



OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

Michael R. Criss
First Selectman, Town of Harwinton

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

February 3, 2023

Good afternoon, my name is Michael R. Criss, I am the First Selectman for the Town of Harwinton and I am submitting testimony regarding H.B. 5003 “An Act Concerning Education Funding in Connecticut”.

H.B. 5003 “An Act Concerning Education Funding in Connecticut”.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and submit testimony on proposed H.B. 5003 “An Act Concerning Education Funding in Connecticut”. The Town of Harwinton supports the content and intent of H.B. 5003.

The Town of Harwinton supports H.B. 5003 as it would fully fund Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grants; expand ECS weighted funding to students attending public schools of choice (such as magnet schools, charter schools, VoAg schools and Open Choice programs) while protecting funding for local public schools, eliminate general education tuition billing for magnet school operators and VoAg programs, maintain the phase-out of funding for municipalities receiving reductions in their ECS grants.

The current educational finance system is overly reliant on local property tax revenue. In the country, Connecticut is one of the state’s most reliant on the local property tax to fund public education. The cost for public education in our state is over \$12.3 billion and municipal property taxpayers fund 53.3% of that amount (\$6.6 billion), with the State and federal governments providing balance. As a result, our system does not consider the vast disparities of wealth and student needs. English Learners, students who are economically disadvantaged, and students navigating their educational system in communities that experience concentrated poverty, all deserve to be funded at a level that makes a real and tangible difference.

The current mechanism to provide education funding is inadequate and inequitable to meet the needs of Connecticut’s student population. A particular drawback of the current system is that it fails to account for a student-based approach to improve the outcomes for all students, for example the commercialized curriculum by the State Board of Education. Resources and support have an impact on student outcome. In particular, increased class sizes, declining teachers, fewer paraprofessionals, lack of mental health support, and outdated or nonexistent instructional material negatively contribute to student needs.

TOWN OF HARWINTON

100 BENTLEY DRIVE
HARWINTON, CONNECTICUT 06791

Tele: (860) 485-9051 • Fax: (860) 485-0051



OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

A greater emphasis and support for a student-based approach – as recommended in H.B. 5003 – will improve student outcomes. These outcomes can, among other things, result in higher test scores, higher earnings later in life, and promote additional years of educational completion. We need this investment to help our youth reach their full potential without straining the residents of Connecticut with a burdensome financial obligation.

While necessary federal funding has provided a “bridge” in reducing the racial funding gap for schools, additional support is necessary for sustainability. This bill would reduce those economic disparities, with a focus towards improving student outcomes, while also ensuring funding is viable in future years.

We also appreciate that the H.B 5003 appears to show that no school district will experience reductions in education funding during these critical times when we are faced with increasing inflation, rising fuel costs, high electric costs and other ever growing factors.

Harwinton will continue to monitor H.B 5003 as it is navigating the legislative process to ensure that H.B 5003 continues and does not deviate from recognizing funding shortfalls and the needs of most Connecticut small towns. We would ask while reviewing this bill that the committee consider fully funding special education under the excess cost grant in order for communities like ours to meet the ever growing needs of special education students. Many of our schools are facing hardships as they are not being fully reimbursed currently for special education costs.

We would be remiss if we didn't finally mention that lawmakers must address and insure increased flexibility under the minimum budget requirement so that municipalities can control costs while providing quality education.

As enrollment may decline across the state it does not cost any less to run the facilities for our students. Flexibility in the NBR would allow local lawmakers in creating a more sustainable budget without the heavy burden of high taxes at the local level. Towns are limited and cannot achieve any cost savings as long as NBR is restrictive.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of the intent of H.B. 5003 on behalf of the Town of Harwinton. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Michael R. Criss
First Selectman, Town of Harwinton
mcriss@harwinton.us
860-485-2916

TOWN OF HARWINTON

100 BENTLEY DRIVE
HARWINTON, CONNECTICUT 06791
Tele: (860) 485-9051 • Fax: (860) 485-0051



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Committee Bill No. 5003

LCO No. 3284



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION FUNDING IN CONNECTICUT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-262h of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

3 (a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, each town maintaining
4 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
5 grant as follows: (1) Any town designated as an alliance district, as
6 defined in section 10-262u, shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant
7 in an amount equal to its base grant amount; and (2) any town not
8 designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid
9 grant in an amount equal to ninety-five per cent of its base grant
10 amount.

11 (b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, each town maintaining
12 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
13 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
14 its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
15 amount equal to its base grant amount plus four and one-tenth per cent
16 of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is

17 less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid
18 grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount minus twenty-five
19 per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town designated as an
20 alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
21 amount equal to its base grant amount.

22 (c) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, each
23 town maintaining public schools according to law shall be entitled to an
24 equalization aid grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded
25 grant is greater than its base grant amount shall be entitled to an
26 equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant
27 amount for the previous fiscal year plus ten and sixty-six-one-
28 hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and (2) any town whose
29 fully funded grant is less than its base grant amount shall be entitled to
30 an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its equalization aid
31 grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus eight and thirty-three-
32 one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment, except any such town
33 designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid
34 grant in an amount equal to its base grant amount.

35 (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, each town maintaining
36 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
37 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
38 its base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
39 amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal
40 year plus ten and sixty-six-one-hundredths per cent of its grant
41 adjustment; and (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its
42 base grant amount shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
43 amount equal to the amount the town was entitled to for the fiscal year
44 ending June 30, 2021.

45 (e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, each town maintaining
46 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
47 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
48 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be

49 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
50 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus sixteen
51 and sixty-seven-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment; and
52 (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid
53 grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an
54 equalization aid grant in an amount equal to the amount the town was
55 entitled to for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

56 (f) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, each town maintaining
57 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
58 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
59 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
60 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
61 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus twenty
62 per cent of its grant adjustment; (2) any town whose fully funded grant
63 is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year
64 shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
65 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus
66 fourteen and twenty-nine-one-hundredths per cent of its grant
67 adjustment; and (3) any town designated as an alliance district shall be
68 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of
69 (A) the amount described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or
70 subdivision (2) of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base grant
71 amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous
72 fiscal year.

73 (g) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, each town maintaining
74 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
75 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
76 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
77 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
78 [equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus twenty-
79 five per cent of its grant adjustment] fully funded grant; (2) any town
80 whose fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount
81 for the previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant

82 in an amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous
83 fiscal year minus sixteen and sixty-seven-one-hundredths per cent of its
84 grant adjustment; and (3) any town designated as an alliance district
85 shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the
86 greater of (A) the amount described in either subdivision (1) of this
87 subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base
88 grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant entitlement for the
89 previous fiscal year.

90 (h) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, each town maintaining
91 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
92 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
93 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
94 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
95 [equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus thirty-
96 three and thirty-three-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment]
97 fully funded grant; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than
98 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
99 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
100 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus twenty
101 per cent of its grant adjustment; and (3) any town designated as an
102 alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
103 amount that is the greater of (A) the amount described in either
104 subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as
105 applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant
106 entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

107 (i) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, each town maintaining
108 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
109 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
110 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
111 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
112 [equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year plus fifty per
113 cent of its grant adjustment] fully funded grant; (2) any town whose
114 fully funded grant is less than its equalization aid grant amount for the

115 previous fiscal year shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
116 amount equal to its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal
117 year minus twenty-five per cent of its grant adjustment; and (3) any
118 town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an
119 equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (A) the amount
120 described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2)
121 of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its
122 equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

123 (j) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, each town maintaining
124 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
125 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
126 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
127 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully
128 funded grant; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its
129 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
130 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
131 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus thirty-
132 three and thirty-three-one-hundredths per cent of its grant adjustment;
133 and (3) any town designated as an alliance district shall be entitled to an
134 equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of (A) the amount
135 described in either subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2)
136 of this subsection, as applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its
137 equalization aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

138 (k) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, each town maintaining
139 public schools according to law shall be entitled to an equalization aid
140 grant as follows: (1) Any town whose fully funded grant is greater than
141 its equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
142 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully
143 funded grant; (2) any town whose fully funded grant is less than its
144 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year shall be
145 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its
146 equalization aid grant amount for the previous fiscal year minus fifty
147 per cent of its grant adjustment; and (3) any town designated as an

148 alliance district shall be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an
149 amount that is the greater of (A) the amount described in either
150 subdivision (1) of this subsection or subdivision (2) of this subsection, as
151 applicable, (B) its base grant amount, or (C) its equalization aid grant
152 entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

153 (l) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, and each fiscal year
154 thereafter, each town maintaining public schools according to law shall
155 be entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount equal to its fully
156 funded grant, except any town designated as an alliance district shall be
157 entitled to an equalization aid grant in an amount that is the greater of
158 (1) its fully funded grant, (2) its base grant amount, or (3) its equalization
159 aid grant entitlement for the previous fiscal year.

