | 88.9 | |
| English Learners | * | * | |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 48 | 83.3 | |
| Students with Disabilities | 22 | 77.3 | |
| District | 203 | 93.1 | |
| State | | 88.3 | |

¹The four-year cohort graduation rate represents the percentage of first-time 9th graders who earn a standard high school diploma within four years.

11th and 12th Graders Meeting Benchmark on at Least One College Readiness Exam³

| | Participation⁴ | Meeting | Benchmark |
|---|----------------|---------|-----------|
| | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Female | 99.1 | 119 | 56.1 |
| Male | 95.0 | 127 | 48.5 |
| Black or African American | * | * | * |
| Hispanic or Latino of any race | 95.6 | 30 | 33.3 |
| White | 97.0 | 183 | 55.5 |
| English Learners | 90.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 96.4 | 59 | 42.8 |
| Students with Disabilities | 83.6 | 6 | 9.0 |
| District | 96.8 | 246 | 51.9 |
| State | 95.9 | | 42.6 |

³College 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)
- $\bullet \ \ AP^{\circledast}$ 3 or higher on any one AP^{\circledast} exam
- $\bullet \ \ \mbox{IB}^{\circledast}$ 4 or higher on any one \mbox{IB}^{\circledast} exam

⁴Participation Rate equals the number of test-takers in 11th and 12th grade divided by the number of students enrolled in those grades, as a percentage. 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 2018 | Class of 2017 |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| | Entrance ⁵ | Persistence ⁶ |
| | Rate (%) | Rate (%) |
| Female | 76.7 | 95.2 |
| Male | 72.8 | 80.0 |
| Black or African American | * | * |
| Hispanic or Latino of any race | 64.0 | * |
| White | 77.2 | 90.6 |
| English Learners | * | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 58.3 | 75.0 |
| Students with Disabilities | 40.7 | * |
| District | 74.6 | 89.2 |
| State | 71.0 | 87.8 |
| | | |

⁵College 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 2017-18 school year.

⁶College 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

Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System is a broad set of 12 indicators that help tell the story of how well a district/school is preparing its students for success in college, careers, and life. It moves beyond test scores and graduation rates to provide a more holistic, multifactor perspective of district and school performance.

| Ind | icator | Index/Rate | Target | Points Earned | Max Points | % Points Earned | State Average Index/Rate |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------|------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| ELA Performance Index | All Students | 73.1 | 75 | 48.8 | 50 | 97.5 | 67.7 |
| ELA Performance index | High Needs Students | 63.3 | 75 | 42.2 | 50 | 84.4 | 58.1 |
| Math Danfarmanna Inda. | All Students | 69.1 | 75 | 46.1 | 50 | 92.2 | 63.1 |
| Math Performance Index | High Needs Students | 59.4 | 75 | 39.6 | 50 | 79.2 | 52.7 |
| Science Performance Index | All Students | 71.6 | 75 | 47.7 | 50 | 95.5 | 63.8 |
| Science Performance index | High Needs Students | 61.2 | 75 | 40.8 | 50 | 81.6 | 54.2 |
| FIA Acadamia Counth | All Students | 62.1% | 100% | 62.1 | 100 | 62.1 | 59.9% |
| ELA Academic Growth | High Needs Students | 56.4% | 100% | 56.4 | 100 | 56.4 | 55.1% |
| Math Academic Growth | All Students | 64.9% | 100% | 64.9 | 100 | 64.9 | 62.5% |
| Math Academic Growth | High Needs Students | 57.5% | 100% | 57.5 | 100 | 57.5 | 55.2% |
| Progress Toward English | Literacy | 72.8% | 100% | 36.4 | 50 | 72.8 | 60.0% |
| Proficiency | Oral | 67.4% | 100% | 33.7 | 50 | 67.4 | 52.1% |
| Chronic Absenteeism | All Students | 4.1% | <=5% | 50.0 | 50 | 100.0 | 10.4% |
| Chronic Absenteeism | High Needs Students | 6.5% | <=5% | 46.9 | 50 | 93.8 | 16.1% |
| Duamanation for CCD | % Taking Courses | 82.9% | 75% | 50.0 | 50 | 100.0 | 80.0% |
| Preparation for CCR | % Passing Exams | 51.9% | 75% | 34.6 | 50 | 69.2 | 42.6% |
| On-track to High School Gra | duation | 94.5% | 94% | 50.0 | 50 | 100.0 | 88.0% |
| 4-year Graduation All Stude | nts (2018 Cohort) | 93.1% | 94% | 99.0 | 100 | 99.0 | 88.3% |
| 6-year Graduation - High Ne | eds Students (2016 Cohort) | 97.5% | 94% | 100.0 | 100 | 100.0 | 83.3% |
| Postsecondary Entrance (Cla | ass of 2018) | 74.6% | 75% | 99.5 | 100 | 99.5 | 70.9% |
| Physical Fitness (estimated | part rate) and (fitness rate) | 93.7% 53.2% | 75% | 35.5 | 50 | 70.9 | 96.4% 52.9% |
| Arts Access | | 55.8% | 60% | 46.5 | 50 | 93.0 | 51.9% |
| Accountability Index | | | | 1188.1 | 1450 | 81.9 | |

NOTE: A dot (.) appears in the table above when there are fewer than 20 students in the student group or the indicator is not applicable based on grades served.

| 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? | | | | | N |
| ELA Performance Index Gap | 75.0 | 63.3 | 11.7 | 15.4 | |
| Math Performance Index Gap | 75.0 | 59.4 | 15.6 | 17.6 | |
| Science Performance Index Gap | 75.0 | 61.2 | 13.8 | 16.1 | |
| Graduation Rate Gap | 94.0% | 97.5% | -3.5% | 11.1% | N |

¹If 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. ²If the size of the gap exceeds the state mean gap plus one standard deviation, the gap is an outlier.

