




























2024

COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

C.E.S. Mission, Vision, and Beliefs.....1

Letters from Executive Director and Associate Executive Director.....2

Meet the Leadership Team.....3

Organizational Chart.....4

C.E.S. Locations.....5

C.E.S. Representative Council.....6

Strategic Initiatives.....7

Meeting the Needs of Our Member Districts.....8

C.E.S. Division Profiles.....9-18

Changes in Program Emphasis.....19

Changes in the Future.....20

C.E.S. District Participation Chart.....21

C.E.S. Financial Information.....22

C.E.S. Interagency Relationships.....23

2024-2025 Highlights.....24

C.E.S. Foundation.....25

C.E.S. NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

"It is the policy of C.E.S. that no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise discriminated against under any service or program on account of race, color, religious creed, age, marital or civil union status, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ancestry, residence, veteran status, victim of domestic violence, present or past history of mental disorder, mental retardation, learning disability or physical disability including, but not limited to, blindness, or pregnancy and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding C.E.S. nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the Associate Executive Director's office, C.E.S., 40 Lindeman Dr., Trumbull, CT 06611, (203) 365-8831."

C.E.S. MISSION

Our mission is to identify and provide quality educational opportunities for educators, students, families, and communities.



C.E.S. VISION



With a strong commitment from a diverse and highly qualified staff, Cooperative Educational Services (C.E.S.) is the primary educational resource for the communities we serve. We are a model of leadership promoting a community of lifelong learning. We assure student success through regional collaboration, leadership, resources and support.

Each year we strive to realize our vision by being the first point of contact for our member districts related to any kind of educational service. In order to accomplish this we will continue our research and development efforts to remain on the cutting edge of the programs, services and technical assistance that we offer. Excellent communication with our members and our partners, along with continued strong support from the Representative Council, will guide and assist us on this journey.

OUR GUIDING BELIEFS



Leadership, communication, innovation and creative thinking promote positive change and growth. Every student has a right to high-quality education. Student-centered instruction recognizes the individual abilities of each learner. The unique cultural and developmental differences of our students are recognized and valued.

Partnerships among families, schools, communities and state agencies are essential for the achievement of common goals and conservation of financial services.

Every educator has the responsibility to be a lifelong learner. The commitment of our dedicated staff is valued. Our effectiveness as an organization contributes to our clients' success. It is important to reflect upon and continually evaluate the services we provide.

It is important to nurture growth of progressive learning and communities. Every staff member represents the mission, core beliefs and vision of C.E.S..

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DR. CHARLES DUMAIS

C.E.S. is the capacity-building partner for school districts in lower Fairfield County, Connecticut, to provide their educators and leaders with cutting-edge training, support, and resources to best prepare students for the 21st century. Our leadership team, educational specialists, and consultants provide the guidance, instruction, and technical assistance to further enhance the capacity of school districts to meet their continuous improvement goals in a changing world. The 16 districts (17 towns) in our catchment area comprise a public-school enrollment of nearly 119,000 students served by 11,823 certified educators.

We fulfill our mission of identifying and delivering quality educational opportunities for educators, students, families, and communities by offering a wide range of high-quality services to member districts, which would be more costly for them to obtain independently. Examples include special education, transportation, and audiological services. Likewise, we have the capacity to assist school districts with short-term or one-time projects such as enrollment studies, executive searches, special education program reviews, technology leadership program reviews, communication plan development, and any other projects that arise. Furthermore, our Professional Development Services (PDS) team is a district resource for grant coordination, interdistrict summer school programs, and specialized staff development to reach district goals and training to meet the requirements of state and federal educational initiatives.

C.E.S. also serves as a model for direct educational programs via our Regional Center for Early Learning, extensive Special Education and related services programs, and/or interdistrict magnet schools. All together, we have more than a thousand students from the region attending our specialized C.E.S. school programs.

C.E.S. is well-regarded throughout the state for its high-quality programs and professional development services. It is critical that all school districts build internal capacity, find cost efficiencies, and maximize the impact of every dollar spent to support student growth and achievement. C.E.S. is the “go-to” resource to help area districts achieve these goals.

Agility ~ Impact ~ Relevance

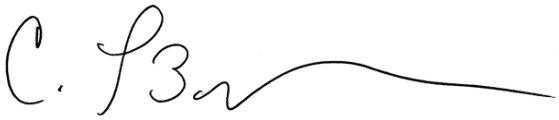


ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CHRISTOPHER LABELLE

The Associate Executive Director’s office oversees Human Resources, including all hiring and onboarding, staff evaluations, certification and licensing, fingerprinting services, paid and unpaid leaves, ADA accommodations, unemployment claims, workers compensation, and is the district facilitator for the Teacher Education and Mentoring Program (TEAM). Additionally, the Associate Executive Director’s office develops and implements agency policy and leads curriculum development and school improvement planning. The office is responsible for Safe School Climate Coordination, Title I, II & IX Coordination, and 504 Coordination.

The office is also responsible for special projects and new business opportunities, such as human resource audits. In 2024-2025, a comprehensive audit of the Bristol Public Schools Human Resources Office was completed.

In 2024-25, the Associate Executive Director’s office provided leadership coaching to both C.E.S. administrators and member district administrators. We implemented a partnership with the UCONN Neag School of Education to develop special education teachers which resulted in 3 new teachers for 2025-26. Stay interview implementation continued at C.E.S. resulting in a reduction in resignations. Our office presented on stay interviews at the AESA National Conference in December 2024.