160 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) As used in this section, section
161 3 of this act and sections 10-65, 10-264l and 10-266aa of the general
162 statutes, as amended by this act:

163 (1) "Choice program" means (A) an interdistrict magnet school
164 program, (B) a regional agricultural science and technology center, or
165 (C) the interdistrict public school attendance program pursuant to
166 section 10-266aa of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

167 (2) "Foundation" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-262f
168 of the general statutes, except that for the fiscal year ending June 30,
169 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, the foundation for an interdistrict
170 magnet school operator that is not a local or regional board of education
171 is adjusted by the percentage increase in personal income, as defined in
172 section 2-33a of the general statutes, or the percentage increase in
173 inflation, as defined in section 2-33a of the general statutes, whichever
174 is greater.

175 (3) "Resident students" has the same meaning as provided in section
176 10-262f of the general statutes.

177 (4) "Resident choice program students" means the number of part-

178 time and full-time students of a town enrolled or participating in a
179 particular choice program.

180 (5) "Total need students" has the same meaning as provided in section
181 10-262f of the general statutes.

182 (6) "Total magnet school program need students" means the sum of
183 (A) the number of part-time and full-time students enrolled in the
184 interdistrict magnet school program of the interdistrict magnet school
185 operator who is (i) not a local or regional board of education, (ii) the
186 board of governors for an independent institution of higher education,
187 as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173 of the general statutes, or
188 the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution
189 of higher education, or (iii) any other third-party not-for-profit
190 corporation approved by the Commissioner of Education, for the school
191 year, and (B) for the school year commencing July 1, 2024, and each
192 school year thereafter, (i) thirty per cent of the number of part-time and
193 full-time children enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school program
194 eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk, (ii) fifteen per cent
195 of the number of such part-time and full-time children eligible for free
196 or reduced price meals or free milk in excess of the number of such part-
197 time and full-time children eligible for free or reduced price meals or
198 free milk that is equal to sixty per cent of the total number of children
199 enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school program, (iii) twenty-five
200 per cent of the number of part-time and full-time students enrolled in
201 such interdistrict magnet school program who are English language
202 learners, as defined in section 10-76kk of the general statutes, and (iv) if
203 such interdistrict magnet school program is assisting the state in
204 meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238,
205 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as
206 determined by the commissioner, (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30,
207 2025, thirty per cent of the number of part-time and full-time students
208 enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school program, (II) for the fiscal
209 year ending June 30, 2026, twenty-eight per cent of the number of part-
210 time and full-time students enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school

211 program, (III) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, twenty-six per
212 cent of the number of part-time and full-time students enrolled in such
213 interdistrict magnet school program, (IV) for the fiscal year ending June
214 30, 2028, twenty-four per cent of the number of part-time and full-time
215 students enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school program, (V) for
216 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, twenty-two per cent of the number
217 of part-time and full-time students enrolled in such interdistrict magnet
218 school program, and (VI) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2030, and
219 each fiscal year thereafter, twenty per cent of the number of part-time
220 and full-time students enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school
221 program.

222 (7) "Sending town" means the town that sends resident choice
223 program students, which it would otherwise be legally responsible for
224 educating, to a choice program.

225 (8) "Receiving district" has the same meaning as provided in section
226 10-266aa of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

227 (9) "Weighted funding amount per pupil" means the quotient of (A)
228 the product of the foundation and a town's total need students for the
229 fiscal year prior to the year in which the grant is to be paid, and (B) the
230 number of resident students of the town.

231 (10) "Weighted funding amount per sending town" means the
232 product of a town's (A) weighted funding amount per pupil, and (B)
233 number of resident choice program students for a particular choice
234 program.

235 (11) "In-district student" means a student enrolled or participating in
236 a choice program operated or maintained by a local or regional board of
237 education and whom such local or regional board of education is legally
238 responsible for educating.

239 (12) "Total revenue per pupil" means the sum of (A) the per student
240 amount of the grant for a choice program student for the fiscal year

241 ending June 30, 2024, and (B) the per student amount of any general
242 education tuition for a student in such choice program for the fiscal year
243 ending June 30, 2024.

244 (13) "Sending town adjustment factor" means the product of (A) the
245 weighted funding amount per pupil or the total revenue per pupil,
246 whichever is greater, for a sending town, and (B) the number of its
247 resident choice program students.

248 (b) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year
249 thereafter, an interdistrict magnet school program operator that is not a
250 local or regional board of education shall be entitled to a grant in an
251 amount equal to the product of the foundation and its total magnet
252 school program need students, except that, for each student enrolled in
253 the interdistrict magnet school program of such operator, such operator
254 shall not receive less than the total revenue per pupil.

255 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year
256 thereafter, an interdistrict magnet school operator that is a local or
257 regional board of education shall be entitled to a grant in an amount
258 equal to the sum of (A) the sum of the sending town adjustment factor
259 for each sending town, and (B) the product of (i) the number of in-
260 district students enrolled in the interdistrict magnet school program of
261 such board, and (ii) the per student amount of the grant under section
262 10-264 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, for an in-district
263 student enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school program for the
264 fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

265 (c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year
266 thereafter, a local or regional board of education that operates a regional
267 agricultural science and technology center shall be entitled to a grant in
268 an amount equal to the sum of (1) the sum of the sending town
269 adjustment factor for each sending town, and (2) the product of (A) the
270 number of in-district students enrolled in such center, and (B) the per
271 student amount of the grant under section 10-65 of the general statutes,
272 as amended by this act, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

273 (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year
274 thereafter, the local or regional board of education for each receiving
275 district that accepts students under the interdistrict public school
276 attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa of the general statutes,
277 as amended by this act, shall be entitled to a grant in an amount equal
278 to the sum of the sending town adjustment factor for each sending town.

279 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than February 1,
280 2024, and annually thereafter, the Department of Education shall
281 calculate an estimated amount of each grant under section 2 of this act
282 for the next fiscal year using data collected during the current fiscal year,
283 and notify each local and regional board of education and interdistrict
284 magnet school program operator that is not a local or regional board of
285 education of such estimated amounts.

286 (b) Not later than February 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the
287 Department of Education shall calculate an estimated amount that each
288 town is entitled to receive under the provisions of section 10-262h of the
289 general statutes, as amended by this act for the next fiscal year using
290 data collected during the current fiscal year, and notify each town of
291 such estimated amount.

292 (c) Not later than February 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the
293 Department of Education shall calculate the product of the foundation
294 and total charter need students, as defined in section 10-66ee of the
295 general statutes, as amended by this act, for each fiscal authority for a
296 state charter school for the next fiscal year using data collected during
297 the current fiscal year, and notify each such fiscal authority of such
298 product.

299 Sec. 4. Section 10-264l of the general statutes is repealed and the
300 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

301 (a) The Department of Education shall, within available
302 appropriations, establish a grant program (1) to assist (A) local and
303 regional boards of education, (B) regional educational service centers,

304 (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on
305 behalf of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers
306 Community College, and (D) cooperative arrangements pursuant to
307 section 10-158a, and (2) in assisting the state in meeting its obligations
308 pursuant to the decision in Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any
309 related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the
310 commissioner, to assist (A) the Board of Trustees of the Community-
311 Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college,
312 (B) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on
313 behalf of a state university, (C) the Board of Trustees of The University
314 of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (D) the board of governors
315 for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in
316 subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on
317 behalf of the independent institution of higher education, and (E) any
318 other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the
319 commissioner with the operation of interdistrict magnet school
320 programs. All interdistrict magnet schools shall be operated in
321 conformance with the same laws and regulations applicable to public
322 schools. For the purposes of this section "an interdistrict magnet school
323 program" means a program which (i) supports racial, ethnic and
324 economic diversity, (ii) offers a special and high quality curriculum, and
325 (iii) requires students who are enrolled to attend at least half-time. An
326 interdistrict magnet school program does not include a regional
327 agricultural science and technology school, a technical education and
328 career school or a regional special education center. For the school years
329 commencing July 1, 2017, to July 1, 2023, inclusive, the governing
330 authority for each interdistrict magnet school program shall (I) restrict
331 the number of students that may enroll in the school from a participating
332 district to seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment, and (II)
333 maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the
334 reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school
335 programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to
336 section 10-264r.

