

**SURVIVE.
REVIVE.
THRIVE.**

aces

2020-2021
ANNUAL REPORT

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REVIVE.
THRIVE.**

**2020-2021
ANNUAL REPORT**



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(203) 498-6800 / www.aces.org

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Dear Friends,



Within our struggle to continue to operate during a pandemic we discovered newfound strength and skills that have helped us to grow and to flourish. This past year at ACES was all about surviving, reviving and thriving.

In March 2020 we went into survival mode with social distancing, remote learning, self-isolation and new daily standards to keep safe. We were pushed out of our comfort zones and forced to adapt and problem solve. We built new relationships, connected with empathy, and relied on one another to guide us through this change. Ultimately, we let go of the reality we once knew.

We then accepted our new normal and found motivation and energy to push forward in order to support our students, parents, employees, school districts, Board members and community. We became Zoom experts and embraced the latest technology and tools that helped us to connect. We explored new ways to deliver our services.

Despite all the challenges the pandemic presented us with, we thrived and accomplished great feats. ACES Thomas Edison Middle School in Meriden moved to Waterbury under the new name ACES at Chase, a Public STEAM Academy on a Private Campus. We opened ACES Smart Care, a health center to serve all our employees at a convenient location with an affordable rate. We joined the Connecticut Teacher Residency Program, an 18-month elementary certification course, to increase the diversity of our teachers to match that of our student population. In addition, 91% of our ACES' staff members who carry out our mission and vision to improve lives, one life at a time, received their vaccinations. That vaccination rate improves each day and helps us to continue our good works.

Here at ACES we believe in building an environment where it is not enough just to survive, but rather to thrive. When we all thrive, we become stronger and more resilient and can successfully achieve our mission of enhancing and transforming lives thorough education, leadership and innovation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas M. Danehy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas M. Danehy, Ed.D.
Executive Director

Executive Leadership Council



Thomas M. Danehy, Ed. D.
Executive Director



Timothy Howes
Deputy Executive Director



William Rice
Assistant Executive Director,
Schools & Curriculum



Steve Cook
Director, Human Resources



Evelyn Rossetti-Ryan, Ed. D.
Director, ACCESS & Outreach



Olga Simoes
Director, Fiscal Services



Mission

ACES is dedicated to enhancing and transforming lives through education, innovation, and leadership.

Vision

To create an equitable and socially just world one life at a time.

Organizational Beliefs

- Each individual has inherent worth
- All individuals can learn
- High expectations and effort are essential for higher achievement
- Quality education provides the foundation for the success of the individual and community
- Diversity strengthens an organization
- Individuals are responsible for their own actions
- Everyone has a responsibility to each other and to contribute to the common good
- Honesty and respect are essential for building trusting relationships
- A positive attitude enhances performance
- Collaboration enhances productivity and generates creativity
- Families are essential partners in education
- The willingness to change is necessary for individuals to grow and organizations to thrive



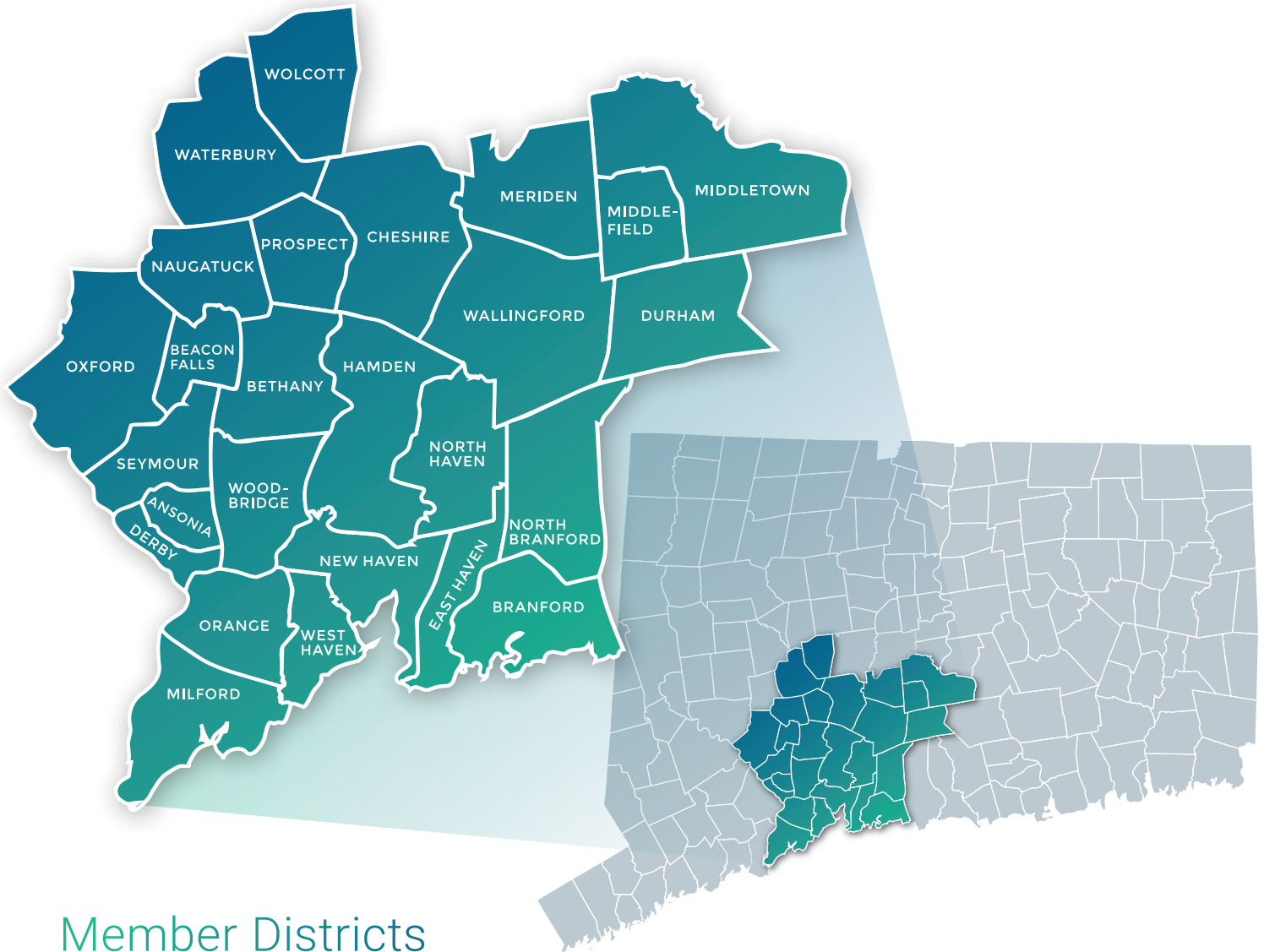
About ACES

Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) has been living its mission: to enhance and transform lives through education, innovation and leadership for over fifty years. ACES is the regional educational service center for the twenty-five communities in New Haven and Middlesex Counties. ACES is both a non-profit service organization and a school district that serves over 2,000 students in three magnet and eight special education schools.