NOTE: A dot (.) appears in the table above when there are fewer than 20 students in at least one of the student groups used to calculate the gap measure or the indicator is not applicable based on grades served.

| Subject/Student Group | | Participation Rate (%) ³ |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ELA All Students High Needs Students | | 99.2 |
| | | 98.7 |
| Math All Students High Needs Students | | 99.1 |
| | | 98.4 |
| All Students | | 99.6 |
| Science | High Needs Students | 99.0 |

³Minimum participation standard is 95%.

Supporting Resources: Two-page FAQ

Detailed Presentation

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

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: 57.8 State: 51.5

Using Accountability Results to Guide Improvement

Narratives

School District Improvement Plans and Parental Outreach Activities

The words, "Our primary purpose is to improve student achievement" appear at the entrance to each school. Our goal is to ensure that by the time our students graduate, they are prepared to compete with anyone, anywhere for any opportunity. Our district work is driven by our strategic plan. This plan, found on our district website, was developed and continues to be monitored by teacher, parents, administrators, community members, and elected officials. That plan contains five major focus areas, action steps and accountability measures. We have also developed a Vision for a Graduate or global competencies to ensure our students are prepared to be successful within a globally competitive workforce. Each of our five schools write School Improvement Plans, aligned to our Strategic Plan.

Through strong teaming structures at every level, we employ a highly collaborative approach, anchored in student learning data, to drive instructional change and improvement. This collaborative approach begins with pre-school. Teachers work together to screen incoming Kindergartners and then provide a summer school program tailored to their specific needs prior to them entering the system. This work, coupled with a rigorous full-day Kindergarten program contributes significantly to our goal of ensuring that every child read on grade level by the conclusion of Grade 1. We have worked to establish a strong intervention system in literacy, mathematics and behavior to provide interventions when gaps are identified at the earliest level. The district has supported the implementation of a coaching model to enhance regular classroom instruction. The district has expanded the positions of "specialists" (math and literacy) to create more opportunities for interventions. With an increased number of students who are English Learners, we have been committed to hiring certified EL staff to assist with language acquisition.

Through our very strong collaborative culture and use of professional learning communities, student achievement stays at the center of our work. We see the use of technology as one of the primary drivers for improving, enhancing, and personalizing instruction. We have implemented a 1:1 model in grades 2-12. In the past few years, we are implementing a district wide STEM vision, to support are already strong arts and music programs. In addition, we have developed five (5) pathways at Bethel High School to prepare our students for the global workforce.

Our students have proven to be highly successful in extra-curricular competitions. Advanced Placement courses along with opportunities to earn dual credit at neighboring colleges have enabled many of our students to earn significant numbers of college credit prior to graduation.

Efforts to Reduce Racial, Ethnic and Economic Isolation

The racial, ethnic, and economic makeup of the Bethel Community continues to evolve. In-migration of families from foreign nations and neighboring communities requires continuous review of school programs and academic services to ensure valid inclusion of all students into the school system. Special programming for parents of children who do not speak English, attempts to provide information in multiple languages, evening classes for non-English speaking parents and tutoring for children have proven to be effective in reducing isolation. We continue to improve our efforts.

We provide multi-tiered, intensive reading interventions at the primary grades with the goal of having all children read at grade level. We are in the process of training all of our school staff in restorative practices. We have instituted programs to enhance cultural competence of our students and staff. The Family School Partnership was developed to further strengthen relationships between the schools and all families. A parent mentoring program and the Parent University provide induction, support, workshops, and training to parents across the system.

A range of clubs coupled with a significant service learning program directly attack any evidence of social, racial, ethnic or economic isolation that might remain in our community. Extensive work is done to address cyberbullying and online behavior. New policies and regulations, coupled with staff training and required digital citizenship courses for students aim to teach all community members responsible technology use.

Equitable Allocation of Resources among District Schools

The budget is viewed as a statement of our educational & leadership philosophy expressed in dollars. The budget is an opportunity for the Town, school system, and its citizens to debate & set priorities aligned to our Strategic Plan. Construction of a school budget in the Bethel Public Schools entails a high level of staff involvement. Each principal leads a committee of teachers to establish funding priorities for coming school year. School budgets are developed to address specific academic initiatives & student needs. We ask, "How will these funds improve student achievement or expand opportunities for our children?" School administrators examine all aspects of the educational & extra-curricular program and follow the process through the Superintendent's recommendation to the BOE and Town Meeting. Both the Superintendent & BOE examine carefully the proposed appropriations to each school to ensure a clearly defined/equitable allocation of resources. Because the Bethel budget process involves an independent Board of Selectmen & Board of Finance, a Town meeting, and an annual referendum, all constituents focus close attention on each dollar expenditure.