MEET THE LEADERSHIP TEAM



Dr. Charles Dumais
Executive Director



Christopher La Belle
Associate Executive Director



Margaret Sullivan
Director of Finance and Operations



Dr. Michael McGrath
Director of Special Education



Ivelisse Guzmán
Director of Regional Center for Early Learning



Dr. Luke Forshaw
Director of Professional Development Services



Emma Warne
Principal of Six to Six Magnet School

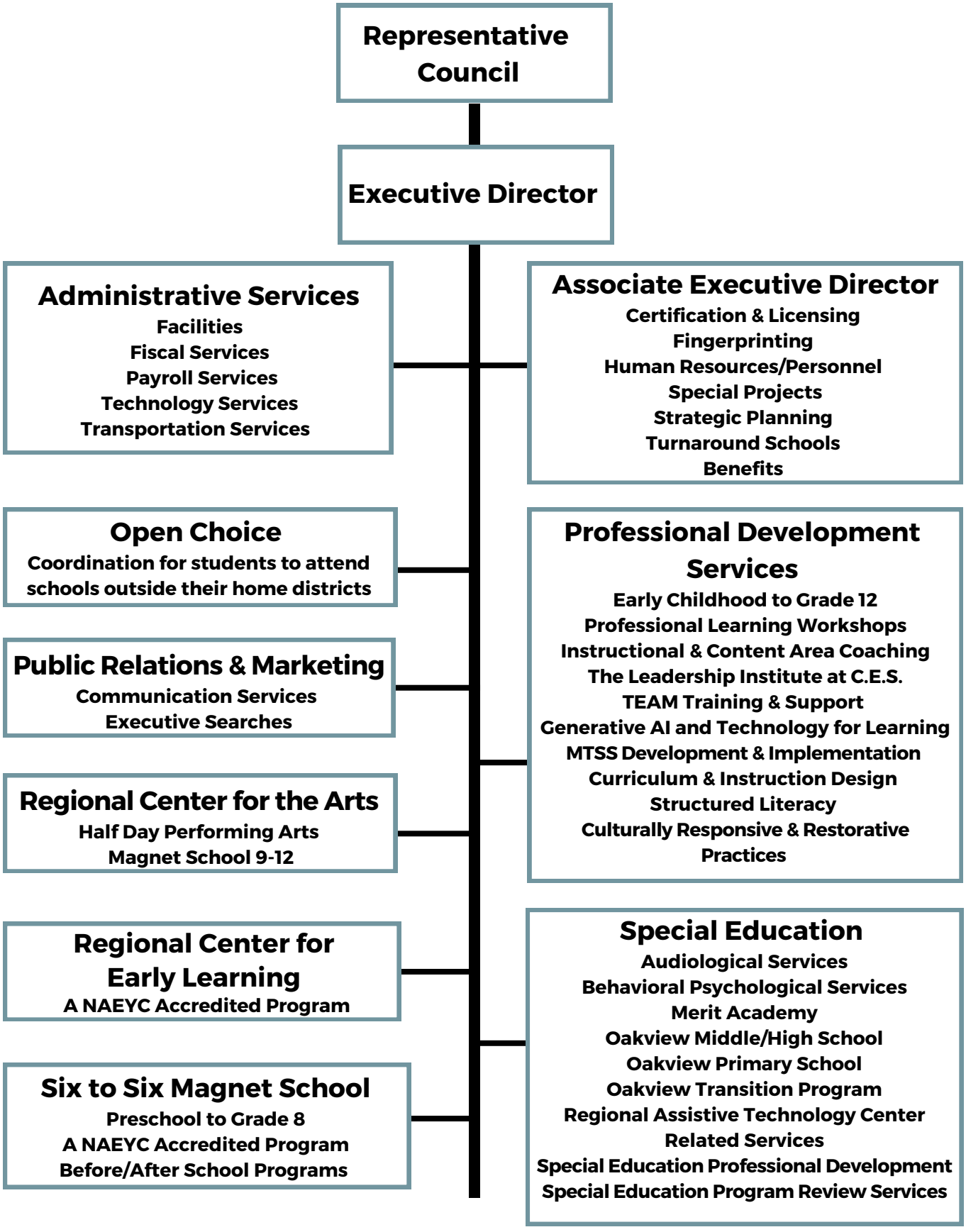


Eric Nyquist
Principal of Regional Center for the Arts/Open Choice Coordinator



Suzanne Clement
Early Childhood Coordinator

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



C.E.S. LOCATIONS

Regional Center for the Arts
23 Oakview Drive
Trumbull, CT 06611



Six to Six Magnet School
601 Pearl Harbor Street
Bridgeport, CT 06610



Central Offices, The Regional Center for Early Learning &
Professional Development Services
40 Lindeman Drive, Trumbull, CT 06611



Special Education
Merit Academy
25 Oakview Drive
Trumbull, CT 06611



Special Education
Oakview Schools
40 Oakview Drive
Trumbull, CT 06611



Opened September 2024

C.E.S. REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

BRIDGEPORT
Willie Medina
Robert Traber

DARIEN
Jill McCammon
Dennis Maroney (Alt.)

ER9
Chirag Sadana
Devon Wible (Alt.)

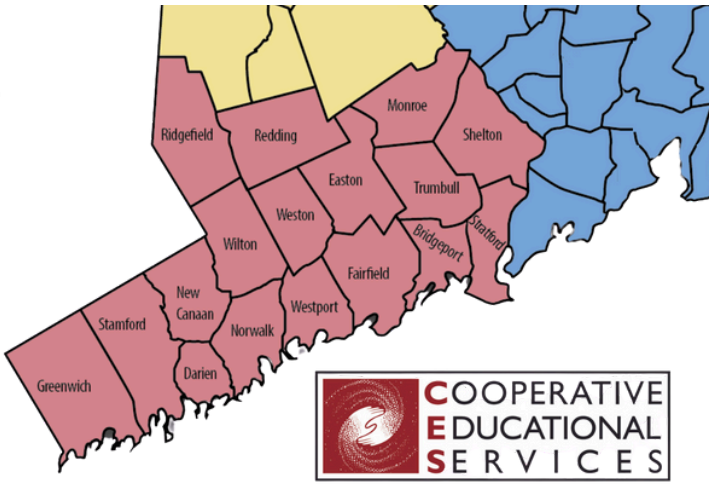
FAIRFIELD
David Krasnoff

GREENWICH
Sophie Koven

MONROE
Dennis Condon (Alt.)
Chrissy Martinez

NEW CANAAN
Julie Toal

NORWALK
Mary Ellen Flaherty-Ludwig (Sec.)



RIDGEFIELD
Tina Malhotra

SHELTON
Kate Kutash (VP)

STAMFORD
Andy George (Pres.)
Becky Hamman

STRATFORD
Sean Kennedy

TRUMBULL
Marie Petitti

WESTON
David Felton

WESTPORT
Robert Harrington

WILTON
Ruth DeLuca

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

GOAL ONE

TO CREATE AND EXPAND HIGH-QUALITY SERVICES

A) Increase speech and language pathology services used by districts

B) Expand professional development services for school psychologists through the Center for Clinical Supervision

C) Improve C.E.S. training and professional learning provided to school districts through evaluating services provided using a series of micro surveys

GOAL TWO

ALL C.E.S. LEARNERS DEMONSTRATE CONTINUOUS GROWTH ACADEMICALLY, SOCIALLY, AND EMOTIONALLY

A) Implement high-quality curriculum designed to improve student learning in all school-based programs in literacy, mathematics, science, and social and emotional content

B) Implement high-quality professional development designed to improve staff learning in all school-based programs








MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR MEMBER DISTRICTS

At Cooperative Educational Services (C.E.S.), we believe in the process of continuous improvement. Each year, we adjust our programming to meet the needs of our member districts. As a result, gathering data to evaluate our success and determine our focus and priorities is a continuous process at C.E.S. We hold council meetings for various education professionals such as special education directors, curriculum specialists, assistant superintendents, school principals, subject area specialists, human resources personnel, and technology coordinators. During these council meetings, we solicit feedback from our members to help us determine future initiatives. The executive director also meets monthly with the C.E.S. Representative Council and with the superintendents of member districts. All of the divisions at C.E.S. hold meetings with their constituents, so our services are customized to meet the unique needs of each district.