ACES' dedication to better serve its community and its commitment to equity and social justice is demonstrated by the wide array of services and programs offered. These services range from transportation, professional development and school improvement services, technology, translation, international, security, and occupational and physical therapy. ACES operates the Open and Magnet School Parent Choice programs for New Haven County, provides recruitment programs aimed at diversifying the educator workforce, has a federally funded Early Head Start Program and a vocational and life skills program for developmentally and physically disabled adults ages 21 and older.

To learn more about ACES, visit www.aces.org.





Member Districts

- Ansonia
- Bethany
- Branford
- Cheshire
- Derby
- East Haven
- Hamden
- Meriden
- Middletown
- Milford
- Naugatuck
- New Haven
- North Branford
- North Haven
- Orange
- Oxford
- Regional District #5 (Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge)
- Regional District #13 (Durham, Middlefield)
- Regional District #16 (Beacon Falls, Prospect)
- Seymour
- Wallingford
- Waterbury
- West Haven
- Wolcott
- Woodbridge

SCHOOL DISTRICT	MEMBER	OFFICE
Ansonia	Fran DiGiorgi	Executive Committee
Bethany	Edward Maher	
Branford	Ellen Michaels	
Cheshire	Anthony Perugini	
Derby	Laura Harris	Fiscal Officer
East Haven	Michele DeLucia	
Hamden	Vacant	
Meriden	Robert Kosiencki	
Middletown	Vacant	
Milford	Vacant	
Naugatuck	Ethel Grant	
New Haven	Edward Joyner	
North Branford	Jana Balsamo	
North Haven	Vacant	
Orange	Susan Riccio	Vice Chairperson
Oxford	Shelley Lacey-Castelot	
Regional District #5	Vacant	
Regional District #13	Norman Hicks	Chairperson
Regional District #16	Vacant	
Seymour	Beth Nesteriak	
Wallingford	Karen Hlavac	
Waterbury	Elizabeth Brown	
West Haven	Patricia Libero	
Wolcott	Roberta Leonard	
Woodbridge	Dr. Carol Oladele	



Norman Hicks
Chairperson



Susan Riccio
Vice Chairperson



Ethel Grant
Board Member



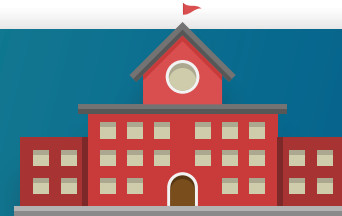
1014

Total Employees



\$105M

Total Budget



27

Buildings Owned & Operated by ACES

25

Communities in the ACES Region

80

Districts Served by ACES

12

ACES Schools

6

Collaborative Educational Programs

1,516

ACES Magnet School Students

615

ACES Special Education Students

2,131

Total ACES Students

ACES ACCESS / VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

101

Businesses Working With ACES Vocational Programs

142

Total ACCESS Program Participants

180

ACES High School Students Participating in ACES Vocational Programs

BEHAVIOR SERVICES

12

Districts Served By ACES Behavior Services And Autism Programs

18

Homes Served By ACES Behavior Services And Autism Programs

EARLY HEAD START & HEAD START

119

Children Served in Early Head Start – Birth To 3.

14

Expectant Mothers Served in Early Head Start

8

Communities Participated in Early Head Start

55

Children Served in Head Start

8

Communities Participated in Head Start

EXTENSION THERAPY SERVICES

14

Districts/ Agencies Served By ACES Extension Therapy Services

115

Schools Served By ACES Occupational And Physical Therapists

1,510

Students Served By ACES Occupational And Physical Therapists

INTERNATIONAL

62

Partner Schools and Education Organizations Around The World Have Now Joined The ACES International Education Network

133

International Students Joined the 2021-2022 Second Cohort of the ACES International Online High School and Enrichment Program

23

Students participated in the ACES-Wake Forest Regenerative Medicine Summer Program at the World STEM Cell Summit

2,200

Educators and Executives worldwide participated in the ACES International Training Institute for Global Competency

OPEN CHOICE

12

Districts Participated

51

Schools Participated

439

Students Served

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO CERTIFICATION

60

Districts and Agencies Participated in ACES ARC Programs

111

Educators Enrolled in ACES ARC Programs

5

ARC Cohorts

1,166

Educators Participating in Professional Development Opportunities Facilitated by PDSI

REGIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION (RSET)

12

Districts Served by RSET

207

Special Education Students Transported

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

9

Districts Served

57

Programs Supported

5,484

End-Users Supported

216

Workshops Offered

680

Data Privacy Contract Reviews and Applications Supported

64

Projects Completed

3,716

Services Completed

121

Parents Supported

NETWORK SERVICES

6

Businesses and Districts Served

3,520

End-Users Supported

5,257

Devices Maintained

5,825

Services Completed

TRANSPORTATION

1,164

ACES Students and Clients Transported

168

Vehicles in ACES Fleet

1 Million

Fleet Miles Driven by ACES Drivers

Message from ACES Governing Board

Greetings from the ACES Governing Board.

It has been quite a year at ACES but through the pandemic, the administration, staff and students have persevered to complete the mission of ACES. Perseverance is the persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success. For the ACES community, the difficulties were seemingly insurmountable over the past 18 months. But everyone persisted and look where we are today. You have been successful in every way. And because of that, you continue to survive, revive, and thrive. The positive impact you have made on our learners will last a lifetime.

So much has happened over the past year it is hard to put it in a limited space. Of special note is the opening of our all new STEAM school, ACES at Chase in Waterbury. This is new territory for us bringing our middle school students a world-class public school education on a private school campus setting. All this happening in a little more than a year. I believe ACES has raised the bar in creating a truly unique magnet school.

As you can clearly read in this report, these are truly exciting times for ACES. My heartfelt thanks to our administration and staff for keeping ACES on the right track and not wavering from our mission during these critical and often difficult circumstances. In addition, I am especially grateful for the support of the ACES Governing Board who continuously strive to ensure the great work of this agency moves forward in providing world-class educational services at cost-effective rates.

On behalf of the Board, I look forward to another year full of new and exciting additions to our programs to help our students and clients be the best they can be. ACES: Advocacy. Commitment. Excellence. Service.

- ACES Board Chairman Norm Hicks



From left to right: Thomas M. Danehy, Lynn Campo, Dorothy Logan, and Norman Hicks

The ACES Governing Board recognizes Lynn Campo and Dorothy Logan at their last Board meeting. Both Lynn Campo and Dorothy Logan have worked on behalf of thousands of students and have been diligent in their work on the ACES Governing Board. Thank you for your service.



ACES Smart Care

ACES partnered with Everside Health to open ACES Smart Care, a dedicated health center for all ACES employees. The new health center, located at 261 Skiff Street in Hamden, offers on-site primary healthcare, wellness and preventative care, health assessments, Covid-19 testing and more, to patients at little to no cost. Since its opening on January 18, 2021, ACES Smart Care has been visited 169 times by ACES employees most frequently for Covid-19 testing, sickness, health risk assessments and blood draws. ACES Smart Care was created with the goal to provide convenient and affordable healthcare to ACES employees in order to keep them safe and healthy. In the upcoming year, the health center will increase services to spouses and dependents, include an on-site dispensary and offer flu shots.



ACES at Chase

ACES Thomas Edison Middle School, nationally recognized award-winning educational institution, transitions to a new home, with a new name - ACES at Chase

In October of 2020, the ACES Board of Directors was notified that the Meriden Board of Education voted to retake the TEMS building of occupancy, retain the school’s name, and run it as a traditional district middle school the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. After 20 years in Meriden, the re-establishment of ACES premier STEM magnet school was a high priority and a monumental undertaking for the entire team of Board Members, Administration, Staff, Faculty, Students and Families.