337 (b) (1) Applications for interdistrict magnet school program

338 operating grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be submitted
339 annually to the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such
340 manner as the commissioner prescribes, except that on and after July 1,
341 2009, applications for such operating grants for new interdistrict magnet
342 schools, other than those that the commissioner determines will assist
343 the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v.*
344 *O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect,
345 as determined by the commissioner, shall not be accepted until the
346 commissioner develops a comprehensive state-wide interdistrict
347 magnet school plan. The commissioner shall submit such
348 comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan on or before
349 October 1, 2016, to the joint standing committees of the General
350 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and
351 appropriations.

352 (2) In determining whether an application shall be approved and
353 funds awarded pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall
354 consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to: (A) Whether the
355 program offered by the school is likely to increase student achievement;
356 (B) whether the program is likely to reduce racial, ethnic and economic
357 isolation; (C) the percentage of the student enrollment in the program
358 from each participating district; and (D) the proposed operating budget
359 and the sources of funding for the interdistrict magnet school. For a
360 magnet school not operated by a local or regional board of education,
361 the commissioner shall only approve a proposed operating budget that,
362 on a per pupil basis, does not exceed the maximum allowable threshold
363 established in accordance with this subdivision. The maximum
364 allowable threshold shall be an amount equal to one hundred twenty
365 per cent of the state average of the quotient obtained by dividing net
366 current expenditures, as defined in section 10-261, by average daily
367 membership, as defined in said section, for the fiscal year two years
368 prior to the fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. The
369 Department of Education shall establish the maximum allowable
370 threshold no later than December fifteenth of the fiscal year prior to the
371 fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. If requested by an

372 applicant that is not a local or regional board of education, the
373 commissioner may approve a proposed operating budget that exceeds
374 the maximum allowable threshold if the commissioner determines that
375 there are extraordinary programmatic needs. For the fiscal years ending
376 June 30, 2017, June 30, 2018, June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, in the case
377 of an interdistrict magnet school that will assist the state in meeting its
378 obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1
379 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the
380 commissioner, the commissioner shall also consider whether the school
381 is meeting the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict
382 magnet school programs, developed by the commissioner pursuant to
383 section 10-264r. If such school has not met such reduced-isolation setting
384 standards, it shall not be entitled to receive a grant pursuant to this
385 section unless the commissioner finds that it is appropriate to award a
386 grant for an additional year or years and approves a plan to bring such
387 school into compliance with such reduced-isolation setting standards. If
388 requested by the commissioner, the applicant shall meet with the
389 commissioner or the commissioner's designee to discuss the budget and
390 sources of funding.

391 (3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, to June 30, 2023,
392 inclusive, the commissioner shall not award a grant to an interdistrict
393 magnet school program that (A) has more than seventy-five per cent of
394 the total school enrollment from one school district, or (B) does not
395 maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the
396 reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school
397 programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to
398 section 10-264r, except the commissioner may award a grant to such
399 school for an additional year or years if the commissioner finds it is
400 appropriate to do so and approves a plan to bring such school into
401 compliance with such residency or reduced-isolation setting standards.

402 (4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, to June 30, 2021,
403 inclusive, if an interdistrict magnet school program does not maintain a
404 total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation

405 setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed
406 by the commissioner pursuant to section 10-264r, for two or more
407 consecutive years, the commissioner may impose a financial penalty on
408 the operator of such interdistrict magnet school program, or take any
409 other measure, in consultation with such operator, as may be
410 appropriate to assist such operator in complying with such reduced-
411 isolation setting standards.

412 (5) For the purposes of equalization aid under section 10-262h, as
413 amended by this act, a student enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school
414 program shall be counted as a resident student, as defined in section 10-
415 262f, of the town in which such student resides.

416 (c) (1) [The maximum amount each interdistrict magnet school
417 program, except those described in subparagraphs (A) to (G), inclusive,
418 of subdivision (3) of this subsection, shall be eligible to receive per
419 enrolled student who is not a resident of the town operating the magnet
420 school shall be (A) six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending
421 June 30, 2008, (B) six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for the fiscal
422 years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, (C) seven
423 thousand eighty-five dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to
424 June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (D) seven thousand two hundred twenty-
425 seven dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year
426 thereafter. The per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a
427 resident of the town operating the magnet school program shall be (i)
428 three thousand dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, to June
429 30, 2019, inclusive, and (ii) three thousand sixty dollars for the fiscal year
430 ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.] For the fiscal year
431 ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, each interdistrict
432 magnet school operator shall be paid a grant equal to the amount the
433 operator is entitled to receive under the provisions of section 2 of this
434 act.

435 (2) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year
436 thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school operator that is not a local or

437 regional board of education may charge tuition to the local or regional
438 board of education for a sending town if the grant to which such
439 operator is entitled to under section 2 of this act is not calculated using
440 a foundation amount that is adjusted by the greater of either the
441 percentage increase in personal income, as defined in section 2-33a, or
442 the percentage increase in inflation, as defined in section 2-33a. Such
443 tuition charged shall not exceed the difference between the amount of
444 the grant such operator would have been entitled to receive for the fiscal
445 year if such grant was calculated using the foundation, as defined in
446 section 2 of this act, and the amount of the grant that such operator will
447 receive for such fiscal year.

448 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year
449 thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school operator that is not a local or
450 regional board of education that charges tuition under this subdivision
451 shall notify the Department of Education of (i) the per-student amount
452 of tuition charged for the fiscal year, (ii) the local or regional boards of
453 education for sending towns that were charged tuition by such operator
454 for such fiscal year, (iii) the total amount of tuition charged to each such
455 sending town for such fiscal year, and (iv) the total amount of tuition
456 charged for such fiscal year. The department shall develop an annual
457 report of such tuition charged and, not later than January first of each
458 year, submit such report to the joint standing committees of the General
459 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and
460 appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

461 [(2)] (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, and each fiscal year
462 thereafter, the commissioner may, within available appropriations,
463 provide supplemental grants for the purposes of enhancing educational
464 programs in such interdistrict magnet schools, as the commissioner
465 determines. Such grants shall be made after the commissioner has
466 conducted a comprehensive financial review and approved the total
467 operating budget for such schools, including all revenue and
468 expenditure estimates.

469 [(3) (A) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (G),
470 inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated
471 by a regional educational service center that enrolls less than fifty-five
472 per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per
473 pupil grant in the amount of (i) six thousand two hundred fifty dollars
474 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, (ii) six thousand five hundred
475 dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, (iii) seven thousand sixty
476 dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (iv) seven thousand six
477 hundred twenty dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June
478 30, 2012, inclusive, (v) seven thousand nine hundred dollars for the
479 fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (vi)
480 eight thousand fifty-eight dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020,
481 and each fiscal year thereafter.

482 (B) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (G),
483 inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated
484 by a regional educational service center that enrolls at least fifty-five per
485 cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per pupil
486 grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that
487 enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students in the amount
488 of (i) six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008,
489 (ii) six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for the fiscal years ending
490 June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, (iii) seven thousand eighty-five
491 dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2019,
492 inclusive, and (iv) seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars
493 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.
494 The per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of the
495 district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students
496 shall be three thousand sixty dollars.

497 (C) (i) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2019,
498 inclusive, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional
499 educational service center that began operations for the school year
500 commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing July
501 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per

502 cent of the school's students from a single town, shall receive a per pupil
503 grant (I) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that
504 enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the
505 school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such
506 enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the
507 amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars, (II) for each
508 enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-
509 five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students,
510 in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as
511 of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of three
512 thousand dollars, (III) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of
513 the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than
514 eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the
515 total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the
516 data of record, in the amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty
517 dollars, and (IV) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the
518 district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty
519 per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total
520 number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data
521 of record, in the amount of seven thousand eighty-five dollars.

522 (ii) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year
523 thereafter, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional
524 educational service center that began operations for the school year
525 commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing July
526 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per
527 cent of the school's students from a single town, shall receive a per pupil
528 grant (I) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that
529 enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of
530 the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such
531 enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the
532 amount of eight thousand three hundred forty-four dollars, (II) for each
533 enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-
534 five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students,
535 in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as

536 of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of three
537 thousand sixty dollars, (III) for each enrolled student who is not a
538 resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more
539 than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to
540 the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using
541 the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand three hundred forty-
542 four dollars, and (IV) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of
543 the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than
544 eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the
545 total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the
546 data of record, in the amount of seven thousand two hundred twenty-
547 seven dollars.

548 (D) (i) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (D)(ii) of this
549 subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated by (I) a regional
550 educational service center, (II) the Board of Trustees of the Community-
551 Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college,
552 (III) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on
553 behalf of a state university, (IV) the Board of Trustees for The University
554 of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (V) the board of governors
555 for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in
556 subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on
557 behalf of the independent institution of higher education, except as
558 otherwise provided in subparagraph (E) of this subdivision, (VI)
559 cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, (VII) any other
560 third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner,
561 and (VIII) the Hartford school district for the operation of Great Path
562 Academy on behalf of Manchester Community College, that enrolls less
563 than sixty per cent of its students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil
564 grant in the amount of nine thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars for
565 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, ten thousand four hundred forty-
566 three dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2019,
567 inclusive, and ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the fiscal
568 year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.