The Leadership Institute at C.E.S., which is a separate entity comprised of leaders from our participating member districts, meets quarterly to address the continuum of leadership needs, from teacher leadership to administrative leadership. Through dialogue with the Leadership Institute Board, we are able to establish programs and support that reflect the needs of our member districts. Each year, our Special Education division solicits feedback from parents, and Six to Six Magnet School meets regularly with the School Planning and Management Team (SPMT), which includes both parents and staff. The Regional Center for the Arts (RCA) has an active parent advisory group supporting fundraising efforts and all of RCA's student productions.

We are also in continuous contact with representatives from the State Department of Education in order to assist our districts with state mandates such as school improvement plans, policy development, and teacher and administrator evaluation models. As a service center, we must always be prepared to assist our districts according to their individual needs. We compile an annual profile of our member districts that includes their goals, school data reports, comprehensive school improvement plans, and additional relevant information to further customize our services. Often, state or federal mandates or economic conditions determine needs. We strive to provide lower-cost, high-quality options to satisfy the needs of our member districts.

The Leadership Team at C.E.S. is comprised of the Executive Director, the Associate Executive Director, the Director of Special Education, the Director of Finance and Operations, an Early Childhood Coordinator, the Director of our Professional Development Services division, the Principals of our Magnet Schools, and the Director of the Regional Center for Early Learning. Our team regularly meets collectively and individually with key constituents to assess needs and obtain recommendations in planning future programs and services.

AGILITY IMPACT RELEVANCE

C.E.S. DIVISION PROFILES

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Fiscal Services

Responsibilities	Ongoing Projects
Annual budget development and monitoring and annual financial audit	Upgrade of MUNIS Employee Self Serve software and app for recording of hours worked and time off requests
Payroll processing for more than 500 employees	
Receive and disburse all agency funds	
Manage agency wide emergency response program and drills	

Facility Services

Completed Projects	Ongoing Projects
Installation of solar panels	The Regional Center for Early Learning Expansion of 7 new classrooms and installation of a new playground
Replacement of boilers at RCA and Six to Six	Upgrade of heating and cooling systems at Six to Six
Replacement of RCA roof	Installation of EV chargers at 3 buildings
Completed indoor air quality studies in all buildings	Upgrade the Six to Six playground

Technology Services

Responsibilities	Completed Projects
Coordination of network and telephone services, internet and email services	Completed technology implementation of RCEL expansion
Maintaining and repairing hardware	Finalized the migration of all premise servers to the cloud
Help desk assistance for all staff	

Transportation

Responsibilities	Ongoing Projects
Transporting special education students to and from school	Acquisition of the first fully electric EV transportation vehicle
Transporting elderly and disabled individuals for Norwalk Transit	Assisting Open Choice with transporting students for after school activities






C.E.S. DIVISION PROFILES

Executive Searches
COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

During the 2024-25 fiscal year, C.E.S. Executive Searches helped the following districts secure executive leaders: Wethersfield, Woodstock, Bristol, Mansfield, Regional School District #10, & The Gilbert School.

The C.E.S. team is led by distinguished educational leaders who have served as superintendents and are certified practitioners of the competency-based interview process developed by leadership expert William Bryan of The Bryan Group. We bring state-of-the-art behavioral science to the art of search selection, and provide districts with the absolute highest likelihood of success in identifying and securing a candidate with whom the Board of Education will have a sustainable, strong working relationship.

Bristol Public Schools
Superintendent Iris White/2025
Bristol, Conn.

Mansfield Public Schools
Superintendent Candace Morell/2025
Mansfield, Conn.

W.L. Gilbert School Corporation
Head of School/Superintendent Michael Susi/2025
Winsted, Conn.

Wethersfield Public Schools
Superintendent Jeffery Wihbey/2025
Wethersfield, Conn.

Woodstock Public Schools
Superintendent Christopher Roche/2025
Woodstock, Conn.

Regional School District #10
Superintendent Dr. Francis Thompson/2025
Burlington, Conn.

C.E.S. DIVISION PROFILES

Open choice
At Cooperative Educational Services

The Open Choice program is an interdistrict program with the goal of improving academic achievement, reducing racial, ethnic, and economic isolation, and providing a choice of educational programs for students enrolled in public schools. Through Open Choice, students may attend a school outside of their home district.

Participating school districts annually declare how many seats will be available based on enrollment numbers, and students are chosen through a selection process from the pool of applicants. This year, we received over 1000 applications from families hoping to have their children involved in Open Choice. Our numbers continue to increase, especially as we have added Danbury and Norwalk to the regions we facilitate. The chart below shows the number of Open Choice students that fall under our auspices for the last year and next year. In addition to these students, we oversee twenty students from Ansonia, Derby, Milford, Monroe, Shelton, Stratford, and Trumbull who attend Bridgeport Military Academy.

Open Choice Enrollment (C.E.S. Regions)

Sending District	# of students 2024/2025	# of students 2025/2026	Receiving Districts
Bridgeport	**289**	**276**	**Easton, Fairfield, Region #9, Trumbull, Weston, Westport**
Norwalk	**31**	**44**	**Weston, Westport, Wilton**
Danbury	**9**	**10**	**Redding**

We will serve a total of 348 students in 2025-2026, including those who attend Bridgeport Military Academy (BMA) from outside of Bridgeport.





C.E.S. DIVISION PROFILES

PROFESSIONAL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Early Childhood

Accreditation	Coaching & Consultation	Workshops & Events
Accreditation Quality Improvement Support (AQIS)	Coaching for Educators & Leaders	Early Literacy
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)	Councils and Networks	Science & Social Studies Education
Program Review and Evaluation	Program Consultation & Development	Special Education & Early Childhood
	Pyramid Model for SEL	Play-Based Learning
	Early Start CT	

K - 12

Systems & Structures	Coaching & Consultation	Workshops & Events
Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Development	Coaching for Educators	Teacher Education & Mentoring TEAM
Curriculum Development	Councils & Networks	Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) for Multilingual Learners
Program Implementation Support	Generative Artificial Intelligence	Social Studies Standards
School Climate & Restorative Practice	Science of Reading Support	Math & STEM
	Math Coaching	







Leadership

Leadership Development	Coaching & Consultation	Workshops & Events
Administrative Aspirant Program	Coaching for Leaders	Comprehensive School Threat Assessment (CSTAG)
Administrator Induction Program	Evaluation & Support Plans	Advanced Restorative Practices
Academy for Teacher Leadership	Consultation for Challenges in Schools & Districts	CT Family School Partnership
Special Topics in Leadership	Individualized Leadership Consultation	Inclusive Leadership Practices







C.E.S. DIVISION PROFILES

REGIONAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Regional Center for the Arts is a part-time interdistrict magnet school in Trumbull. Our mission is to bring together students of diverse cultural heritage and background to develop in all students the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and self-discipline to reach their fullest artistic potential, to live a productive life, and to contribute to society as creative and engaging citizens.