While living through a pandemic, and the uncertainty of a new location, all hands were on deck to share with the community-at-large, ACES Thomas Edison Middle School, a “Project Lead the Way School of Distinction” was planning for a brand-new start in the Fall that would continue to foster a place where children are free to grow, engineer, or write their future! Most Open Houses took place virtually throughout the Spring, with a culminating outdoor “Welcome Event” on May 28, 2021. The weather was just right for over 300 families who toured the campus, inquired about all aspects of School at information booths, grabbed fun swag and had a bite to eat at the Food Trucks!



The formal announcement of the asset sale was made, after 9 months, on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 – ACES at Chase, A Public STEAM Academy on a Private Campus – would bring an end to the cessation of classes at Chase Collegiate School, located at 565 Chase Parkway, Waterbury, just 18 miles west of the current location in Meriden. “Chase Collegiate has a long history of providing excellent education and ACES will be pleased to reopen those doors and continue those traditions, melding them with its own,” said ACES Executive Director, Dr. Thomas M. Danehy. The ACES at Chase curriculum maintains for both students and teachers to be inquiry-based learners and instructors in a constructive setting.

Over the Summer, physical movement began along with the installation of new security cameras, access points, keyless entry systems, kitchen updates, code repairs, enabling the ACESnet and phone lines in addition to ordering equipment and supplies.

Trucks loaded in Meriden and unloaded in Waterbury, families toured the scenic 47-acre campus, which features two beautiful, recently updated, academic buildings, and classrooms came to life to prepare for a September 2nd Grand Re-Opening anticipating 798 students. This was

an incredible effort to market our school. ACES at Chase Middle School Principal, Karen Habegger said, “We are thrilled to provide a campus-like community for our students where they can participate in a private-school experience. Our school will take advantage of the extensive arts and athletic facilities, greenhouse and gardens, pond and recreation areas to create an experience unlike any other public middle school in the state. Seeing is believing – imagine the possibilities ACES at Chase has to offer!”



And with that, the Official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held on the South Porch of St. Margaret’s Hall on Monday, August 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Students participated in song and greeting, Remarks were offered by Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz, Keith Norton, Chief of Strategic Planning, James Mooney, Deputy Director of NEASC, Norman Hicks, Chairperson ACES Board, the Waterbury Chamber of Commerce, and Mayor Neil O’Leary, who shared the City of Waterbury Proclamation.

“I am happy to learn that an agreement between ACES and Chase Collegiate School has been signed. My understanding at this time is that the Chase campus and classes will be open for grades 6 - 8 this Fall. I look forward to continuing working with both organizations as they prepare for the next chapter at Chase, a time-honored educational institution in our City. To have a partner, ACES, who has proven confidence and investment in public education, that will raise the bar across the city is good all the way around. We all look forward to the expansion of grades, there certainly is the room”.

- Mayor Neil O’Leary, Official Press Release Quote

ACES at Chase is dedicated to fostering an educational atmosphere that connects with a diverse community of learners where each member is recognized as an important piece of the whole.

Early Head Start & Head Start Program

Early Head Start & Head Start program is dedicated to serving families and forging strong community partnerships. Some notable partnerships are with Middlesex Health, the Middletown Police, Faith Lutheran Church, the Middletown fire department, Middletown Public Schools, Portland Public Schools, and many more. The program options offer families the opportunity to have the home as the primary learning environment or have a preschool classroom experience. The relationship between staff and primary caregivers is central to effective service delivery.



Knights of Columbus Donation to Support ACCESS Programming

The North Haven Knights of Columbus presented ACES ACCESS with a check for \$1,106 to support ACCESS' programming.



From left to right: Blaise L. Vece, Grand Knight, KofC3733, Dr. Evelyn Rossetti-Ryan, ACES Director of ACCESS & Outreach, Paul A. Caiafa, Trustee, KofC3733

ACES Food Drive Benefits East Haven Food Pantry

ACES ACCESS donated 2,000 items to the East Haven Food Pantry during their July 2020 food drive. Thanks to the generosity of ACES current and former staff, Town Fair Tire, ACES Business Advisory Council, and ACES ACCESS program participants and staff members, the food drive far surpassed the original goal. ACES ACCESS is grateful to local businesses who supported the food drive: Town Fair Tire, Jennifer's Ice Cream in East Haven, Genaro's Restaurant and Cheri's Bakery in Branford, Mangia Pizza in North Haven, and Strong Kitchen in Hamden.



From left to right: Branford Public School student and community service volunteer Fiona Cavallaro, ACES ACCESS employment specialist Maureen Cavallaro, and Town Fair Tire Director of Special Projects David Litvinoff display the foods collected during the ACES ACCESS July food drive.

Columbus House Care Kit Challenge

To ensure those living outside are safe, ACES ACCESS fulfilled a request from Columbus House Outreach & Engagement team for 30 backpacks filled with essential items like gloves, hats, masks, rain gear, and more.



From left to right: ACCESS Staff, John Torello, Rachael Rubino and Dr. Evelyn Rossetti-Ryan.

ACES ACCESS Warm Hands, Warm Hearts Winter Clothing Drive

ACES ACCESS 2nd Annual Warm Hands, Warm Hearts Clothing Drive collected 4,000 clothing items that benefitted Columbus House, Loaves and Fishes New Haven and other organizations in the greater New Haven area. As part of the 2020 initiative ACCESS collaborated with the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce and the Salvation Army to collect and donate over 300 winter coats.

Mill Academy Highlights



ACES Mill Academy WAS PROUD for bringing awareness to heart disease & raising money for the In A Heartbeat Foundation!

Our Climate Committee and our student climate leaders raised \$133 for the ASRC at the ASRC's Walk for Autism! What a beautiful day!



Our Blue Pod loves our staff! For Staff Appreciation week our Blue Pod was making yummy treats to show their appreciation!



Our Yellow pod loves spring! We take every opportunity to enjoy what nature has to offer!

ACES Increases Teacher Diversity with Teacher Residency Program

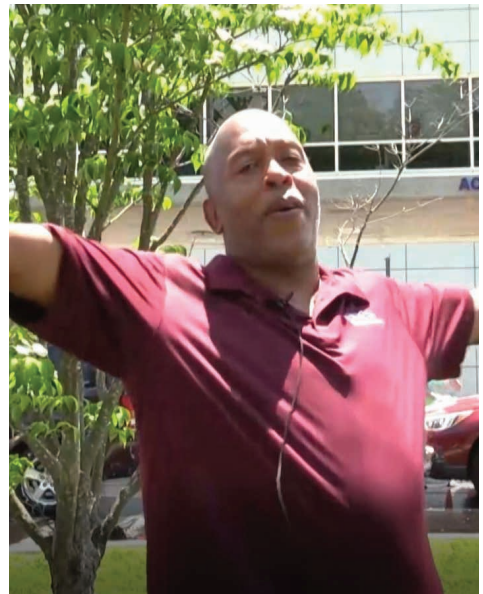
ACES partnered with CREC to bring their Teacher Residency Program (TRP) to its staff and districts. The Teacher Residency Program is an alternative route to elementary certification designed to recruit and retain teachers of color. The program is open to applicants who have earned a bachelor's degree and demonstrate a desire to educate. ACES has two residents participating in the first TRP cohort for the 21-22 school year. Tamarah Austin Baker and Jason Allard started coursework over the summer and will be teaching 3rd and 5th grade respectively, at ACES Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School beginning in the fall. To learn more about the application process and to apply, visit:

www.ct-trp.org/resident-application.