569 (ii) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2019,
570 inclusive, any interdistrict magnet school described in subparagraph
571 (D)(i) of this subdivision that enrolls less than fifty per cent of its
572 incoming students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant in the
573 amount of seven thousand nine hundred dollars for one-half of the total
574 number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the school over fifty per
575 cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive a per pupil grant in
576 the amount of ten thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the
577 remainder of the total school enrollment. For the fiscal year ending June
578 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school
579 described in subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision that enrolls less
580 than fifty per cent of its incoming students from Hartford shall receive
581 a per pupil grant in the amount of eight thousand fifty-eight dollars for
582 one-half of the total number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the
583 school over fifty per cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive
584 a per pupil grant in the amount of ten thousand six hundred fifty-two
585 dollars for the remainder of the total school enrollment, except the
586 commissioner may, upon the written request of an operator of such
587 school, waive such fifty per cent enrollment minimum for good cause.

588 (E) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year
589 thereafter, each interdistrict magnet school operated by the board of
590 governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined
591 in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on
592 behalf of the independent institution of higher education, that (i) began
593 operations for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, (ii) enrolls less
594 than sixty per cent of its students from Hartford pursuant to the decision
595 in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order
596 in effect, as determined by the commissioner, and (iii) enrolls students
597 at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant (I) equal
598 to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to
599 subparagraph (D) of this subdivision for each student who is enrolled
600 at such school for at least two semesters in each school year, and (II)
601 equal to thirty-two and one-half per cent of the grant amount
602 determined pursuant to subparagraph (D) of this subdivision for each

603 student who is enrolled at such school for one semester in each school
604 year.

605 (F) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a local or regional
606 board of education, pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238
607 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, shall receive
608 a per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the
609 district in the amount of (i) twelve thousand dollars for the fiscal year
610 ending June 30, 2010, (ii) thirteen thousand fifty-four dollars for the
611 fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (iii)
612 thirteen thousand three hundred fifteen dollars for the fiscal year ending
613 June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.

614 (G) In addition to the grants described in subparagraph (E) of this
615 subdivision, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the commissioner
616 may, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
617 Management and the Finance Advisory Committee, established
618 pursuant to section 4-93, provide supplemental grants to the Hartford
619 school district of up to one thousand fifty-four dollars for each student
620 enrolled at an interdistrict magnet school operated by the Hartford
621 school district who is not a resident of such district.

622 (H) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year
623 thereafter, the half-day Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts
624 interdistrict magnet school operated by the Capital Region Education
625 Council shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant equal to sixty-five
626 per cent of the per pupil grant specified in subparagraph (A) of this
627 subdivision.

628 (I) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2018, inclusive,
629 the half-day Greater Hartford Academy of Mathematics and Science
630 interdistrict magnet school operated by the Capitol Region Education
631 Council shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant equal to six
632 thousand seven hundred eighty-seven dollars for (i) students enrolled
633 in grades ten to twelve, inclusive, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016,
634 (ii) students enrolled in grades eleven and twelve for the fiscal year

635 ending June 30, 2017, and (iii) students enrolled in grade twelve for the
636 fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016,
637 and each fiscal year thereafter, the half-day Greater Hartford Academy
638 of Mathematics and Science interdistrict magnet school shall not be
639 eligible for any additional grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this
640 section.

641 (4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30, 2016, the
642 department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school
643 operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school
644 operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the
645 interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013. Approval of
646 funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized
647 by the department as follows: (A) Increases in enrollment in an
648 interdistrict magnet school program that is adding planned new grade
649 levels for the school years commencing July 1, 2015, and July 1, 2016; (B)
650 increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that
651 added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1,
652 2014, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015; (C)
653 increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that
654 is moving into a permanent facility for the school years commencing
655 July 1, 2014, to July 1, 2016, inclusive; (D) increases in enrollment in an
656 interdistrict magnet school program to ensure compliance with
657 subsection (a) of this section; and (E) new enrollments for a new
658 interdistrict magnet school program commencing operations on or after
659 July 1, 2014, pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1
660 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the
661 commissioner. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less
662 than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant
663 equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to
664 this subsection.

665 (5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the department may limit
666 payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal
667 to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive

668 based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program
669 on October 1, 2013, or October 1, 2015, whichever is lower. Approval of
670 funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized
671 by the department as follows: (A) Increases in enrollment in an
672 interdistrict magnet school program that is adding planned new grade
673 levels for the school years commencing July 1, 2015, and July 1, 2016; (B)
674 increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that
675 added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1,
676 2014, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015; (C)
677 increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that
678 added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1,
679 2015, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016; and
680 (D) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program to
681 ensure compliance with subsection (a) of this section. Any interdistrict
682 magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-
683 time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the
684 grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

685 (6) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and within available
686 appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict
687 magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such
688 magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment
689 level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013,
690 October 1, 2015, or October 1, 2016, whichever is lower. Approval of
691 funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized
692 by the department and subject to the commissioner's approval,
693 including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school
694 program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels. Any
695 interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at
696 least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per
697 cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

698 (7) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, and within available
699 appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict
700 magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such

701 magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment
702 level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013,
703 October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, or October 1, 2017, whichever is lower.
704 Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall
705 be prioritized by the department and subject to the commissioner's
706 approval, including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet
707 school program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels.
708 Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time,
709 but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-
710 five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this
711 subsection.

712 (8) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and within available
713 appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict
714 magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such
715 magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment
716 level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013,
717 October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, October 1, 2017, or October 1, 2018,
718 whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such
719 enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and subject to
720 the commissioner's approval, including increases in enrollment in an
721 interdistrict magnet school program as a result of planned and
722 approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet school program
723 operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to
724 receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount
725 determined pursuant to this subsection.

726 (9) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and within available
727 appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict
728 magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such
729 magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment
730 level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013,
731 October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, October 1, 2017, October 1, 2018, or
732 October 1, 2019, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment
733 above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and

734 subject to the commissioner's approval, including increases in
735 enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program as a result of
736 planned and approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet
737 school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall
738 be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant
739 amount determined pursuant to this subsection.]

740 [(10)] (4) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may
741 make grants to the following entities that operate an interdistrict magnet
742 school that assists the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the
743 decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation
744 or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner and that provide
745 academic support programs and summer school educational programs
746 approved by the commissioner to students participating in such
747 interdistrict magnet school program: (A) Regional educational service
748 centers, (B) local and regional boards of education, (C) the Board of
749 Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional
750 community-technical college, (D) the Board of Trustees of the
751 Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (E)
752 the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the
753 university, (F) the board of governors for an independent institution of
754 higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the
755 equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of
756 higher education, (G) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-
757 158a, and (H) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved
758 by the commissioner.

759 [(11)] (5) Within available appropriations, the Commissioner of
760 Education may make grants, in an amount not to exceed seventy-five
761 thousand dollars, for start-up costs associated with the development of
762 new interdistrict magnet school programs that assist the state in meeting
763 its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1
764 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the
765 commissioner, to the following entities that develop such a program: (A)
766 Regional educational service centers, (B) local and regional boards of

767 education, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical
768 Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (D) the
769 Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf
770 of a state university, (E) the Board of Trustees for The University of
771 Connecticut on behalf of the university, (F) the board of governors for
772 an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection
773 (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the
774 independent institution of higher education, (G) cooperative
775 arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (H) any other third-party
776 not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner.

777 [(12)] (6) In no case shall the total grant paid to an interdistrict magnet
778 school operator pursuant to this section exceed the aggregate total of the
779 reasonable operating budgets of the interdistrict magnet school
780 programs of such operator, less revenues from other sources.

