Connecticut State Department of Education

DISTRICT PROFILE AND PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2015–16



Bolton School District

Mrs. Kristin Heckt, Superintendent • 860-643-1569 • http://www.boltonpublicschools.com

District Information

| Grade Range | PK-12 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Number of Schools/Programs | 2 |
| Enrollment | 820 |
| Per Pupil Expenditures ¹ | \$16,296 |
| Total Expenditures ¹ | \$14,291,847 |

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 | 416 | 50.7 | 48.3 | |
| Male | 404 | 49.3 | 51.6 | |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | |
| Asian | 18 | 2.2 | 4.9 | |
| Black or African American | 59 | 7.2 | 12.8 | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 45 | 5.5 | 23.0 | |
| Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | |
| Two or More Races | 26 | 3.2 | 2.7 | |
| White | 672 | 82.0 | 55.9 | |
| English Learners | * | * | 6.4 | |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 125 | 15.2 | 38.0 | |
| Students with Disabilities ¹ | 96 | 11.7 | 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 | | Suspe | ension/ |
|--|--------------------------|----------|-------|----------|
| | Absenteeism ² | | Expu | ılsion³ |
| | Count | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Female | 19 | 4.7 | 11 | 2.7 |
| Male | 7 | 1.8 | 24 | 6.0 |
| Black or African American | 6 | 11.1 | 10 | 18.2 |
| Hispanic or Latino | * | * | * | * |
| White | 14 | 2.1 | 13 | 1.9 |
| English Learners | 0 | * | * | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 14 | 13.6 | 14 | 10.0 |
| Students with Disabilities | 6 | 7.0 | 9 | 9.4 |
| District | 26 | 3.3 | 35 | 4.3 |
| State | | 9.6 | | 7.0 |

Number of students in 2014-15 qualified as truant under state statute: 16 Number of school-based arrests: 0

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 | 64.6 |
| Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants | 6.6 |
| Special Education | |
| Teachers and Instructors | 10.0 |
| Paraprofessional Instructional Assistants | 15.8 |
| Administrators, Coordinators and Department Chairs | |
| District Central Office | 4.0 |
| School Level | 3.8 |
| Library/Media | |
| Specialists (Certified) | 2.0 |
| Support Staff | 1.6 |
| Instructional Specialists Who Support Teachers | 2.0 |
| Counselors, Social Workers and School Psychologists | 6.7 |
| School Nurses | 2.5 |
| Other Staff Providing Non-Instructional Services/Support | 41.8 |

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 | 1.1 | 1.0 |
| Black or African American | 0 | 0.0 | 3.5 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 2 | 2.1 | 3.5 |
| Pacific Islander | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Two or More Races | 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| White | 91 | 96.8 | 91.7 |

Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers²

| | Percent of Total (%) | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| District | 100.0 | | |
| District Poverty Quartile: Middle | | | |
| State High Poverty Quartile Schools | 97.6 | | |
| 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: 2014-15

| | District | State |
|---|----------|-------|
| Average Number of FTE Days Absent Due to Illness or Personal Time | 7.8 | 9.4 |

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 | * | * | * | * |
| Hispanic or Latino | * | * | * | * |
| White | 57 | 98.3 | 77 | 93.9 |
| English Learners | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 6 | * | 7 | * |
| Students with Disabilities | * | * | 10 | * |
| District | 65 | 97.0 | 83 | 94.3 |
| 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 (%) |
|-------|----------------|
| * | * |
| * | * |
| 0 | 0 |
| 22 | 88.0 |
| 20 | 80.0 |
| * | * |
| 12 | * |
| 63 | 74.1 |
| | 68.8 |
| | * 0 22 20 * 12 |

⁴Ages 6-21

Students with Disabilities by Primary Disability¹

| | Dis | State | |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| | Count | Rate (%) | Rate (%) |
| Autism | 6 | 0.8 | 1.6 |
| Emotional Disturbance | 6 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| Intellectual Disability | 7 | 0.9 | 0.5 |
| Learning Disability | 25 | 3.2 | 4.6 |
| Other Health Impairment | 25 | 3.2 | 2.8 |
| Other Disabilities | 6 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| Speech/Language Impairment | 12 | 1.5 | 1.9 |
| All Disabilities | 87 | 11.2 | 13.4 |