We offer our diverse student body of high school students an opportunity to develop their creative potential by studying with working professionals in their chosen field, learning the skills and techniques that will enable them to continue to further study and pursue a career in the performing arts if they choose to do so. After taking core academic courses at their district schools, students are transported to RCA four days per week from 1:30 - 4:45 to study dance, music, voice, theater, musical theater, creative media/film, and technical theater.

Enrollment at RCA had seen a sharp decline from 2014-2021 due to numerous factors, including the pandemic (which provided recruitment challenges), as well as the increase in state credit requirements for high school graduation. Enrollment has steadily increased over the past four years. Official enrollment is counted on October 1 of each year. Enrollment in 2021 was 124 students. Enrollment in 2021-2022 was 157, 180 in 2022-2023, 210 in 2023-2024, and 218 in 2024 - 2025.










As of the publication of this document, we anticipate being at 235 for the 2025-2026 school year - meaning we are at full capacity. We also have more than 60 students still on the waitlist for enrollment openings for next year. This increase can be credited to many factors, including the end of the pandemic, better recruitment, a positive school climate making students proud to attend the program, and outstanding teachers who provide students with excellent performing arts education. We appreciate the positive partnerships we have with our sending districts and their superintendents.

Our performing calendar is full with over 25 performances per year. Our revitalized parent organization, Parents of Performing Students (POPS), is actively engaged in raising school spirit and making the community aware of RCA. Among other activities, POPS awards scholarships to college-bound seniors who are majoring in the performing arts. Last year the organization provided three seniors with $2500 each toward their college studies.

Increased enrollment will bring new challenges. We are excited about meeting those challenges and continuing to provide local districts with outstanding professional training in the performing arts in a supportive and encouraging environment.

C.E.S. DIVISION PROFILES

REGIONAL CENTER FOR EARLY LEARNING

A COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES SCHOOL

Regional Center for Early Learning is a full-day, full-year NAEYC-accredited child care program serving 110 preschool children between the ages of 3 and 5 years. Our hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., 49 weeks per year. Each child is required to attend a minimum of six hours each day. Enrollment at Regional Center for Early Learning is through an application first come, first serve basis. There is a rolling waiting list on our website for all.

Our program philosophy centers on the belief that each child is a unique learner with his/her cultural identity, learning style, temperament, and developmental pattern. Each of these factors influences how each child learns and grows, and development and learning involve assessing children's growth and using this information to plan and implement the highest-quality learning experiences for the group and the individual children.











We believe each child's family is an important partner in their daily care and education. Supporting our mission is the Family Advisory Board, which meets throughout the year to discuss policies, procedures, curriculum, and family advocacy. Our curriculum approach is based on the tenets of the emergent curriculum and the Project Approach. Topics chosen for in-depth curriculum studies reflect the interests and experiences of children and families in the program and the community in which they live.

Teachers engage in the cycle of intentional teaching, consistently observing and The CT Early Learning and Development Standards for Birth to Five (CT ELDS) are the basis for planning, which detail what children should know and be able to do. Teachers use the Creative Curriculum for Preschool as a resource to support in-depth curriculum studies. The Connecticut Documentation and Observation for Teaching System (CT DOTS) is the assessment tool used to monitor our students' progress on the skills, abilities, and behaviors in the CT ELDS.

C.E.S. DIVISION PROFILES

MERIT ACADEMY
K-12 THERAPEUTIC DAY PROGRAM AT COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Special Education
At Cooperative Educational Services

OAKVIEW SCHOOLS
Cooperative Educational Services

The Division of Special Education provides high-quality educational services to approximately 235 students from 42 different districts. While most of these students were educated within our facilities, some of our older students received services in the community and at Sacred Heart University (RISE program).

In response to districts' needs, we continued our diagnostic and evaluation services. We were able to support districts by conducting a great number of evaluations. In total, we completed more than 50 psychological evaluations throughout the state.

This was our third year providing services through our Trauma Coordinator. The role of the Trauma Coordinator is to develop a training program and provide support and consultation to districts within the region. The training curriculum has been developed, and training has continued throughout the year. This year we worked with more than 17 districts in the region.

Our center for Developmental Therapy and Teaching provides direct training and consultative support to several districts during the course of the year. Stamford Public Schools and Oxford Public Schools entered into their second year of training.







Part of our mission is to help districts keep students in the least restrictive environment. This year we worked with the Stamford Public Schools to develop a collaborative program within one of their schools. The Oakwood Collaborative Program will begin in August of 2025 and will be housed at Toquam Elementary School. Year one will see thirty-six students enrolled in a program that uses Developmental Therapy as the main teaching methodology.

Through the RESC Alliance, the Division of Special Education continues to provide a variety of training and support for professionals around the state. These included School Psychology Communities of Practice, Life Course Planning training, the development of paraprofessional training, and offering a help desk to support and improve high-quality IEP development. We also provided training to Early Childhood Providers on the ADOS, a tool used to diagnose Autism.

Our consultants continued to train special educators and administrators throughout the year to support the use of CTSEDS. Our work in this included the development and implementation of a help desk that was designed to give individual consultation to educators who are struggling with a particular issue with the program.

This past year has been one of our busiest. The division continues to maintain valuable partnerships with many community groups such as the Beardsley Zoo, Kennedy Center, UCONN, Silver Hills Hospital, Fairfield University and Sacred Heart University.

C.E.S. DIVISION PROFILES

MERIT ACADEMY
K-12 THERAPEUTIC DAY PROGRAM AT COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Special Education
At Cooperative Educational Services

OAKVIEW SCHOOLS
Cooperative Educational Services

Audiological Services provides hearing evaluations, auditory processing evaluations and classroom consultation for students referred by school districts. In 2024-2025, the Audiological Services Program provided more than one hundred evaluations and re-evaluations and hours of consultation services to students from the region.

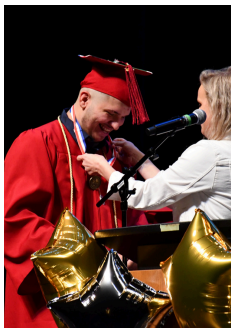
Behavior Psychology Services involves the delivery of assessment, consultation and training services via C.E.S. specialists in the areas of applied behavioral analysis, restorative practices and positive behavior intervention and support. In 2024 - 2025, C.E.S.'s Behavioral Psychology Services provided training, technical assistance and weekly consultation to classrooms for students with a variety of disabilities for districts throughout the state.











Professional Development Services responds to local school district needs for in-service training/workshops on a variety of topics related to special education. In 2024-2025, Special Education Professional Development Services provided seven Physical Management Training (PMT) sessions to 68 newly hired C.E.S. staff. This year, support on MTSS was provided to several districts, and the organization is serving as a regional lead as this service rolls out statewide. In November, a highly successful Paraeducator conference was hosted with over one hundred in attendance.