Whitney Academy Car Wash Fundraiser

ACES Whitney Academy in Hamden hosted their first-ever Car Wash Fundraiser on June 5th to raise money for Special Olympics Connecticut. The two-hour event was held at the driveway of ACES Whitney Academy, where individuals were invited to get their vehicles washed for the price of ten dollars. The fundraiser successfully raised over one thousand dollars for Special Olympics Connecticut. Additionally, an anonymous donor matched the raised dollar amount, increasing the total amount to two thousand dollars. Donations generated from the car wash helped Special Olympics recover from a tough year and will support their mission to give people with intellectual disabilities a chance to participate and experience the transformative powers of sports.



Whitney Academy Students Win FOX61 Student News Award

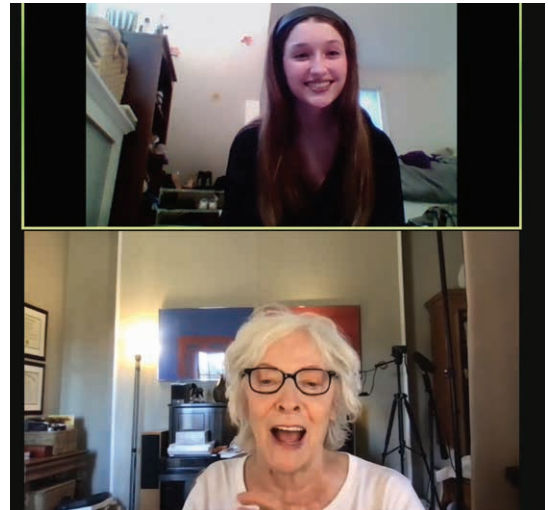
ACES Whitney Academy students Dyllan and Dylan won a FOX61 Student News Award in the category of “Best Feature News Story”, for their news segment “New Bookstore Includes People of All Abilities” about ReRead-Books in Cheshire. The award was presented live on air by Fox61 anchor Keith McGilvery on June 2, 2021. FOX61 News partners with high schools and middle schools in Connecticut to empower multi-media journalists in grades 6-12 across the state. More than a hundred schools participated in this year’s FOX61 Student News program, with dozens of stories produced on a wide variety of topics. ACES Whitney Academy received four nominations total, three for their bookstore news segment and one for their jewelry segment, “Silver Spiral Creations is Pretty Handmade Jewelry”.



ECA Highlights



Two of our music students played music at the polls in New Haven back on November 5th of last year.



Betty Buckley visited our Theatre Department via Zoom in February.



Dave Eggar and Ambar Rubarth visited the Music Department via Zoom in March.



ACES ECA Class of 2021 received acceptances and commitments to these colleges & universities for next school year!

- Alabama State University
- American Musical and Dramatic Academy
- Bard College
- Berklee College of Music
- California College of the Arts
- Clark Atlanta University
- Clemson University
- Columbia University
- Connecticut College
- DePauw University
- Drexel University
- Eastern Connecticut State University
- Emerson College
- Harvard University
- Howard University
- Johnson & Wales University
- Juniata College
- Lesley University
- Marist College
- Middlesex Community College
- New York University
- Northland College
- Oberlin College
- Pratt Institute
- Rhode Island School of Design
- Sarah Lawrence College
- Savannah College of Art and Design
- Southern Connecticut State University
- Swarthmore College
- Tufts University
- University of Connecticut
- University of Hartford
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Yale University

What I Need (WIN) Wednesdays

The ACES PDSI and ACES Educational Technology departments created a series of "pint-sized" professional learning opportunities throughout the 2020-21 school year on Wednesdays - "WIN Wednesdays!"



Each Wednesday educators could choose up to four, one-hour learning opportunities from a menu of options designed to help them get what they needed to deepen understanding and build expertise in collaboration, instruction, assessment, and technology integration. These opportunities were offered in four session blocks throughout the day to provide flexibility for all school staff:

Each session block featured several options applicable to all school roles, including administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, and support staff across all grade levels.

Overall, 230 unique session topics were offered from September through June, some multiple times based on popularity.

In addition to ACES staff, participants included educators from Ansonia, New Haven, Regional School District 13, Wallingford, and Waterbury for a total of 1,742 educators who got what they needed on a weekly basis from ACES.

Topics Included:

- Accessible Online Learning Materials
- Accessible Problem Solving: High-low Word Problems
- Accessible Problem Solving: Number Talks
- Accessible Texts for All Students
- Assessments through Universal Response
- Circle Support
- Conferring with Readers and Writers
- Creating a Learning Playlist for Asynchronous Inquiry
- Creating Virtual Escape Rooms
- Cultural Responsiveness
- Designing Learning Arcs in Virtual/Hybrid Learning
- Desmos
- Differentiated Instruction Strategies
- Discourse Strategies for Language Learning
- Effective Questioning Strategies
- Evidence Based Strategies for Students with ASD
- Feedback in the Virtual World
- Formative Assessment Strategies
- Literacy in the (Secondary) Content Areas
- Math Discourse Strategies
- Para Series: Effective Questioning Strategies and Building Strong Relationships
- Practical Strategies to Make Science Accessible
- Project Based Learning
- Providing Feedback for Learning
- Restorative Practices
- Scheduling Learning in the Digital Space for Success
- Small Group Literacy Instruction
- Small Group Math Instruction
- Social Emotional Learning
- Supporting Writing Instruction for All Learners
- The importance of Physical Activity in Early Childhood
- Trauma-Informed Pedagogy
- Virtual Inquiry Stations in Social Studies
- Digital Citizenship
- Data Privacy Best Practices
- Google Classroom
- Google Suite
- Introduction to Chromebooks
- Microsoft for Education Teacher Cert
- MS Office 365 Suite
- MS Calendars
- MS Excel Basics
- MS Forms
- Munis
- Online Etiquette 'Netiquette'
- Online Resources for Parents
- Parent Square and Student Square
- PowerSchool
- PowerTeacher Pro
- Read & Write for Google Chrome Screencastify
- Thriving in Hybrid
- Working with Video
- Zoom



Our belief in the worth and dignity of each person forms the basis for our philosophy on human diversity. All persons regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, gender, economic status, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, or handicapping condition deserves to be treated equitably and with respect for their humanity.

It is our strong belief that the differences among us strengthen us as a group, whether that group is a class, a school the ACES organization, or our entire region. These differences strengthen us by giving us the opportunity to hear and see issues from different perspectives, and to utilize a variety of ways to solve problems.

Prejudice, fear, and stereotyping interfere with healthy communication and trust among individuals and groups of different backgrounds and experiences. These are learned attitudes and behaviors which can be changed as people cooperate and collaborate to reach common goals.

At ACES, we believe that all people can learn and that staff who are continuous learners contribute to their own growth and the growth of the organization. All of us at ACES need to continually grow in our understanding and valuing of diversity. This effort will strengthen us as individuals, as an organization, and as a region.