¹Grades K-12

Overall Expenditures: 2014-15

| | | Per Pupil | |
|---|-----------------|---------------|------------|
| | Total (\$) | District (\$) | State (\$) |
| Instructional Staff and Services | 7,461,584 | 8,904 | 9,387 |
| Instructional Supplies and Equipment | 247,952 | 296 | 318 |
| Improvement of Instruction and Educational Media Services | 561,255 | 670 | 541 |
| Student Support Services | 999,296 | 1,192 | 1,048 |
| Administration and Support Services | 1,916,724 | 2,287 | 1,790 |
| Plant Operation and Maintenance | 1,435,957 | 1,714 | 1,608 |
| Transportation | 681,494 | 866 | 845 |
| Costs of Students Tuitioned Out | 761,523 | N/A | N/A |
| Other | 226,062 | 270 | 194 |
| Total | 14,291,847 | 16,296 | 15,762 |
| Additiona | al Expenditures | | |
| Land, Buildings, and Debt Service | 898,205 | 1,072 | 1,524 |

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 | 953,343 | 30.5 | 35.1 |
| Noncertified Personnel | 573,143 | 18.3 | 14.5 |
| Purchased Services | 71,137 | 2.3 | 5.5 |
| Tuition to Other Schools | 693,884 | 22.2 | 21.6 |
| Special Ed. Transportation | 214,931 | 6.9 | 8.3 |
| Other Expenditures | 622,096 | 19.9 | 15.0 |
| Total Expenditures | 3,128,534 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Expenditures by Revenue Source:⁴ 2014-15

| | Percent of Total (%) | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| | Including Excluding | | | | |
| | School School | | | | |
| | Construction | Construction | | | |
| Local | 66.1 | 64.0 | | | |
| State | 27.2 | 28.9 | | | |
| Federal | 1.3 | 1.4 | | | |
| Tuition & Other | 5.4 | 5.7 | | | |

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 | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A |
| Asian | 11 | * | 11 | * | * | * |
| Black or African American | 34 | 63.7 | 34 | 56.6 | 14 | * |
| Hispanic or Latino | 23 | 61.5 | 23 | 53.7 | 9 | * |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A | 0 | N/A |
| Two or More Races | 7 | * | 7 | * | * | * |
| White | 337 | 79.1 | 337 | 72.9 | 164 | 64.6 |
| English Learners | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Non-English Learners | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 69 | 65.6 | 69 | 56.7 | 36 | 51.2 |
| Not Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 343 | 78.6 | 343 | 72.6 | 158 | 65.1 |
| Students with Disabilities | 52 | 54.7 | 52 | 47.6 | 26 | 39.7 |
| Students without Disabilities | 360 | 79.5 | 360 | 73.1 | 168 | 66.1 |
| High Needs | 108 | 63.3 | 108 | 55.9 | 50 | 49.3 |
| Non-High Needs | 304 | 81.0 | 304 | 74.9 | 144 | 67.1 |
| District | 412 | 76.4 | 412 | 69.9 | 194 | 62.5 |

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 | 89.1 | 78.7 | 75.0 | 76.8 | 233 | 79.8 |
| Curl Up | 89.1 | 88.5 | 93.8 | 92.8 | 233 | 91.0 |
| Push Up | 63.6 | 70.5 | 66.7 | 73.9 | 233 | 69.1 |
| Mile Run/PACER | 85.5 | 86.9 | 79.2 | 94.2 | 233 | 87.1 |
| All Tests - District | 52.7 | 47.5 | 54.2 | 60.9 | 233 | 54.1 |
| 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 | | | | 2015-16 |
|--|---------------------------|----------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Cohort Count ² | Rate (%) | Target ³ (%) | Target Achieved | Target³ (%) |
| Black or African American | * | * | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | * | * | | | |
| English Learners | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | * | * | | | |
| Students with Disabilities | * | * | | | |
| District | 76 | 96.1 | 94.0 | Yes | 94.0 |
| 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 <u>available online</u>.