The Regional Assistive Technology Center provides evaluation and consultation services to school district staff to assist in determining technology needs for their students. In 2024-2025, the Regional Technology Center provided evaluations, individual consultations and attended PPTs as well as offered training to students/staff and parents from our region.

Special Education Programs within the Division offer a variety of specialized services for students with significant disabilities. These programs provide both school-based centers for students 3 to 22 years of age with developmental and emotional disabilities. The Division is also responsive to district needs for program development.

C.E.S. DIVISION PROFILES

MERIT ACADEMY
K-12 THERAPEUTIC DAY PROGRAM AT COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

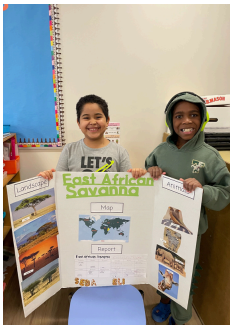
Special Education
At Cooperative Educational Services

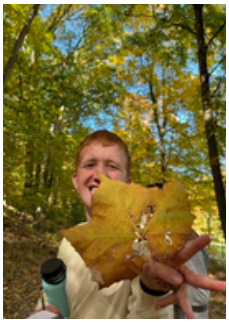
OAKVIEW SCHOOLS
Cooperative Educational Services

Oakview Primary School (OPS) offers a special education program alternative for students 3 to 12 years of age who fall within the Autism Spectrum Disorder continuum. OPS utilizes a low student to staff ratio program design, positive behavioral support, functional communication training, many transactional supports inclusive of extensive use of visual supports, sensory diets, academic and functional instruction and highly trained lead-support instructional teams. In 2024 - 2025, C.E.S.'s Oakview Primary School served a total of 53 students from 14 school districts.

Oakview Middle/High School (OMHS) is an intensive special education program for students 12-21 years of age with significant developmental disabilities such as autism, neurological impairments, pervasive developmental disorders, and intellectual disorders with and without challenging behaviors. OMHS offers both a middle and high school component which focus on applied academics; development of functional skills; communication and social skill development; pre-vocational/vocational training; and development of recreational/leisure skills via both a variety of center-based and community-based instructional experiences. In 2024 - 2025, C.E.S.'s Oakview Middle/High School served 50 students from 16 school districts.

Oakview Transition Program (OTP) is a regional special education program for students aged 18-22 with developmental disabilities including Autism Spectrum Disorders and Intellectual Disability. Students in this program benefit from an individualized transition program designed to prepare them for life after high school. Students are grouped homogeneously by social emotional stages. In 2024 - 2025, C.E.S.'s Oakview Transition Program served 54 students from 17 school districts.








Reaching Independence through Supported Education (RISE) is a regional special education program for students with limited cognitive functioning, 18 to 21 years of age, on the campus of Sacred Heart University. This program provides students with opportunities to develop vocational, social and personal management skills through a variety of campus and community-based transition activities. Many of the activities include university students ("peer buddies") of similar age. In 2024 - 2025, the RISE Transition Program provided placements for 10 students from 7 school districts.

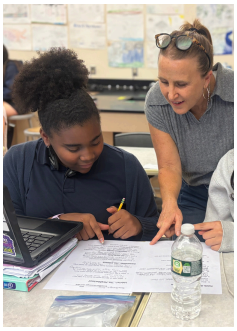
Merit Academy (MA) is a regional special education program for students from grades K-12 who present with a variety of significant behavioral and emotional disabilities. Merit Academy offers a comprehensive treatment approach that includes educational, psychological, psychiatric, and parent counseling/support services aimed at improving students' overall functioning. It utilizes a highly structured learning environment, low staff to student ratios and intensive school-based therapeutic services to effectively build and develop each student's academic, behavioral, emotional and social functioning. In 2024 - 2025, C.E.S.'s Merit Academy served 91 students from 29 school districts.

C.E.S. DIVISION PROFILES

Six to Six MAGNET SCHOOL

A COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES SCHOOL

Six to Six Interdistrict Magnet School is a regional magnet school in Bridgeport, serving students from Preschool through eighth grade. We serve families from multiple districts, including Fairfield, Stratford, Monroe, Trumbull, and Ansonia, to name a few. The magnet focus is mathematics, science, and technology. We have developed long-standing partnerships with the Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk, the Eli Whitney Museum in Hamden, the Beardsley Zoo, and Soundwaters in Stamford. We also partner with CTDEEP, Peabody Museum in New Haven, Seedlings Foundation, CT Children's Museum in New Haven, CT Audubon, and Sacred Heart University's Discovery Science Center and Planetarium.








Six to Six has adopted the Comer/Zigler model (CoZi) of school governance and family support. Our School Planning and Management Team (SPMT) consists of representatives from all constituencies. In addition, our Social and Emotional Learning committee spearheads activities here at school that involve all stakeholders. Six to Six continues to focus on data-driven decision-making, differentiated instruction, and tiered interventions and supports to ensure student growth.

Our school is open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to provide high-quality before-and after-school care, hence its name: Six to Six Interdistrict Magnet School.

Enrollment at Six to Six is through an application/lottery process that was developed to ensure diversity in our student population. In 2024-25, there were 457 students enrolled.

CHANGES IN PROGRAM EMPHASIS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Professional Development Services continues to build on effective state-wide partnerships to develop and deliver innovative services for districts. We will leverage expertise to support early childhood, literacy, mathematics, leadership and school climate needs. Continued support in critical areas of school improvement; generative AI, Career and Technical education along with MTSS will be emphasized this year. Additionally, the team is responsive to the shifts in early childhood state funding to Early Start CT and continues to serve communities to meet goals around quality improvement and community and family engagement.

REGIONAL CENTER FOR EARLY LEARNING

Listening, Learning, and Growing Together! At the Regional Center for Early Learning, we believe in the power of collaboration and continuous improvement. We're thrilled to share some exciting developments in our program! This year, we've added two new preschool classrooms, allowing us to welcome even more families from across Fairfield County into our community. With this growth comes a deeper commitment to supporting the whole child and family. To further strengthen our efforts, we've welcomed a Family Support Specialist to our team. This new role will help ensure that both families and teachers have the guidance and resources they need as we continue to grow and respond to the evolving needs of our community.

SIX TO SIX MAGNET SCHOOL

Six to Six understands that the social curriculum is as important as the academic curriculum. Therefore, we incorporate strategies in our classrooms that bring together social and academic learning throughout the day through the implementation of RULER, an approach to social and emotional learning that teaches emotional intelligence to people of all ages, to create a healthier, more equitable, innovative, and compassionate society.

REGIONAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

One of the focuses this year at RCA will be improving our ability to help our students prepare for their college auditions. We have a variety of ways that we do that, but each department is different. We are working toward getting more focused in our ability to help our seniors to impress at college auditions. Differentiating for all students is important - making sure that our students with less experience get the extra attention they need has always been part of the RCA experience. But we must also make sure that we are providing the appropriate level of challenge and support for more advanced students.









CHANGES IN THE FUTURE

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Professional Development Services has expanded our ability to provide service in the areas of mathematics, MTSS and Career and Technical education. Building on our past successes, we continue to develop programs to support inclusive early childhood practices, Paraeducators and secretaries and school leaders. We have built state-wide affinity groups and continue to enhance ongoing communities of practice across all subject areas.

C.E.S. SPECIAL EDUCATION

Our school programs will continue to provide responsive, high-quality instruction in response to the needs of our region.

The goal of the Division of Special Education is to remain on the "cutting-edge" of technical changes that directly impact the delivery of specialized instruction to students with disabilities. We are also charged with being a resource to our member districts. The Division will continue to provide high-quality training experiences focusing on IEP Quality, improving transitions, and expanding our evaluation services. In addition, we will also provide support to districts in areas of Multi-tiered Support Training, Transition Supports, program reviews and consultations.

Through the RESC Alliance, the Division will continue its work with the Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education to provide several special education initiatives statewide. In particular, C.E.S. will support school psychologists through Communities of Practice (CoPs) across the six RESC areas. We will be a training resource for new initiatives on topics such as Assistive Technology, Least Restrictive Environment, ParaEducator and Transition.

SIX TO SIX MAGNET SCHOOL

Six to Six continues to focus on data-driven decision-making, differentiated instruction, and tiered interventions and supports to ensure student growth. We are excited to continue our rollout of the Amplify CKLA Literacy curriculum and to continue our use of Illustrative Maths and Bridges Math for intervention. Our Literacy and Math Specialists will continue to support teachers in their lesson planning and implementation. Our Instructional Leadership team plans on analyzing the data collected from these curricula and using this information to further improve our academic programming.

REGIONAL CENTER FOR EARLY LEARNING

We are excited to share that in the upcoming year, our program will begin welcoming families with children starting at age two. This expansion reflects our commitment to meeting the evolving needs of our community—particularly the growing demand for high-quality care and early learning opportunities for toddlers. We recognize how vital these early years are, not only for child development but also for building strong, supportive relationships with families from the very beginning. By opening our doors to younger children, we look forward to walking alongside families as they grow with us through these foundational years. We are proud to serve a high-need population and remain dedicated to offering a nurturing, enriching environment where all children can thrive. We can't wait to welcome the newest members of our program soon!

REGIONAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

For the first time in its history, RCA will be at full capacity of students next year. We are excited about that fact and the opportunity for so many students to be part of our vibrant, challenging and professional learning community. We will be focused this year on meeting the needs of our much larger student body. We are dedicated to supporting our students in both their training and mental health needs. We will also be introducing our technical theatre students to our new LED lighting system in the main theatre.

C.E.S. DISTRICT PARTICIPATION

Program Name	Bridgeport	Darien	Easton/Redding/Region 9	Fairfield	Greenwich	Monroe	New Canaan	Norwalk	Ridgefield	Shelton	Stamford	Stratford	Trumbull	Weston	Westport	Wilton	Other	Total
Administrative Services																		
Transportation	X					X			X			X	X				4	10
Executive Searches	X			X													12	14
Open Choice Program	X		X	X				X						X	X	X	X	7
Professional Development Services																		
Curriculum Council	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	55	67
Early Childhood Council	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		16
Literacy Council		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	19
MLL Council		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	2	12
Leadership Institute at C.E.S.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		16
Administrator Aspirant Program	X		X	X	X		X	X			X	X	X				1	15
Administrator Induction Program	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	1	25
Academy for Teacher Leadership			X	X		X	X		X			X	X			X		10
Library/Media & Technology Integration Council			X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X				8
Math Council		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	3	16
Science Council	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	2	16
Social Studies & History Council		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5	19
Regional Center for the Arts	X		X	X	X	X		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	3	15
Regional Center for Early Learning	X			X	X					X		X	X				1	7
Six to Six Magnet School	X		X	X		X						X	X				16	22
Special Education																		
Merit Academy - School Year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X		13	26
Merit Academy - Summer	X		X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X		X		8	19
Oakview Primary School - School Year	X					X				X	X	X	X	X			8	15
Oakview Primary School - Summer	X					X				X	X	X	X	X			3	10
Oakview Middle/High School - School Year	X							X	X	X	X	X					9	15
Oakview Middle/High School - Summer	X				X			X	X	X	X	X					8	15
Oakview Transition Program - School Year	X							X		X	X	X					9	14
RISE Transition Program - School Year	X	X										X					X	4	8
Special Education Related Services																		
Assistive Technology					X					X		X	X	X			6	12
Audiological				X	X					X		X		X	X	X	5	12
Behavioral Psychology	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	45	61
Consultation/Diagnostic Services							X		X	X							2	5







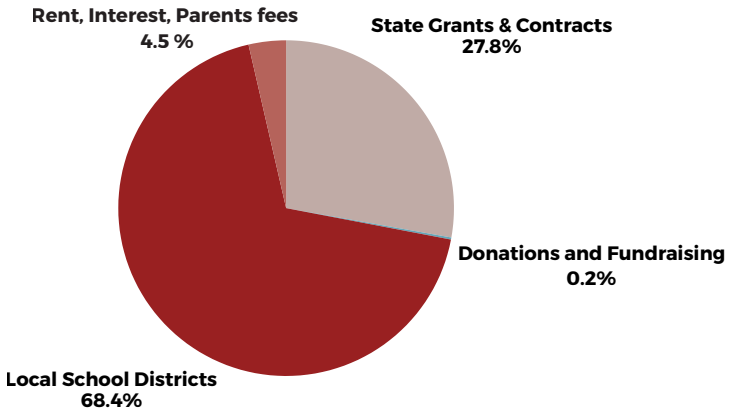
C.E.S. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

BUDGETS AS OF JULY 1, 2025

L = LOCAL S = STATE F = FEDERAL

Central Administration		
Administrative Services	1,602,403	L
Office of Executive Director	730,932	L
Executive Searches	52,568	L
Facility Cost Centers	4,423,237	L
Internet & Technology Services	1,235,669	L
Legal & Professional Costs	16,000	L
Office of Associate Executive Director	753,275	L
Public Relations and Marketing	134,956	L
Fundraising	5,500	L
Interdistrict Magnet Schools and School Choice		
Enhancing Education Choices/Opportunity	265,000	S
Regional Center for Arts	1,992,522	L,S
School Choice/Transportation	2,670,500	S
Six to Six Magnet School	10,484,497	L,S
Regional Center for Early Learning	2,645,023	L,S
Professional Development Services		
Administration	718,033	L,S
CT REAP	199,455	L
Educational Leadership	129,200	L
Professional Development	981,792	L, S,F
Special Projects	833,130	S,F
Special Education		
Administration	943,498	L,S
Assistive Technology	146,997	L
Oakview Schools Summer	1,267,196	L
Oakview Schools	15,892,980	L
Rise Transition Program	394,130	L
Merit Academy	9,245,478	L
Merit Academy - Summer	376,554	L
Stamford CES Collaborative	914,243	L
Special Education - Related Services		
Audio Maintenance	145,406	L
Medical	37,100	L
Physical Education	20,550	L
Professional Development	534,052	L,S
Behavioral Psychological Services	641,174	L
Special Revenue Funds		
WorkspaceCT	261,276	L
Transportation		
Transportation - LEA	1,614,621	L,S
Transportation - Elderly (Norwalk)	1,098,078	L,S,F
Capital Projects	2,416,230	L