781 (d) [(1)] Grants made pursuant to this section [, except those made
782 pursuant to subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of this section and
783 subdivision (2) of this subsection,] and section 2 of this act shall be paid
784 as follows: Seventy per cent not later than September first and the
785 balance not later than May first of each fiscal year. The May first
786 payment shall be adjusted to reflect actual interdistrict magnet school
787 program enrollment as of the preceding October first using the data of
788 record as of the intervening January thirty-first, if the actual level of
789 enrollment is lower than the projected enrollment stated in the
790 approved grant application. The May first payment shall be further
791 adjusted for the difference between the total grant received by the
792 magnet school operator in the prior fiscal year and the revised total
793 grant amount calculated for the prior fiscal year in cases where the
794 aggregate financial audit submitted by the interdistrict magnet school
795 operator pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of this section
796 indicates an overpayment by the department. Notwithstanding the
797 provisions of this section to the contrary, grants made pursuant to this
798 section may be paid to each interdistrict magnet school operator as an
799 aggregate total of the amount that the interdistrict magnet schools

800 operated by each such operator are eligible to receive under this section.
801 Each interdistrict magnet school operator may distribute such aggregate
802 grant among the interdistrict magnet school programs that such
803 operator is operating pursuant to a distribution plan approved by the
804 Commissioner of Education.

805 [(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year
806 thereafter, grants made pursuant to subparagraph (E) of subdivision (3)
807 of subsection (c) of this section shall be paid as follows: Fifty per cent of
808 the amount not later than September first based on estimated student
809 enrollment for the first semester on September first, and another fifty
810 per cent not later than May first of each fiscal year based on actual
811 student enrollment for the second semester on February first. The May
812 first payment shall be adjusted to reflect actual interdistrict magnet
813 school program enrollment for those students who have been enrolled
814 at such school for at least two semesters of the school year, using the
815 data of record, and actual student enrollment for those students who
816 have been enrolled at such school for only one semester, using data of
817 record. The May first payment shall be further adjusted for the
818 difference between the total grant received by the magnet school
819 operator in the prior fiscal year and the revised total grant amount
820 calculated for the prior fiscal year where the financial audit submitted
821 by the interdistrict magnet school operator pursuant to subdivision (1)
822 of subsection (n) of this section indicates an overpayment by the
823 department.]

824 (e) The Department of Education may retain up to one-half of one per
825 cent of the amount appropriated, in an amount not to exceed five
826 hundred thousand dollars, for purposes of this section for program
827 evaluation and administration.

828 (f) Each local or regional school district in which an interdistrict
829 magnet school is located shall provide the same kind of transportation
830 to its children enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school as it provides
831 to its children enrolled in other public schools in such local or regional

832 school district. The parent or guardian of a child denied the
833 transportation services required to be provided pursuant to this
834 subsection may appeal such denial in the manner provided in sections
835 10-186 and 10-187.

836 (g) On or before October fifteenth of each year, the Commissioner of
837 Education shall determine if interdistrict magnet school enrollment is
838 below the number of students for which funds were appropriated. If the
839 commissioner determines that the enrollment is below such number, the
840 additional funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the commissioner
841 for grants for interdistrict cooperative programs pursuant to section 10-
842 74d.

843 (h) (1) In the case of a student identified as requiring special
844 education, the school district in which the student resides shall: (A)
845 Hold the planning and placement team meeting for such student and
846 shall invite representatives from the interdistrict magnet school to
847 participate in such meeting; and (B) pay the interdistrict magnet school
848 an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of
849 educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the
850 interdistrict magnet school for such student pursuant to subsection (c)
851 of this section and amounts received from other state, federal, local or
852 private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district shall
853 be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. If a student
854 requiring special education attends an interdistrict magnet school on a
855 full-time basis, such interdistrict magnet school shall be responsible for
856 ensuring that such student receives the services mandated by the
857 student's individualized education program whether such services are
858 provided by the interdistrict magnet school or by the school district in
859 which the student resides.

860 (2) In the case of a student with a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the
861 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, the school
862 district in which the student resides shall pay the interdistrict magnet
863 school an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of

864 educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the
865 interdistrict magnet school for such student pursuant to subsection (c)
866 of this section and amounts received from other state, federal, local or
867 private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. If a student with a plan
868 pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
869 from time to time, attends an interdistrict magnet school on a full-time
870 basis, such interdistrict magnet school shall be responsible for ensuring
871 that such student receives the services mandated by the student's plan,
872 whether such services are provided by the interdistrict magnet school
873 or by the school district in which the student resides.

874 (i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the
875 enrollment of nonpublic school students in an interdistrict magnet
876 school program that operates less than full-time, provided (1) such
877 students constitute no more than five per cent of the full-time equivalent
878 enrollment in such magnet school program, and (2) such students are
879 not counted for purposes of determining the amount of grants pursuant
880 to this section and section 10-264i.

881 (j) After accommodating students from participating districts in
882 accordance with an approved enrollment agreement, an interdistrict
883 magnet school operator that has unused student capacity may enroll
884 directly into its program any interested student. A student from a
885 district that is not participating in an interdistrict magnet school or the
886 interdistrict student attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa,
887 as amended by this act, to an extent determined by the Commissioner
888 of Education shall be given preference. [The local or regional board of
889 education otherwise responsible for educating such student shall
890 contribute funds to support the operation of the interdistrict magnet
891 school in an amount equal to the per student tuition, if any, charged to
892 participating districts.]

893 [(k) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year
894 thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education
895 by a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict

896 magnet school or any tuition charged by the Hartford school district
897 operating the Great Path Academy on behalf of Manchester Community
898 College for any student enrolled in kindergarten to grade twelve,
899 inclusive, in such interdistrict magnet school shall be in an amount equal
900 to the difference between (A) the average per pupil expenditure of the
901 magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the amount of any per
902 pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus
903 any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. If any
904 such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the commissioner may
905 withhold from such board's town or towns a sum payable under section
906 10-262i in an amount not to exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to
907 the magnet school and pay such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet
908 school as a supplementary grant for the operation of the interdistrict
909 magnet school program. In no case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed
910 the difference between (i) the total expenditures of the magnet school
911 for the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the total per pupil state subsidy
912 calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from
913 other sources. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive
914 financial review of the operating budget of a magnet school to verify
915 such tuition rate.

916 (2) (A) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, and June 30, 2014, a
917 regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet
918 school offering a preschool program that is not located in the Sheff
919 region may charge tuition to the Department of Education for a child
920 enrolled in such preschool program in an amount not to exceed an
921 amount equal to the difference between (i) the average per pupil
922 expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet school for
923 the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy
924 calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from
925 other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may
926 conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of
927 any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.
928 For purposes of this subdivision, "Sheff region" means the school
929 districts for the towns of Avon, Bloomfield, Canton, East Granby, East

930 Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington, Farmington, Glastonbury, Granby,
931 Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South
932 Windsor, Suffield, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor and
933 Windsor Locks.

934 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, a regional educational
935 service center operating an interdistrict magnet school offering a
936 preschool program that is not located in the Sheff region may charge
937 tuition to the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool
938 program in an amount that is in accordance with the sliding tuition scale
939 adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-264p.
940 The Department of Education shall be financially responsible for any
941 unpaid portion of the tuition not charged to such parent or guardian
942 under such sliding tuition scale. Such tuition shall not exceed an amount
943 equal to the difference between (i) the average per pupil expenditure of
944 the preschool program offered at the magnet school for the prior fiscal
945 year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under
946 subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources
947 calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may conduct a
948 comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of any such
949 magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.]

950 [(C)] (k) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year
951 thereafter, a regional educational service center operating an
952 interdistrict magnet school offering a preschool program that is not
953 located in the Sheff region shall charge tuition to the parent or guardian
954 of a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount up to four
955 thousand fifty-three dollars, except such regional educational service
956 center shall not charge tuition to such parent or guardian with a family
957 income at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median income.
958 The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be
959 financially responsible for any unpaid tuition charged to such parent or
960 guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the
961 state median income. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive
962 financial review of the operating budget of any such magnet school

963 charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

964 (l) A participating district shall provide opportunities for its students
965 to attend an interdistrict magnet school in a number that is at least equal
966 to the number specified in any written agreement with an interdistrict
967 magnet school operator or in a number that is at least equal to the
968 average number of students that the participating district enrolled in
969 such magnet school during the previous three school years.

970 (m) (1) On or before May 15, 2010, and annually thereafter, each
971 interdistrict magnet school operator shall provide written notification to
972 any school district that is otherwise responsible for educating a student
973 who resides in such school district and will be enrolled in an interdistrict
974 magnet school under the operator's control for the following school
975 year. Such notification shall include (A) the number of any such
976 students, by grade, who will be enrolled in an interdistrict magnet
977 school under the control of such operator, (B) the name of the school in
978 which such student has been placed, and (C) the amount of tuition to be
979 charged to the local or regional board of education for such student.
980 Such notification shall represent an estimate of the number of students
981 expected to attend such interdistrict magnet schools in the following
982 school year, but shall not be deemed to limit the number of students
983 who may enroll in such interdistrict magnet schools for such year.