The ACES Diversity Committee meets five times per year. To learn more about ACES Diversity Committee, contact Kevin Walton at kw Walton@aces.org or Melissa Alers at malers@aces.org.



We tend to think of Diversity in terms of race and sexual orientation; however, diversity is much more varied and can include ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, language, religion, and geographical area. These characteristics show up on a daily basis and impact the workplace.

Having diversity of thoughts, perspectives, viewpoints, backgrounds and experiences increases our ability to make better decisions for our stakeholders and allows for honest conversations about impact and outcomes. Additional benefits of a diverse workforce include more creativity, innovation and production and a positive impact on recruitment, hiring and retention.

Additionally, treating employees fairly and making them feel valued improves employee performance, enhances the workplace culture and builds a more qualified workforce.

Inclusive workplaces identify and make conscientious decisions to address inequity in the workplace, embrace the concept of diversity and strive for an inclusive environment where people feel as if they belong.

Providing employees with the tools to be successful, creating opportunities for historically marginalized groups, being mindful of other people's feelings and treating employees fairly are just a few examples of ways of intrinsically promoting equity in the workplace.

As thoughtful leaders in K-12 education, it is important that we honestly assess our commitment to Diversity, Equity & Inclusion on an on-going basis. The Office of Equity & Inclusion is committed to working collaboratively with the Executive Leadership Council, the Diversity Committee and all ACES employees and stakeholders to ensure that ACES continues to be a safe, fair and equitable workplace.

ACES Teacher of the Year



On June 9th, ACES held their 2021 Teacher of the Year & Executive Director’s Recognition Award ceremony, in which Sharee Baskin was announced as the 2022 Teacher of the Year. Baskin is a third-grade teacher at ACES Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School, where she has been teaching for six years. The Teacher of the Year award identifies one teacher among many outstanding teachers to serve as a visible, physical, and vocal representative of what is best in the teaching profession. Baskin exemplifies this educational excellence as she inspires a love for learning in her students and distinguishes herself both inside and outside of the classroom. In her acceptance speech, Baskin explained, “Education can and will continue to forever change the world and I am thrilled to be a part of the ride.

ACES Beginning Teacher Award Recipient

The Beginning Teacher Recognition program was created to recognize and honor first and second-year teachers at ACES. The program supports the retention of excellent teachers in both the profession and in ACES schools. The Beginning Teacher Recognition program does not recognize the "best" new teacher; instead, it strives to acknowledge new teachers who have persevered through their first or second year in the teaching profession

These teachers:

- seek out and demonstrate growth as a teacher and a professional
- take the initiative to lead when asked
- are team players who bring new ideas to the team
- are there for their students, families, colleagues, and the school.

Congratulations to the following beginning teachers for receiving the 2020-2021 ACES Beginning Teacher Recognition Award:

Caroline Ecke • Wintergreen

Carly Michaels • Wintergreen

John Kitching • Regions

Karen Ponzio • ECA

Marissa Levy • Wintergreen

Jenny Satagaj • Whitney Academy

2020 Convocation

The 2020 Convocation was held virtually, in which ACES created a video that was broadcasted to employees on August 31, 2020. The virtual event focused on the theme of “Reinvent” and how ACES had to rethink and reinvent education and their services throughout the pandemic. The video featured a special guest appearance from singer-songwriter, Lisa Loeb and others. After the video presentation, ACES treated all of their employees to a drive-thru food truck festival at ACES Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School.





ECA



WIMS

ACES Schools

As a local education agency (LEA), ACES operates a number of schools and educational programs that serve the needs of member school districts across the region. The two primary district needs that we address in our schools are a) issues of academic achievement stemming from racial, ethnic and economic isolation; and b) educating students whose disabilities pose challenges that exceed the capacity of local districts. In response, we provide rigorous academic curricula through three interdistrict magnet schools that enroll close to 1,600 students, and eight special education schools that enroll over 600 students.



ACES at Chase

ACES Interdistrict Magnet Schools

ACES Educational Center for the Arts (ECA)

Located in the heart of New Haven's Audubon Arts District, ACES Educational Center for the Arts (ECA) is a public, half-time, magnet high school for the 25 school districts in south-central Connecticut and beyond. Through intensive study of music, dance, theater, writing and visual arts, ECA students learn side by side with peers and practicing artists as they discover their creative potential. At ECA, we play, perform, question, and collaborate as we explore ourselves and our world. This year's graduates will attend universities and conservatories including Berklee School of Music, The American Musical and Dramatic Academy, University of Chicago, Howard University, The New School, UNH, UCONN, Quinnipiac, Savannah College of Art and Design, New York University and Yale. ECA alumni live and work all over the world, as creative directors, theater directors, graphic designers, journalists, and more. Experience the transformative power of the arts at ECA.

ACES at Chase

is a STEAM Interdistrict magnet school where 6th through 8th-grade students focus on science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. ACES at Chase's mission is to prepare students for success through innovative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The vision is to empower students to engineer, write, grow, and fortify their futures to become college and career ready. ACES at Chase was recognized as a 2020-2021 Project

Lead the Way School of Distinction. They were recognized four years in a row and are proud to be one of 176 schools in the nation for this award. In 2020, ACES at Chase, formerly known as Thomas Edison Magnet Middle School, earned Magnet Schools of America's National Magnet School Merit Award of Distinction. Along with a move to a private school campus, and adding the A to STEM, making ACES at Chase a full STEAM program, they are looking forward to further developing arts programming, sports programming and deepening instructional practices to support all elements of a STEAM education.



ACES Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School (WIMS)

is a K-8 Magnet school serving close to 630 students from more than a dozen Connecticut school districts. ACES Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School is dedicated to providing all students with a safe and nurturing environment that immerses each student in the arts, grounds them in restorative behaviors and engages their minds to ensure academic and personal success. Wintergreen's rigorous curriculum is designed and implemented to prepare students to leave our school with the inspiration to create, collaborate, communicate, and discover their passion through innovation and the arts.



Whitney North



Village School

ACES Special Education Schools

ACES Center for Autism Spectrum & Developmental Disorders (CASDD)

is an educational and clinical program serving students ages 11 – 21 with autism spectrum and developmental disorders. CASDD uses the Science-based Approaches to Independence and Life Skills (SAILS) program. Developed at ACES, the SAILS program is based in the science of applied behavior analysis. Staff facilitate student independence through the instruction of academic, community, executive, social, communication, and life skills.

ACES at Mead Elementary School (AMES)

In 2018, Ansonia Public Schools partnered with Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) to establish an exciting new program at Mead Elementary School, to focus on specific student needs including the areas of academic, behavioral, and therapeutic interventions. AMES offers a strong focus on academics with a full range of art, physical education and other activities with Mead School students. AMES is open to all Ansonia and surrounding area students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade.

ACES at Ansonia Middle School (AAMS)

In 2021, Ansonia Public Schools continued its partnership with Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) to establish an extension program at Ansonia Middle School. The continuation of services with a looping model, allows for our Mead Elementary School program students to continue to receive services and support in grades six through eight. The middle school extension continues to support specific student needs in the areas of academic, behavioral, and therapeutic interventions while supporting the transition to the secondary education setting. AAMS is open to all Ansonia and surrounding area students in middle school.