ACTUAL EXPENDITURES 2024-25	
Building Operations	10,712,803
Central Administration	4,925,441
Interdistrict Magnet Schools	11,067,992
Professional Development Services	2,547,313
Open Choice	2,945,093
Regional Center for Early Learning	2,100,580
Special Education	26,938,850
Title I, II, III, IV	196,325
Transportation	2,497,095
WorkSpace CT	233,842
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	64,165,335



C.E.S. INTERAGENCY RELATIONSHIPS

A

ABCO the Paperman • Abilis • Ability Beyond • ACES • All Electric Construction • Amazon Business • American Medical Response • American Association of School Personnel Administrators (AASPA) • AMC Movie Theaters • Amity Bowl • Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield • Anti-Defamation League of Connecticut • Aquarion Water Co. • ARI in Stamford • Arts for Healing • Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESA) • Autism Services and Resource Center

B

BASC • Bagel King • Barnes & Noble • Bass Pro Shop • Best Buddies • Better Lessons • Birth to Three • Board of Education Services for the Blind • BJ's • Blanchette's Sporting Goods • Bounce U • Bounce Extreme • Bridge House • Bridgeport Alliance for Young Children • Bridgeport BOE Early Childhood Consultation Center • Bridgeport BOE Early Childhood Dept. • Bridgeport Child Advocacy Coalition • Bridgeport Child Guidance • Bridgeport City Hall • Bridgeport Family Resource Center Network • Bridgeport Fire Dept • Bridgeport Higher Education Alliance • Bridgeport Hospital • Bridgeport Parks Department • Bridgeport Police Dept • Bridgeport Provider Network • Bridgeport Public Library • Bridgeport Regional Business Council • Bridgeport Islanders • Bridgeport YMCA • Broadway.com • Bullard Havens Regional Vo-Tech School • Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

C

CABE • Calvary Church (Trumbull) • CAPSS • CT Association of School Psychologists • Cardinal Shehan Center • Care 4 Kids • Casey Family Services • Center for Excellence on Autism Spectrum Disorders • Center Stage • Central CT State University/ITBD • CT DEEP • CT Science Center • CT Science Teachers Association • CT STEM Academy • Charter Oak State College • Chartwells • Child & Family Network • Child First • Child Guidance Center of Southern CT • Chili's • Christ Church (Stamford) • City Line Florist • CLASP (Fairfield) • Coalition for Women and Families • Cathie Collier, R.D.H. • Cognitive Behavior Consultants • Commerce Park Dental Group • Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo • Conner Printing • Corwin A Sage Company • CoCoRaHS • CT Association of School Personnel Administrators (CASPA) • CT Assoc. for the Education of Young Children • CT Audubon Society • CT Autism Society • CT Ballet • CT Charts-A-Course • CT Children's Museum (New Haven) • CT Dept. of Education • CT Dept. of Health • CT Dept. of Labor • CT Historical Society • CT Inst. for Sustainable Energy • CT Speech-Language-Hearing Assoc • CT Technical High School System • CT Parenting Education Network • CT Transit • CT Works • Coordinated Transportation Services • CREC • Crossroads Pizza

D-E

Dept. of Children and Families • Dept. of Developmental Services • Dept. of Mental Health & Addictions • Dept. of Social Services • Developmental Therapy-Teaching Programs (University of Georgia) • Dave and Busters • Daisy Solutions • Disability Resource Network CT (Derby) • Downtown Cabaret Theatre • Early Childhood Consultation Partnership • EASTCONN • Eastern CT State University • Easton EMS • EdAdvance • Eli Whitney Museum • Emergency Care Institute • Eversource

F

Fairfield Business Alliance • Fairfield Pizza • Fairfield Prep • Fairfield Public Library • Fairfield University • Family Resource Center • Family Services Woodfield • Famous Fifties Diner • Federation Assoc. of CT • First Book, Fairfield County • Food Rescue USA • First Presbyterian Church (Fairfield) • Fit-Tek • Fone's School of Dental Hygiene • Food Bazaar • Fordham University • Friends of Bridgeport Public Library

G-H

Globe Restaurant Equipment • Gateway Community College • Goodwill Industries • Greater Bridgeport Director's Network • Greater Bridgeport Mental Health • Greater Bridgeport Symphony Orchestra • Greater Bridgeport Transit (GBT) • Greater Bridgeport/ Trumbull Headstart Center • Green Village Initiative • Habitat for Humanity • Hallbrook Intensive Outpatient and Hospital • Hope Center • Housatonic Community College

I-J-K-L

Idemia • Jason Project • Jesse Lewis Foundation • JobCorps • Juvenile Probation • Kennedy Center Inc. • Kenneth Boroson Architects • Kids in Crisis of Greenwich • Kidsense Pediatric Therapy • Lake Compounce • Lakewood-Trumbull YMCA • Leisha's Bakeria • LEARN • LifeBridge Community Services • Lighthouse Program • Lillian Butler Davies Foundation • Lisa's Takeout • Long Wharf Theatre • Lyman Orchards

M

Mabel Fischer Grant Foundation • Mad Science of Fairfield & New Haven County • Make-A-Wish Foundation • Maritime Aquarium • Marrakech, Inc. • Marshall's (Bridgeport) • Mayer-Johnson • Mayor's Summer Youth Program • Merit Insurance • MetLife Special Needs Planning • Metro North • Middlebrook Farms • Mid-Fairfield Child Guidance Center • Monroe Police Dept • Monroe Public Library • MNE Entertainment • Music Together of Norwalk/Newtown LLC • Mystic Aquarium • MP Planning Group • MTS Partners