984 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, [2015] 2024, and each
985 school year thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a
986 local or regional board of education [and did] shall not charge tuition to
987 [a] another local or regional board of education. [for the school year
988 commencing July 1, 2014, may not charge tuition to such board unless
989 (A) such operator receives authorization from the Commissioner of
990 Education to charge the proposed tuition, and (B) if such authorization
991 is granted, such operator provides written notification on or before
992 September first of the school year prior to the school year in which such
993 tuition is to be charged to such board of the tuition to be charged to such
994 board for each student that such board is otherwise responsible for

995 educating and is enrolled at the interdistrict magnet school under such
996 operator's control. In deciding whether to authorize an interdistrict
997 magnet school operator to charge tuition under this subdivision, the
998 commissioner shall consider (i) the average per pupil expenditure of
999 such operator for each interdistrict magnet school under the control of
1000 such operator, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy and
1001 any revenue from other sources received by such operator. The
1002 commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the
1003 operating budget of the magnet school of such operator to verify that
1004 the tuition is appropriate. The provisions of this subdivision shall not
1005 apply to any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a regional
1006 educational service center or assisting the state in meeting its obligations
1007 pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any
1008 related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the
1009 Commissioner of Education.]

1010 (3) Not later than two weeks following an enrollment lottery for an
1011 interdistrict magnet school conducted by a magnet school operator, the
1012 parent or guardian of a student (A) who will enroll in such interdistrict
1013 magnet school in the following school year, or (B) whose name has been
1014 placed on a waiting list for enrollment in such interdistrict magnet
1015 school for the following school year, shall provide written notification
1016 of such prospective enrollment or waiting list placement to the school
1017 district in which such student resides and is otherwise responsible for
1018 educating such student.

1019 (n) (1) Each interdistrict magnet school operator shall annually file
1020 with the Commissioner of Education, at such time and in such manner
1021 as the commissioner prescribes, (A) a financial audit for each
1022 interdistrict magnet school operated by such operator, and (B) an
1023 aggregate financial audit for all of the interdistrict magnet schools
1024 operated by such operator.

1025 (2) Annually, the commissioner shall randomly select one
1026 interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service

1027 center to be subject to a comprehensive financial audit conducted by an
1028 auditor selected by the commissioner. The regional educational service
1029 center shall be responsible for all costs associated with the audit
1030 conducted pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision.

1031 (o) [For the school years commencing July 1, 2009, to July 1, 2018,
1032 inclusive] Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (2) of subsection
1033 (c) of this section, for the school year commencing July 1, 2024, and each
1034 school year thereafter, any local or regional board of education
1035 operating an interdistrict magnet school pursuant to the decision in
1036 *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order
1037 in effect, shall not charge tuition for any student enrolled in [a preschool
1038 program or in] kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in an
1039 interdistrict magnet school operated by such school district. [, except the
1040 Hartford school district may charge tuition for any student enrolled in
1041 the Great Path Academy.]

1042 [(p) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year
1043 thereafter, if the East Hartford school district or the Manchester school
1044 district has greater than four per cent of its resident students, as defined
1045 in section 10-262f, enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school program,
1046 then the board of education for the town of East Hartford or the town of
1047 Manchester shall not be financially responsible for four thousand four
1048 hundred dollars of the portion of the per student tuition charged for
1049 each such student in excess of such four per cent. The Department of
1050 Education shall, within available appropriations, be financially
1051 responsible for such excess per student tuition. Notwithstanding the
1052 provisions of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023,
1053 and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grants payable to the
1054 boards of education for the towns of East Hartford and Manchester in
1055 accordance with this subsection shall be reduced proportionately if the
1056 total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for
1057 purposes of this subsection.

1058 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, if the local or regional

1059 board of education for (A) a town located in the Sheff region, as defined
1060 in subsection (k) of this section, other than a local board of education
1061 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, (B) the town of New
1062 Britain, and (C) the town of New London, has greater than four per cent
1063 of its resident students, as defined in section 10-262f, enrolled in an
1064 interdistrict magnet school program, then such board of education shall
1065 not be financially responsible for four thousand four hundred dollars of
1066 the portion of the per student tuition charged for each such student in
1067 excess of such four per cent. The Department of Education shall, within
1068 available appropriations, be financially responsible for such excess per
1069 student tuition. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, for
1070 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the amount of the grants payable to
1071 any such board of education in accordance with this subsection shall be
1072 reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds
1073 the amount allocated for said year in accordance with the provisions of
1074 special act 21-1, from the federal funds designated for the state pursuant
1075 to the provisions of section 602 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American
1076 Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to time, for
1077 purposes of this subsection.]

1078 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 10-264o of the general statutes is
1079 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1080 *2024*):

1081 (b) [For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year
1082 thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education
1083 by] Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of
1084 section 10-264l, as amended by this act, for the fiscal year ending June
1085 30, 2025, and each fiscal year thereafter, a regional educational service
1086 center operating an interdistrict magnet school assisting the state in
1087 meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238
1088 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as
1089 determined by the Commissioner of Education, shall not charge tuition
1090 to a local or regional board of education for any student enrolled in
1091 kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in such interdistrict magnet

1092 school. [shall be in an amount equal to the difference between (1) the
1093 average per pupil expenditure of the magnet school for the prior fiscal
1094 year, and (2) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under
1095 subsection (c) of section 10-264l, plus any revenue from other sources
1096 calculated on a per pupil basis. If any such board of education fails to
1097 pay such tuition, the commissioner may withhold from such board's
1098 town or towns a sum payable under section 10-262i in an amount not to
1099 exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to the magnet school and pay
1100 such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet school as a supplementary
1101 grant for the operation of the interdistrict magnet school program. In no
1102 case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed the difference between (A) the
1103 total expenditures of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B)
1104 the total per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of
1105 section 10-264l, plus any revenue from other sources. The commissioner
1106 may conduct a comprehensive review of the operating budget of a
1107 magnet school to verify such tuition rate.]

1108 Sec. 6. Subsection (d) of section 10-66ee of the general statutes is
1109 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1110 *2023*):

1111 (d) (1) As used in this subsection:

1112 (A) "Total charter need students" means the sum of (i) the number of
1113 students enrolled in state charter schools under the control of the
1114 governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year,
1115 and (ii) for the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school
1116 year thereafter, (I) thirty per cent of the number of children enrolled in
1117 such state charter schools eligible for free or reduced price meals or free
1118 milk, (II) fifteen per cent of the number of such children eligible for free
1119 or reduced price meals or free milk in excess of the number of such
1120 children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk that is equal
1121 to sixty per cent of the total number of children enrolled in such state
1122 charter schools, and (III) twenty-five per cent of the number of students
1123 enrolled in such state charter schools who are English language learners,

1124 as defined in section 10-76kk.

1125 (B) "Foundation" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-
1126 262f, except that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal
1127 year thereafter, the foundation is adjusted by the percentage increase in
1128 personal income, as defined in section 2-33a, or the percentage increase
1129 in inflation, as defined in section 2-33a, whichever is greater.

1130 (C) "Charter full weighted funding per student" means the quotient
1131 of (i) the product of the total charter need students and the foundation,
1132 and (ii) the number of students enrolled in state charter schools under
1133 the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for
1134 the school year.

1135 (D) "Charter grant adjustment" means the absolute value of the
1136 difference between the foundation and charter full weighted funding
1137 per student for state charter schools under the control of the governing
1138 authority for such state charter schools for the school year.

1139 (2) For the fiscal year ending July 1, 2022, the state shall pay in
1140 accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter
1141 school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus four
1142 and one-tenth per cent of its charter grant adjustment.

1143 (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the state shall pay in
1144 accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter
1145 school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus
1146 twenty-five and forty-two-one-hundredths per cent of its charter grant
1147 adjustment.

1148 (4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the state shall pay in
1149 accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter
1150 school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus
1151 thirty-six and eight-one-hundredths per cent of its charter grant
1152 adjustment.

1153 (5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year

1154 thereafter, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the
1155 fiscal authority for a state charter school, the product of the foundation
1156 and its total charter need students.

1157 ~~[(4)]~~ (6) Payments under subdivisions (2) ~~[and (3)]~~ to (5), inclusive, of
1158 this subsection shall be paid as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the
1159 amount not later than July fifteenth and September first based on
1160 estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five per cent of
1161 the amount not later than January first and the remaining amount not
1162 later than April first, each based on student enrollment on October first.