ACES Mill Academy

is a public learning environment that provides high-quality educational programming to students in grades 6 through 8. We serve a diverse population of students suffering from trauma and the effects of various mental health illness. Our program focuses on using therapeutic and restorative behavioral practices to support the mental health development of our students. Recognizing the wide range of students’ needs, Mill Academy offers differentiated instruction in small classroom settings designed to advance students academically. Our learning environment’s design is to provide additional support in and outside of the classroom, maintain low student to teacher ratios, and provide safe spaces for student learning, exploration and growth.

ACES Mill Elementary School

is an innovative program that serves students in Kindergarten through 5th grade in a safe and supportive learning environment. Mill Elementary School supports the needs of students who suffer from trauma and who have mental health issues that impede their learning ability. Our program is successful in managing and modifying challenging student behaviors by positively reinforcing pro-social behavior, use of restorative practices, and continuous support of student needs. Through collaboration with families and community partners, we are able to provide an educational program that integrates therapeutic and trauma informed practices to successfully promote social emotional development and positive student outcomes.

ACES REGIONS Hartford and Hamden Educational Programs

The ACES REGIONS Hartford and Hamden Educational programs work with our students on increasing their knowledge in core academic areas, along with project-based learning, vocational education, career readiness, life skills, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy and community-based projects. The mission of ACES REGIONS is to provide opportunities for our students to create personalized academic and behavioral goal driven outcomes. Through focused and intentional behavioral skill building, the students will have an increased awareness of triggered reactions, while learning new behavioral responses which will assist the students in becoming productive citizens within their communities. ACES REGIONS collaborates with Connecticut Court Support Service Division, Yale Clinical Services, and Community Partners in Action to support adjudicated youth ages 14-18 from all areas of Connecticut.

ACES Whitney Academy

serves a diverse student population between the ages of 14 - 21. The educational program provides all of the necessary supports to enhance students' abilities to develop in the areas of academics, vocation/employment, life skills, communication and social skills. The transitional component for students 18 - 21 years of age supports students in developing self-advocacy skills as well as work and life skills that will assist students in their ability to be successful, independent working adults.

ACES Whitney High School North

provides a positive, therapeutic, individualized and multifaceted program for high school students with significant behavioral, mental health and learning issues. Students participate in a full academic and vocational program that includes a motivational, behavioral management system. Instructional methods include frequent assessment of student progress and the expanded opportunity for students to receive remediation. In addition to academics and behavioral support, Whitney High School North features a Literature to Life program, trips to Washington, D.C., Boston and New York, as well as the opportunity to take courses at Gateway Community College.

ACES Village School

provides special education instruction to students from all over the state of Connecticut. It consists of three units: Integrated Pre-School Program, Early Intensive Behavior Intervention (EIBI), and Village programs. The Integrated Preschool provides opportunities for integration with typical peers for students ages 3-5 years old. Students who attend Village School all have significant cognitive delays in addition to their identified disability. ACES Village School provides extensive, comprehensive, and collaborative services to children ages 3-14 with a wide range of abilities and complex needs. Related services include speech, physical and occupational therapies, social services, behavioral services, adaptive physical education, music therapy, and nursing services.

ACES Services

ACES International facilitates comprehensive opportunities for teaching and experiential learning, real-world experiences, and collaborative service projects. This is accomplished through partnerships, online learning, research, creative activities, and community engagement. In the 2020-2021 academic year, ACES experienced significant growth in its development with connectivity and collaboration with Korea, Japan, Brazil, Argentina, and New Zealand. Its Asia Operations Office in Beijing marks a new milestone for bringing ACES and its expertise to new countries. ACES has now expanded its global engagement and professional network to higher education institutions and school districts around the world, resulting in greater connectivity for Connecticut stakeholders prioritizing campus internationalization and intercultural exchange. In partnership with the Helen Doron Education Group, ACES International will implement the national flagship school for the first-ever early childhood Language Learning Center in Connecticut.

Behavior Services and Autism Programs (BSAP) provides direct and support services for schools, organizations, and families in south-central Connecticut. The services involve behavioral assessment, support plan management and implementation, intensive instructional programming, and staff training/development. Behavior Analysts, ABA Trainers, and Behavior Technicians join with other team members within schools at ACES and beyond to provide effective educational solutions and opportunities. Additionally, ACES BSAP provides regional professional development opportunities.

ACES is pleased to announce the opening of our new Treatment and Learning Center. We are offering a wide range of services to individuals from the greater New Haven area. TLC will be staffed full-time with a team of Board Certified Behavior Analysts and Registered Behavior Technicians to offer ABA services to children ages 3 to 14 with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other disabilities. In addition to ABA services, TLC will offer speech and occupational therapy services.

Early Childhood Services (ECS), part of ACES PDSI, offers a wide range of supports for public and community-based early care programs. In partnership with the Office of Early Childhood and the RESC Alliance, ECS supports the CT Accreditation Quality Improvement System (AQIS), a state resource system providing leadership and support for early childhood programs to achieve and maintain program accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). NAEYC study groups and overview sessions are held regularly, as well as professional learning on the CT ELDS, CT DOTS, and the Pyramid Model. ECS provides early care programs with customized professional learning and coaching on a variety of topics including curriculum development, social/emotional development, implementing and planning with the CT ELDS and CT DOTS, and content specific support for young learners (language/literacy, science, math, etc.).

Network Services delivers cost effective solutions to meet the technology needs of school districts throughout the ACES region. Deliverable services include: end-users' computing, hardware purchasing and support, network health, preventative measures, disaster recovery, virtual environments, and cyber security.

Educational Technology specializes in the K-12 education sector, offering support for current and evolving educational technology initiatives. Deliverable services include: strategic digital learning plans, data services, data integration, software application support (e.g., PowerSchool, ParentSquare, LearnPlatform), business intelligence dashboards, data privacy best practices, project management, ADA compliance, service desk management, and regional technology council networking opportunities.

Extension Therapy Services provides contractual occupational therapy and physical therapy to member school districts, local private schools and agencies. Services are provided as a related service when deemed necessary for a special education student to participate in his and/or her educational curriculum and also to provide, as requested by the school district or school, support to the general education curriculum. In 2020-2021, ACES Extension Therapy Services provided services to 1510 students, 115 schools and 14 districts/agencies.

Facilities and Construction Services continues to support our programs and maintain ACES facilities. Over the last year, we have continued to respond to daily work orders, perform required summer maintenance and repairs. We installed a new boiler at SAILS and repaired numerous parking lots. As the pandemic continues into this year, we are still managing the purchasing and distributing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for students and staff.

- This year, Facilities relocated the following programs in an effort to support ACES goals and needs:
- Relocated our ACES TEMS School (155,000 sq. ft.) in Meriden to our newly acquired facility, ACES at Chase in Waterbury.
- Relocated Mill Academy on Skiff Street in Hamden to Mill Road School in North Haven.
- Renovated the West Building, one of our existing buildings located on Skiff Street, into the ACES TLC Behavior Services clinic.
- Moved Behavior Services staff from PCY to the TLC clinic.
- Renovated space and opened a new Health Stat clinic in our old East school building located at 261 Skiff Street in Hamden.
- Relocated Pupil Services and PDSI staff within SDA.
- Moved West Haven Collaborative to their new location in West Haven.
- Moved Clinton EHS to Snow School in Middletown.
- Relocated the summer school from 88 Bassett to 670 Wintergreen Avenue. And then back to 88 Bassett at the completion of summer school.