N-O-P-Q-R

NASA • National Association of School Psychologists • NAEYC • Northeastern Technology • Norwalk Community College • Norwalk Transit District • Notre Dame High School • Nutmeg Bowling • National Children's Theatre • Next Chapter Book • Newsela • Naugatuck Cornhole • Office of Early Childhood • Office Depot • Oriental Trading Co. • Orange Research • Osaka Hibachi • Parent Center of Bridgeport • PE2 • Pearson Education • Pediatric Health Care Associates • People's United Bank (now M&T Bank) • Petco • Peabody Museum • Phoenix Academy • Planned Parenthood • Platt Systems • Plymouth Early Childhood Council • PMT Associates, Inc. • Porter and Chester Institute • Dr. Barry Prizant • Professional Placement Resources LLC • Project Return • Prospects Program • Proforma • Pyramid Educational Consultants • PESI • Read Naturally • Read to Grow, Inc.• Real Learning, Inc. • Restaurant Depot • Regina Quick Center at Fairfield University • Redeem Wellness (Bridgeport) • Rehabilitation Associates • Reliable Plating • RESC Assistive Technology Alliance • RESC Alliance • River Valley Retirement Community

S

Sacred Heart University • Scholastic Books • SERC • Sergio's Pizza • Seedlings Educators Collaborative and Seedlings Foundation • Shipman & Goodwin • Silver Hill Psychiatric Hospital • Silverman's Farms • Sikorsky • Sky Zone • Southern CT State University • Southern Fairfield County Superintendent Association • Society for Human Recourse Management (SHRM) • Sound Waters • Sports Center • Spurwink Services • St. Joseph's Center • St. Saviour's Church Nursery School • St. Vincent's Hospital • St. Vincent's Special Needs Center • Stamford Child Guidance • Stern Village • Stew Leonard's • Star, Inc. • Staples Advantage • Stop & Shop • Stratford Community Services • Stratford Police Dept • Stratford Theatre

T-U-V-W-Y

Target • Tauck Family Foundation • Thurston Foods • Teachers' College/Columbia University • Team Toys 4 Kids • TED Masterclass • TPW • TS And More • Trumbull Chamber of Commerce • Trumbull Congregational Church • Trumbull Fire Dept • Trumbull/Monroe Health Dept • Trumbull Mobile Veterinary Clinic • Trumbull Police Dept • Trumbull Public Library • Trumbull Rotary Club • Trumbull Senior Center • UCONN Stamford • The UCSF Center for Autism • United Way of Coastal Fairfield County • University of Bridgeport • UConn College of Agriculture and Natural Resources • University of New Haven • UCLA-SMP • WB Mason • Vazzy's • Wade's Dairy • Weill Cornell Medical Center • Westchester Family Institute • Western CT State University • Westport Country Playhouse • Wells Hallow Farm • Woodruff Family YMCA • Yale Art Center • Yale Child Study Center • Yale New Haven Hospital • Yale University School of Medicine • Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence Business Center • YMCA Daycare (Bridgeport)

2024-2025 HIGHLIGHTS



Six to Six Middle School was named CAS 2025 Middle School of the Year.



Amanda Waring from Oakview Primary School was the 2025 Teacher of the Year.



Ian Patterson from Merit Academy was the 2025 Paraeducator of the Year.



Christie Cantalupo at Six to Six Magnet School received the Connecticut Science Teaching Association (CSTA) Excellence in Science Teaching Awards.



Luke Forshaw Ed.D., Director of Professional Development Services, was chosen as one of 12 Lead Trainers for the national Building Capacity for Generative AI in K-12 Education initiative.



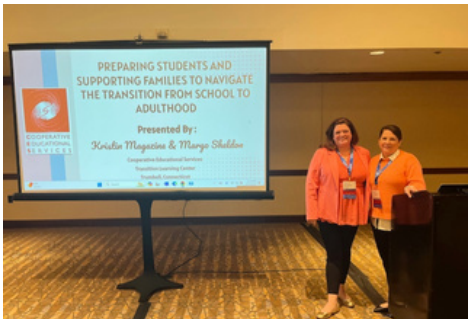
Lynda Swift, Chris LaBelle, Mike McGrath, & Luke Forshaw presented at the AESA annual conference on Stay Interviews.



The RESC Alliance hosted an Education Committee Informational Forum at the Legislative Office Building, where all six RESC Executive Directors discussed their essential role in supporting students throughout Connecticut.



Oakview Transition Programs Annual Walk for Wishes, raised $1,800. All of the proceeds went to Make A Wish CT.



Margo Sheldon and Kristen Magazine were invited to present at the national Charting the Life Course conference in Kansas City.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
FOUNDATION

The Cooperative Educational Services Foundation was created in 2007 with the mission of enhancing learning opportunities for students of C.E.S. educational programs, including enrichment grants to C.E.S. educators. Since inception the foundation has funded more than $350,000 for mini-grants to C.E.S. educators, program grants for C.E.S. schools and programs, and professional development grants for educators in the agency's member districts.

Applicants go through a rigorous application process and present evaluations to the Board of Directors annually. The classroom-based mini-grants are designed to foster creativity and extend the classroom learning experiences beyond the regular curriculum. The program grants encourage full school or program experimentation and research in best and promising practices that not only enhance the learning opportunities for C.E.S. students but also may be shared with C.E.S. member districts.
For more information, visit www.cesfoundation.org.
Questions email cesfoundation@cestrumbull.org

Donors are encouraged to give to the Cooperative Educational Services Foundation and all contributions benefit C.E.S. students and programs.
There are a number of ways to give:

- Paypal: www.cesfoundation.org/how-to-give
- United Way: Designate the C.E.S. Foundation as your beneficiary charity.
- Employer Match: Contact your employer for procedure.

Please send checks to C.E.S. Foundation
40 Lindeman Drive, Trumbull, CT 06611.

2024–2025 Program Grant Awards

Capturing Excellent Students – PR and Marketing
Little Gym – Oakview Primary School
Merit Academy Rec Room – Merit Academy
Washington DC Trip – Six to Six Magnet School

2024–2025 Mini-Grant Awards

Merit Academy

- Fitness Center

Oakview Schools

- Percussion Workshop

Oakview Transition Program

- Leisure Library
- OTP Cameras

Regional Center for Early Learning

- Let's Play Pretend
- Listen and Learn Hub
- Music and Movement
- Zen Den

Regional Center for the Arts

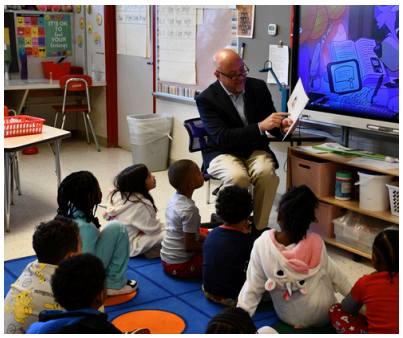
- Acting Workshop
- History of A Capella
- Pattie LuBone
- Rhythmic Roots

Related Services

- Classroom Chairs

Six to Six Magnet School

- All in an Afternoon
- Book Club: Raices
- Safe, Sound & Comfortable
- Sewing Club
- Sleeping Beauty
- The Outsiders
- Using ECERS








COOPERATIVE
EDUCATIONAL
SERVICES