1163 ~~[(5)]~~ (7) In the case of a student identified as requiring special
1164 education, the school district in which the student resides shall: (A)
1165 Hold the planning and placement team meeting for such student and
1166 shall invite representatives from the charter school to participate in such
1167 meeting; and (B) pay the state charter school, on a quarterly basis, an
1168 amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of educating
1169 such student and the sum of the amount received by the state charter
1170 school for such student pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection
1171 and amounts received from other state, federal, local or private sources
1172 calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district shall be eligible for
1173 reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. The charter school a student
1174 requiring special education attends shall be responsible for ensuring
1175 that such student receives the services mandated by the student's
1176 individualized education program whether such services are provided
1177 by the charter school or by the school district in which the student
1178 resides.

1179 Sec. 7. Section 10-65 of the general statutes is repealed and the
1180 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

1181 (a) Each local or regional school district operating an agricultural
1182 science and technology education center approved by the State Board of
1183 Education for program, educational need, location and area to be served
1184 shall be eligible for the following grants: (1) In accordance with the
1185 provisions of chapter 173, through progress payments in accordance

1186 with the provisions of section 10-287i, (A) for projects for which an
1187 application was filed prior to July 1, 2011, ninety-five per cent, and (B)
1188 for projects for which an application was filed on or after July 1, 2011,
1189 eighty per cent of the net eligible costs of constructing, acquiring,
1190 renovating and equipping approved facilities to be used exclusively for
1191 such agricultural science and technology education center, for the
1192 expansion or improvement of existing facilities or for the replacement
1193 or improvement of equipment therein, and (2) subject to the provisions
1194 of section 10-65b and within available appropriations, [in an amount
1195 equal to five thousand two hundred dollars per student for every
1196 secondary school student who was enrolled in such center on October
1197 first of the previous year] for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and
1198 each fiscal year thereafter, a grant equal to the amount such board is
1199 entitled to receive under the provisions of section 2 of this act.

1200 (b) Each local or regional board of education not maintaining an
1201 agricultural science and technology education center shall provide
1202 opportunities for its students to enroll in one or more such centers. [in a
1203 number that is at least equal to the number specified in any written
1204 agreement with each such center or centers, or in the absence of such an
1205 agreement, a number that is at least equal to the average number of its
1206 students that the board of education enrolled in each such center or
1207 centers during the previous three school years, provided, in addition to
1208 such number, each such board of education shall provide opportunities
1209 for its students to enroll in the ninth grade in a number that is at least
1210 equal to the number specified in any written agreement with each such
1211 center or centers, or in the absence of such an agreement, a number that
1212 is at least equal to the average number of students that the board of
1213 education enrolled in the ninth grade in each such center or centers
1214 during the previous three school years.] If a local or regional board of
1215 education provided opportunities for students to enroll in more than
1216 one center for the school year commencing July 1, 2007, such board of
1217 education shall continue to provide such opportunities to students in
1218 accordance with this subsection. The board of education operating an
1219 agricultural science and technology education center [may] shall not

1220 charge, subject to the provisions of section 10-65b, tuition [for a school
1221 year in an amount not to exceed fifty-nine and two-tenths per cent of the
1222 foundation level pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 10-262f, per
1223 student for the fiscal year in which the tuition is paid] to another local
1224 or regional board of education, except that such board may charge
1225 tuition for [(1) students enrolled under shared-time arrangements on a
1226 pro rata basis, and (2)] special education students which shall not exceed
1227 the actual costs of educating such students minus the amounts received
1228 pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section. [and
1229 subsection (c) of this section.] Any tuition paid by such board for special
1230 education students [in excess of the tuition paid for non-special-
1231 education students] shall be reimbursed pursuant to section 10-76g.

1232 [(c) In addition to the grants described in subsection (a) of this section,
1233 within available appropriations, (1) each local or regional board of
1234 education operating an agricultural science and technology education
1235 center in which more than one hundred fifty of the students in the prior
1236 school year were out-of-district students shall be eligible to receive a
1237 grant in an amount equal to five hundred dollars for every secondary
1238 school student enrolled in such center on October first of the previous
1239 year, (2) on and after July 1, 2000, if a local or regional board of education
1240 operating an agricultural science and technology education center that
1241 received a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection no longer
1242 qualifies for such a grant, such local or regional board of education shall
1243 receive a grant in an amount determined as follows: (A) For the first
1244 fiscal year such board of education does not qualify for a grant under
1245 said subdivision (1), a grant in the amount equal to four hundred dollars
1246 for every secondary school student enrolled in its agricultural science
1247 and technology education center on October first of the previous year,
1248 (B) for the second successive fiscal year such board of education does
1249 not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to three hundred dollars for
1250 every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said
1251 date, (C) for the third successive fiscal year such board of education does
1252 not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to two hundred dollars for
1253 every such secondary school student enrolled in such center on said

1254 date, and (D) for the fourth successive fiscal year such board of
1255 education does not so qualify, a grant in an amount equal to one
1256 hundred dollars for every such secondary school student enrolled in
1257 such center on said date, and (3) each local and regional board of
1258 education operating an agricultural science and technology education
1259 center that does not receive a grant pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of
1260 this subsection shall receive a grant in an amount equal to sixty dollars
1261 for every secondary school student enrolled in such center on said date.

1262 (d) (1) If there are any remaining funds after the amount of the grants
1263 described in subsections (a) and (c) of this section are calculated, within
1264 available appropriations, each local or regional board of education
1265 operating an agricultural science and technology education center shall
1266 be eligible to receive a grant in an amount equal to one hundred dollars
1267 for each student enrolled in such center on October first of the previous
1268 school year. (2) If there are any remaining funds after the amount of the
1269 grants described in subdivision (1) of this subsection are calculated,
1270 within available appropriations, each local or regional board of
1271 education operating an agricultural science and technology education
1272 center that had more than one hundred fifty out-of-district students
1273 enrolled in such center on October first of the previous school year shall
1274 be eligible to receive a grant based on the ratio of the number of out-of-
1275 district students in excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students
1276 enrolled in such center on said date to the total number of out-of-district
1277 students in excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students enrolled
1278 in all agricultural science and technology education centers that had in
1279 excess of one hundred fifty out-of-district students enrolled on said
1280 date.

1281 (e) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, the
1282 Department of Education shall allocate five hundred thousand dollars
1283 to local or regional boards of education operating an agricultural science
1284 and technology education center in accordance with the provisions of
1285 subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of this section.]

1286 [(f)] (c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year
1287 thereafter, if a local or regional board of education receives an increase
1288 in funds pursuant to this section over the amount it received for the
1289 prior fiscal year such increase shall not be used to supplant local funding
1290 for educational purposes.

1291 [(g) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 10-51 and 10-222, for
1292 the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2017, inclusive, any
1293 amount received by a local or regional board of education pursuant to
1294 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section that exceeds the amount
1295 appropriated for education by the municipality or the amount in the
1296 budget approved by such regional board of education for purposes of
1297 said subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, shall be available
1298 for use by such local or regional board of education, provided such
1299 excess amount is spent in accordance with the provisions of subdivision
1300 (2) of subsection (a) of this section.]

1301 (d) For the purposes of equalization aid under section 10-262h, as
1302 amended by this act, a student enrolled in an agricultural science and
1303 technology education center shall be counted as a resident student, as
1304 defined in section 10-262f, of the town in which such student resides.

1305 Sec. 8. Subsection (d) of section 10-64 of the general statutes is
1306 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1307 *2024*):

1308 (d) Any local or regional board of education which does not furnish
1309 agricultural science and technology education approved by the State
1310 Board of Education shall designate a school or schools having such a
1311 course approved by the State Board of Education as the school which
1312 any person may attend who has completed an elementary school course
1313 through the eighth grade. The board of education shall pay the [tuition
1314 and] reasonable and necessary cost of transportation of any person
1315 under twenty-one years of age who is not a graduate of a high school or
1316 technical education and career school or an agricultural science and
1317 technology education center and who attends the designated school,

1318 provided transportation services may be suspended in accordance with
1319 the provisions of section 10-233c. Each such board's reimbursement
1320 percentage pursuant to section 10-266m for expenditures in excess of
1321 eight hundred dollars per pupil incurred in the fiscal year beginning
1322 July 1, 2004, and in each fiscal year thereafter, shall be increased by an
1323 additional twenty percentage points.

1324 Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 10-97 of the general statutes is
1325 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1326 *2024*):

1327 (b) Any local or regional board of education which does not furnish
1328 agricultural science and technology education approved by the State
1329 Board of Education shall designate a school or schools having such a
1330 course approved by the State Board of Education as the school which
1331 any person may attend who has completed an elementary school course
1332 through the eighth grade. The board of education shall pay the [tuition
1333 and] reasonable and necessary cost of transportation of any person
1334 under twenty-one years of age who is not a graduate of a high school or
1335 technical education and career school and who attends the designated
1336 school, provided transportation services may be suspended in
1337 accordance with the provisions of section 10-233c. Each such board's
1338 reimbursement percentage pursuant to section 10-266m for
1339 expenditures in excess of eight hundred dollars per pupil incurred in
1340 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1987, and in each fiscal year thereafter,
1341 shall be increased by an additional twenty percentage points.