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

| | _ | | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------|----------|
| | Participation ⁶ | Meeting B | enchmark |
| | Rate (%) | Count | Rate (%) |
| Female | 97.6 | 53 | 64.6 |
| Male | 94.5 | 32 | 43.8 |
| Black or African American | * | * | * |
| Hispanic or Latino | * | * | * |
| White | 96.4 | 83 | 59.3 |
| English Learners | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | * | * | * |
| Students with Disabilities | * | 0 | * |
| District | 96.1 | 85 | 54.8 |
| 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 | 82.1 | 95.7 |
| Male | 80.0 | 87.9 |
| Black or African American | * | * |
| Hispanic or Latino | * | * |
| White | 85.5 | 93.2 |
| English Learners | N/A | N/A |
| Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Meals | * | * |
| Students with Disabilities | * | * |
| District | 80.8 | 92.5 |
| 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.

| Indicator | | Index/Rate | Target | Points | Max | % Points | State Average |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|------|----------|---------------|
| ELA Performance Index | All Students | 76.4 | 75 | 50.0 | 50 | 100.0 | 67.7 |
| ELA Performance index | High Needs Students | 63.3 | 75 | 42.2 | 50 | 84.5 | 56.7 |
| Math Performance Index | All Students | 69.9 | 75 | 46.6 | 50 | 93.2 | 61.4 |
| Math Performance index | High Needs Students | 55.9 | 75 | 37.3 | 50 | 74.5 | 49.9 |
| Science Performance Index | All Students | 62.5 | 75 | 41.7 | 50 | 83.4 | 57.5 |
| Science Performance muex | High Needs Students | 49.3 | 75 | 32.9 | 50 | 65.8 | 47.0 |
| ELA Academic Growth | All Students | 75.3% | 100% | 75.3 | 100 | 75.3 | 63.8% |
| ELA ACAGEMIC Growth | High Needs Students | 56.6% | 100% | 56.6 | 100 | 56.6 | 58.3% |
| Math Academic Growth | All Students | 71.0% | 100% | 71.0 | 100 | 71.0 | 65.0% |
| Watti Academic Growth | High Needs Students | 72.3% | 100% | 72.3 | 100 | 72.3 | 57.4% |
| Chronic Absenteeism | All Students | 3.3% | <=5% | 50.0 | 50 | 100.0 | 9.6% |
| Cilionic Absenteeisin | High Needs Students | 10.3% | <=5% | 39.4 | 50 | 78.8 | 15.6% |
| Droparation for CCB | % Taking Courses | 95.5% | 75% | 50.0 | 50 | 100.0 | 67.6% |
| Preparation for CCR | % Passing Exams | 54.8% | 75% | 36.6 | 50 | 73.1 | 40.7% |
| On-track to High School Gra | duation | 98.4% | 94% | 50.0 | 50 | 100.0 | 85.1% |
| 4-year Graduation All Stude | nts (2015 Cohort) | 96.1% | 94% | 100.0 | 100 | 100.0 | 87.2% |
| 6-year Graduation - High Needs Students (2013 Cohort) | | 86.4% | 94% | 91.9 | 100 | 91.9 | 78.6% |
| Postsecondary Entrance (Class of 2015) | | 80.8% | 75% | 100.0 | 100 | 100.0 | 71.9% |
| Physical Fitness (estimated p | part rate) and (fitness rate) | 94.7% 54.1% | 75% | 36.1 | 50 | 72.1 | 89.2% 50.5% |
| Arts Access | | 54.0% | 60% | 45.0 | 50 | 90.0 | 47.5% |
| Accountability Index | | | | 1124.8 | 1350 | 83.3 | |

| 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 | 75.0 | 63.3 | 11.7 | 16.5 | |
| Math Performance Index Gap | 74.9 | 55.9 | 19.0 | 18.9 | |
| Science Performance Index Gap | 67.1 | 49.3 | 17.7 | 17.2 | |
| Graduation Rate Gap | 94.0% | 86.4% | 7.6% | 15.3% | N |

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.