For ACES at Chase, Facilities performed inspection and Environmental studies. Before the start of school, we bid, mobilized and abated friable asbestos material in the Main Building. We interviewed and hired maintenance and custodian staff, established accounts with new vendors and suppliers and set up utilities and support services.

Our Facilities Rentals are picking up throughout our locations. We prepared new rental agreement templates for use at ACES at Chase. We are pursuing new rental clients and organizations for not only Chase but also for our other locations.

In addition, Facilities is working on the final design documents for the renovation of 88 Bassett Road. At the end of June, we submitted a State Grant Application for the renovation of 88 Bassett and for the purchase of Chase to the DAS.

Health Insurance Collaborative is a coalition for health insurance among ACES member districts and communities. The combined buying power of ACES towns, school boards and non-profit agencies helps to provide high-quality health insurance at competitive rates. Insurance Collaborative participants include the Town of North Haven, the North Haven Board of Education, the Ansonia Board of Education, the East Haven Board of Education, and the Ellington Board of Education.

Professional Development and School Improvement (PDSI) is the professional learning division of ACES. PDSI is a driven team of individuals that designs customized and cost-effective solutions to support the professional learning needs of ACES schools and programs, and ACES region districts. They offer their expertise in a variety of specialties including: coaching, curriculum development, instructional strategies, teacher leadership, educator evaluation, technology integration, data analysis, assessment, facilitation of district planning processes, and more. These professional learning opportunities are available to administrators, coaches, teachers, and a multitude of other PreK-12 staff. The PDSI team offers unique and targeted services and learning designs that support educators in a myriad of content areas for learners of all ages and abilities. In addition to providing coaching, consultation, and technical assistance, PDSI facilitates regional education programs, and two Alternate Route to Certification (ARC) programs, the Alternate Route to Certification for Library Media Specialists (ARCLMS) and Alternate Route to Certification for Teachers of English Learners (ARCTEL).

Regional Special Education Transportation (RSET) provides cost-saving, safe, quality transportation for special education students traveling to non-ACES placement sites. The ACES RSET initiative was launched in September 2018. In 2020-2021, ACES RSET worked with 12 districts and transported 207 students.

ACES Security and Emergency Preparedness operates under three major areas of service: Student, Staff and Visitor Safety, Emergency Preparedness and Planning, and Staff training. Security staff work directly with the schools, programs, and services of ACES on safety procedures. With the installation of a new surveillance platform throughout the organization, ACES is connected effectively to streamline monitoring and share resources with response agencies in the event of an emergency. The specialization in school security is operation critical to support the stakeholders of ACES. In the 2020-2021 year, the new ACES-A.L.I.C.E. partnership brought attention to safety and security training as a regional New England provider for educators and first responders. The training initiative has continued, expanding its participation to prioritize ACES staff and local community officials. In its role as a service provider, ACES Security is assisting ACES partner school districts with planning and prevention, communications, command structures, and assessment.

Translation Services provides interpreters and written translations in a wide variety of languages.

Transportation Services provides specialized door to door transportation for students and adults to and from ACES schools and work programs as a contractual service to ACES districts and state agencies. Our vast variety of vehicles serve the special needs of each individual student and consumer to ensure safe and efficient transportation at all levels.

In 2020-2021 Aces Transportation transported 1,164 students and consumers. Our fleet consists of 168 vehicles including the newest addition of a 71 passenger Blue Bird Electric Bus. This newly acquired electric bus will deliver numerous benefits to our students and communities that we serve, but most importantly reduce environmental and health threats posed by diesel buses.



First fully-sized, fully electric school bus in Connecticut.

ACES Regional Educational Programming

ACES Early Head Start and Head Start is a federally funded community based program recruiting and serving families with children birth to five years including expectant families in Middlesex County. The program prioritizes categorical and income eligible families and is designed to promote school readiness.

ACES Adult Career & Community Empowerment Support Services (ACCESS) provides hope, purpose and structure to adults with developmental, intellectual and physical disabilities aged 22 – 70+. In Fiscal Year 2021, ACES ACCESS provided enrichment and employment opportunities to 142 adults in group and individuals settings. ACES ACCESS employment programs offer a skilled workforce of adults with varying abilities. All of the ACCESS individuals are supported by professional job coaches who ensure the highest quality of work.

ACCESS individuals possess a wide array of skill sets, including food prep and delivery, laundry services, scanning and basic office tasks. Current employers include Allnex, The Strong Kitchen, Die-Cut Paper Products, National Paper, and Fascia's Chocolates. Additionally, ACCESS runs four businesses: United Lawn Care, United Cleaning, Designs by ACCESS, and ACES Shines mobile shoeshine. ACES ACCESS Day Program provides a wide variety of enrichment initiatives, including volunteer opportunities, a recycling program, visual arts, gardening, community-based experiences and physical activities.

ACES Open Choice program started in 1998. It provides options for families to choose available openings in urban (New Haven) and suburban schools in the ACES region. In 2020-2021, 385 students, 51 schools and 12 school districts participated in ACES Open Choice Program.

ACES Magnet School Parent Choice is coordinated by ACES for districts in the ACES region. Families in any non-partner school district can apply to a lottery for open seats in ACES WIMS or TEMS. Families provide student transportation, with a travel subsidy provided by ACES.

ACES West Haven Collaborative is an in-district collaborative program at West Haven High School which provides educational services to twenty students identified with intellectual and other disabilities. This multifaceted educational program provides students with the necessary supports in order to develop and enhance their academic, vocational, life and social skills and abilities.

ACES Central Administration

ACES Central Administration is dedicated to providing the sound technology, administration, fiscal and related services necessary to carry out ACES mission and goals. Central Administration oversees the smooth and efficient operation of our agency.

Executive Director serves as the Chief Executive Officer of ACES, as a regional service agency and as the superintendent of ACES schools.

Deputy Executive Director for Services oversees ACES market service divisions including Behavior Services, Autism Programs, Extension Therapy Services, Health Insurance Collaborative, International, Education Technology, Network Services, Professional Development and School Improvement, Security, Translation, Transportation. Additionally, this division oversees the agency's budgeting process, data management, nutrition services, grants management, program development and Choice programs.

Assistant Executive Director for Schools and Curriculum oversees the development and operation of ACES six specialized schools, seven collaborative programs, three themed magnet schools, and the ACES Early Head Start and Head Start programs. Additionally, this office oversees the development and delivery of curriculum, instruction, and assessment for the ACES schools.

Human Resources manages recruitment and hiring, benefits administration, labor relations, adherence to bargaining contracts and policy, fingerprinting services and minority teacher recruiting for ACES school districts. The department also works to orient staff to the agency and is involved in creating professional growth opportunities for all employees.

Center of Strategic Innovation develops new lines of revenue to respond to the needs of its own schools and programs and those of its member districts, secures resources to pilot, expands and sustains quality educational programs.