1342 Sec. 10. Subsection (g) of section 10-266aa of the general statutes is
1343 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
1344 *2024*):

1345 [(g) (1) Except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this
1346 subsection, the Department of Education shall provide, within available
1347 appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of
1348 education for each receiving district in an amount not to exceed two
1349 thousand five hundred dollars for each out-of-district student who

1350 attends school in the receiving district under the program.

1351 (2) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year
1352 thereafter, the department shall provide, within available
1353 appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of
1354 education for each receiving district if one of the following conditions
1355 are met as follows: (i) Three thousand dollars for each out-of-district
1356 student who attends school in the receiving district under the program
1357 if the number of such out-of-district students is less than two per cent of
1358 the total student population of such receiving district plus any amount
1359 available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, (ii) four
1360 thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in
1361 the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-
1362 district students is greater than or equal to two per cent but less than
1363 three per cent of the total student population of such receiving district
1364 plus any amount available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this
1365 subdivision, (iii) six thousand dollars for each out-of-district student
1366 who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the
1367 number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to three
1368 per cent but less than four per cent of the total student population of
1369 such receiving district plus any amount available pursuant to
1370 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, (iv) six thousand dollars for each
1371 out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under
1372 the program if the Commissioner of Education determines that the
1373 receiving district has an enrollment of greater than four thousand
1374 students and has increased the number of students in the program by at
1375 least fifty per cent from the previous fiscal year plus any amount
1376 available pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, or (v) eight
1377 thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in
1378 the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-
1379 district students is greater than or equal to four per cent of the total
1380 student population of such receiving district plus any amount available
1381 pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision.

1382 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and each fiscal year

1383 thereafter, the department shall, in order to assist the state in meeting
1384 its obligations under commitment 9B of the Comprehensive School
1385 Choice Plan pursuant to the settlement in Sheff v. O'Neill, HHD-X07-
1386 CV89-4026240-S, provide, within available appropriations, an
1387 additional grant to the local or regional board of education for each
1388 receiving district in the amount of two thousand dollars for each out-of-
1389 district student who resides in the Hartford region and attends school
1390 in the receiving district under the program.

1391 (3) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the department shall
1392 provide a grant to the local or regional board of education for each
1393 receiving district described in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this
1394 section in an amount of four thousand dollars for each out-of-district
1395 student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the
1396 receiving district under the pilot program.

1397 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year
1398 thereafter, the department shall provide an annual grant to the local or
1399 regional board of education for each receiving district described in
1400 subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section for each out-of-district
1401 student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the
1402 receiving district under the pilot program in accordance with the
1403 provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.]

1404 (g) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and each fiscal year
1405 thereafter, each receiving district shall be paid a grant equal to the
1406 amount the receiving district is entitled to receive under the provisions
1407 of section 2 of this act.

1408 [(C)] (2) Not later than January 1, 2025, the department shall submit
1409 a report on the pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk,
1410 pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section, to the joint
1411 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
1412 matters relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the
1413 provisions of section 11-4a. Such report shall include, but need not be
1414 limited to, the total number of students participating in the pilot

1415 program, the number of students from each town participating in the
1416 pilot program, the total amount of the grant paid under the pilot
1417 program and the amount of the grant paid to each town participating in
1418 the pilot program.

1419 [(4)] (3) Each town which receives funds pursuant to this subsection
1420 shall make such funds available to its local or regional board of
1421 education in supplement to any other local appropriation, other state or
1422 federal grant or other revenue to which the local or regional board of
1423 education is entitled.

1424 Sec. 11. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to
1425 study issues related to education funding entitled to local and regional
1426 boards of education, charter schools and interdistrict magnet school
1427 operators under the provisions of section 10-262h of the general statutes,
1428 as amended by this act, section 10-66ee of the general statutes, as
1429 amended by this act, and section 2 of this act, accountability, and
1430 preparing students for success in college, careers and life. Such study
1431 shall include (1) an analysis of alliance district funding under section 10-
1432 262u of the general statutes and the extent to which current district
1433 supports and requirements improve student outcomes; (2) an analysis
1434 of how the accountability system contained within Connecticut's
1435 consolidated state plan under the Elementary and Secondary Education
1436 Act, 20 USC 6301 et seq., as amended by the Every Student Succeeds
1437 Act, P.L. 114-95, can be leveraged in concert with funding increases
1438 pursuant to section 10-262h of the general statutes, as amended by this
1439 act, and section 2 of this act to improve student outcomes; (3) the
1440 identification of thresholds at which additional accountability
1441 requirements apply; (4) the compensation, benefits, retention and
1442 recruitment of teachers, paraprofessionals and social workers; (5)
1443 restrictions on the use of any additional funds received pursuant to
1444 section 10-262h of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and
1445 section 2 of this act; and (6) reporting requirements for school districts
1446 receiving additional funds provided under the provisions of section 10-
1447 262h of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and section 2 of this

1448 act.

1449 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

1450 (1) Three appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
1451 one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Association of Public
1452 School Superintendents, one of whom is a representative of the
1453 Connecticut Council of Administrators of Special Education and one of
1454 whom is a representative of the RESC Alliance;

1455 (2) Three appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one
1456 of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Association of Board of
1457 Education, one of whom is a representative of Special Education Equity
1458 for Kids and one of whom is a representative of the Center for Children's
1459 Advocacy;

1460 (3) Three appointed by the majority leader of the House of
1461 Representatives, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut
1462 School Counselor Association, one of whom is a representative of the
1463 Connecticut Education Association and one of whom is a
1464 superintendent of an alliance district;

1465 (4) Three appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of whom
1466 is a representative of the American Federation of Teachers-Connecticut,
1467 one of whom is a representative of ConnCAN and one of whom is a
1468 representative of the School and State Finance Project;

1469 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
1470 Representatives, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut
1471 Association of School Administrators and one of whom is a
1472 representative of the Connecticut Association of School Business
1473 Officials;

1474 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom
1475 is a representative of the Connecticut Charter School Association and
1476 one of whom is the executive director of an agricultural science and
1477 technology education center;

1478 (7) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;
1479 and

1480 (8) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the
1481 secretary's designee.

1482 (c) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
1483 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
1484 be filled by the appointing authority.

1485 (d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
1486 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force
1487 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall
1488 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later
1489 than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

1490 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
1491 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
1492 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

1493 (f) Not later than January 1, 2024, the task force shall submit a report,
1494 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
1495 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of
1496 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
1497 education and appropriations. The task force shall terminate on the date
1498 that it submits such report or January 1, 2024, whichever is later.

1499 Sec. 12. Section 10-4a of the general statutes is repealed and the
1500 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

1501 For purposes of sections 10-4, 10-4b, [and] 10-220 and subdivision (1)
1502 of subsection (b) of section 10-66dd, as amended by this act, the
1503 educational interests of the state shall include, but not be limited to, the
1504 concern of the state that (1) each child shall have for the period
1505 prescribed in the general statutes equal opportunity to receive a suitable
1506 program of educational experiences; (2) each school district shall finance
1507 at a reasonable level at least equal to the minimum budget requirement

1508 pursuant to the provisions of section 10-262j an educational program
 1509 designed to achieve this end; (3) in order to reduce racial, ethnic and
 1510 economic isolation, each school district shall provide educational
 1511 opportunities for its students to interact with students and teachers from
 1512 other racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds and may provide such
 1513 opportunities with students from other communities; and (4) the
 1514 mandates in the general statutes pertaining to education within the
 1515 jurisdiction of the State Board of Education be implemented.

1516 Sec. 13. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 10-66dd of the
 1517 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
 1518 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

1519 (b) (1) Subject to the provisions of this subsection and except as may
 1520 be waived pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-66bb, charter schools
 1521 shall be subject to all federal and state laws governing public schools,
 1522 including the provisions of sections 10-4a, as amended by this act, and
 1523 10-4b.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-262h
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-264l
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-264o(b)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-66ee(d)
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-65
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-64(d)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-97(b)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	10-266aa(g)
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-4a
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-66dd(b)(1)

Statement of Purpose:

To make revisions to how public education is funded in the state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. RITTER M., 1st Dist.; REP. ROJAS, 9th Dist.
REP. CURREY, 11th Dist.; REP. BUMGARDNER, 41st Dist.
REP. ROCHELLE, 104th Dist.; SEN. WINFIELD, 10th Dist.
REP. DELANY, 144th Dist.; REP. FELIPE, 130th Dist.

H.B. 5003