²If 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 | 97.9 | ³ Minimum |
| ELA | High Needs Students | 99.1 | participation standard is 95%. |
| Math | All Students | 97.9 | |
| IVIALII | High Needs Students | 99.1 | |
| Science | All Students | 98.5 | |
| Science | High Needs Students | 96.2 | |

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: * 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

The Bolton Public Schools including parents, administration, community members, students and staff crafted the Bolton Public Schools Strategic Plan 2015 - 2020, which serves as the blueprint of student outcomes designed to promote learning skills that are essential in the 21st century including creativity, leadership, innovation, digital literacy, collaboration, and problem-solving. The vision of the Bolton Public Schools is to educate students to become capable, ethical, healthy, responsible and thoughtful citizens. Particular emphasis is being placed on the successful incorporation of the Connecticut Core Standards in all content areas. Emphasis is on authentic assessment and analysis of student data to drive instruction across the district to improve student achievement. Professional development supports these efforts. We utilized attendance data to identify students who have attendance issues and worked with the students and their families to improve their attendance rate. Although we have a very low truancy rate, this process improved the attendance of those students qualifying as truant. In the area of special education, we have focused on increasing the inclusion of all students with disabilities in general education classroom. All special educators and related services staff received professional development regarding co-teaching, data literacy, and effective use of instructional support in the general education classroom. The district BCBA supported our students with behavioral challenges as well as to collaborate with staff regarding how to best meet the needs of these students in the classroom. The Assistive Technology Committee developed low tech kits for use in the classroom and continued to monitor students assistive technology needs. Bolton Public Schools utilizes a variety of supports to engage families in student learning. These efforts include regular PTA, Booster Club, and Scholarship Committee meetings with parents and staff, a parent communication goal for all teachers in which they demonstrate how they communicate with parents, and training for incoming kindergarten parents on how to read to their children. Information is sent home in quarterly newsletters which include school information, updates, and ways to support parents in working at home with their children on learning activities. We have an extremely active PTA which, through the efforts of many parents and the support of the entire community, raised thousands of dollars to enhance the curriculum offerings for our students. In 2015, Bolton Public Schools was recognized by Niche for Best Academics in Connecticut and by Nerd Wallet for Best School District's for Your Buck in Connecticut.

Efforts to Reduce Racial, Ethnic and Economic Isolation

With strong support from the BOE, the Bolton Public Schools are committed to fostering understanding of various groups in our society and world, promoting equity and respect among people and providing learning experiences for students to become more familiar with people from different races, ethnic groups and economic backgrounds. Equity and respect among students are promoted through the learning experiences of the academic program as well as extra-curricular and athletic programs. The Bolton teachers participated in professional development on culturally relevant instructional practices. Throughout the year, teachers PreK-12 incorporated multi-cultural themes within their units of study; participated in outreach activities and structured field trips both local and abroad to further develop the students' understanding and appreciation for other cultures and traditions. Bolton High School implemented year three of the PBIS program and Bolton Center School implemented year four. This program promotes a healthy school climate through positive behavior, respect of self and others and tolerance and acceptance of others differences. The PBIS teams at both schools organized numerous events and activities to promote positive behavior, tolerance and a healthy school climate. Bolton has been an active participant in the Hartford Open Choice program for the last 14 years with 62 students attending Bolton schools in 2015-2016. In addition, some Bolton students participate in magnet school programs such as the Great Path Academy on the campus of Manchester Community College, the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts, International Baccalaureate Academy in East Hartford, and other CREC magnet schools. At Bolton High School students can choose to participate in Virtual High School classes that develop and deliver standards-based, student-centered online courses that increase educational opportunities and 21st century skills. Bolton High School also has a sister school program with Rivington & Blackrod High School in Bolton, England. In the Bolton Public Schools we believe that an understanding of and respect for diverse beliefs, cultures, backgrounds, abilities, and perspectives enrich the lives and learning environments for all our students.

Equitable Allocation of Resources among District Schools

The Board of Education and the administrative team are committed to ensuring that the schools in the district receive the equitable distribution of necessary resources to effectively implement educational programming. The budgets are specifically designed to support building goals that in turn support district goals. Expanding access to technology, moving forward with curriculum renewal, providing high quality professional learning for staff, and maintaining core programs are the priorities that guide decision making about resource allocation. The budget process entails four critical steps: 1) public and staff commentary on budget needs; 2) program area/building level budget preparation; 3) district budget development; and 4) budget presentation and work sessions. Each step of the process is designed to encourage participation and input. In addition to the operational budget, the district prepares and updates a five-year plan for capital improvements that is submitted to the town's Capital Expenditure Committee for approval. The Board receives additional monies from both State and Federal sources to help finance remedial and special education programs.