The Outreach & ACCESS platform In 2019, ACES established the Outreach & ACCESS platform to support ACES work in the community and secure employment and community sites for ACES ACCESS' individuals and ACES students. The Outreach and ACCESS platform coordinates the ACES Business Advisory Council (BAC), a business and community partnership with ACES staff. ACES BAC's aims to connect ACES students and clients with employment opportunities, address employment trends and engage the larger community to fulfill ACES vision to create a socially just world one life at a time. During Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the Outreach & ACCESS platform ran food and clothing drives that yielded over 1,700 food items and 4,000 clothing items for those in need.

Marketing Services defines and manages the ACES brand and voice, and promotes the agency's mission and services by increasing ACES's visibility across the region and internationally. The Marketing Department produces all internal and external publications, supports agency campaigns and initiatives, and communicates with stakeholders in regards to all brand management and promotional efforts. Additionally, the department manages advertising, collateral, crisis communication, events management, marketing merchandise, search engine optimization, social media content, weather notifications, and website maintenance.

American Relief Plan ESSER The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Act (ESSER) and the American Rescue Plan Act have provided vital funds for ACES schools and programs as we address the challenges of COVID-19. These funds have been utilized to address our COVID-19 mitigation strategies, enhance our instructional and social emotional learning practices, procure new teaching tools to support students, and build our staff capacity as we emerge from the pandemic.

Educational Technology specializes in the K-12 education sector, offering support for current and evolving educational technology initiatives. Deliverable services include: strategic digital learning plans, data services, data integration, software application support (e.g., PowerSchool, ParentSquare, LearnPlatform), business intelligence dashboards, data privacy best practices, project management, ADA compliance, service desk management, and regional technology council networking opportunities.

Network Services meets the technology needs of ACES. Deliverable services include: end-users' computing, hardware purchasing and support, network health, preventative measures, disaster recovery, virtual environments, and cyber security.

Facilities and Construction Services maintains the safety and security of ACES buildings and creates state-of-the-art learning facilities.

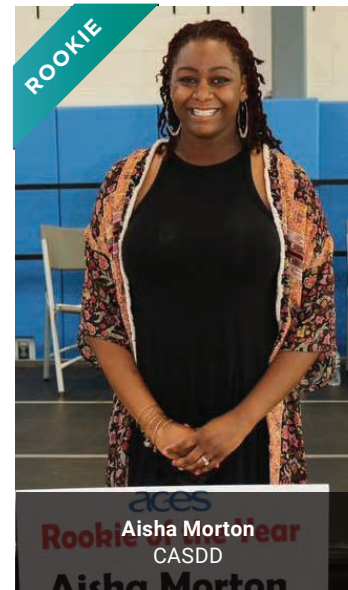
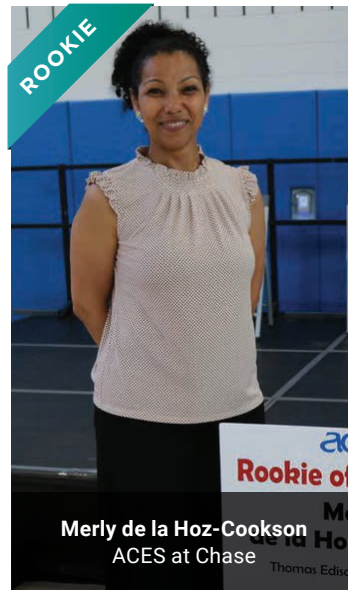
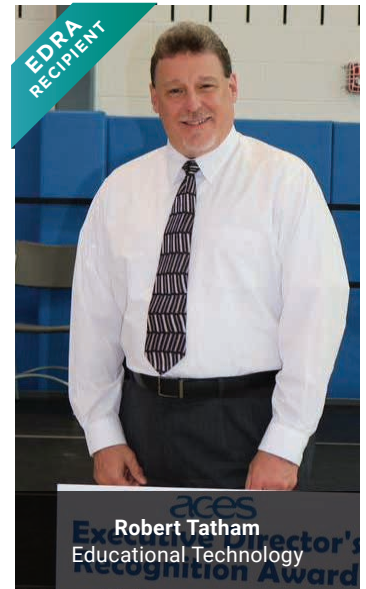
Fiscal Services manages all functions of Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Payroll, Budgeting, and Auditing.

Pupil Personnel and Related Services provide ACES internal schools with specialized services such as social work, developmental guidance, psychology services, speech, physical and occupational therapies, nursing and psychiatric counseling services. In collaboration with the CSDE and SERC, and as part of a RESC Alliance initiative, ACES Pupil Personnel Services responds to identified trends in special education to provide resources, design and implement initiatives and determine effectiveness.

Assistive Technology Services provides contractual assessments and consultative services to member school districts, local private schools, and agencies. Services are provided through a collaborative process offering consultation to students, consultation to staff, and assessments related to assistive technology needs in the following areas: Educational Access, Physical Access, or Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Devices. The ACES Assistive Technology Services Department consists of multiple highly-trained assistive technology (AT) professionals with backgrounds in Speech Language Pathology, Special Education, and Occupational Therapy. In 2020-2021 Assistive Technology provided services to 281 students in 20 districts.

Director of Talent Development supports all ACES employees to grow their knowledge and practice in order to enhance and transform the lives of students and clients. Agency-wide activities include recruiting and retaining staff, supervision and evaluation systems, knowledge management, identifying career paths, and state certification support. The Director of Talent Development partners with ACES schools and units to provide specific professional learning to support goals and identified needs.

ACES 2020–2021 Executive Director Recognition Award Recipients



The Connecticut RESC Alliance

ACES is one of six regional educational service centers (RESCs) in Connecticut. All RESCs support Connecticut school districts' instructional and operational components. The RESC Alliance works collaboratively to develop and deliver high-quality, cost-effective educational resources, programs and services to the state's public schools. For additional information on the RESC Alliance, go to www.rescalliance.org.

RESC Alliance Virtual Learning Institute: Reframing Education in the Digital Age - July 2020

During the week of July 13, 2020, the RESC Alliance Virtual Learning Institute hosted 60+ professional learning sessions over 5 days, providing educators with the opportunity to exchange innovative ideas and explore solutions to help Connecticut students, families, and educators navigate learning in our new era. The institute offered highly engaging and collaborative learning sessions facilitated by esteemed and accomplished educators from across the state. Each day of the institute was framed by one of four themes:

1. Reframing Education in the Digital Age
2. Addressing the Social-Emotional Learning Imperative
3. Engaging Students in Blended and Virtual Experiences (2 days)
4. Committing to Continuous Professional Learning

AQIS

In partnership with the Office of Early Childhood and the RESC Alliance, ACES PDSI and ECS support the CT Accreditation Quality Improvement System (AQIS), a state resource system providing leadership and support for early childhood programs to achieve and maintain program accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). NAEYC study groups and overview sessions are held regularly, as well as professional learning on the CT ELDS, CT DOTS, CT CKC Framework, and the Pyramid Model.

GEER

As part of the Governor's Education Emergency Relief (GEER) Fund, the RESC Alliance partnered with the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC) for the purpose of ensuring continuing educational opportunities for students of all ages affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. In a project that involved ACES PDSI, ACES Network Services, and ACES Transportation, iPads, Chromebooks, and mobile hot spots were distributed to families enrolled in early care and education programs or home visiting programs to provide greater access to remote learning activities. In addition, ACES PDSI provided technical assistance and professional learning supports to families and providers.

Pathways to Success for English Learners is a series of professional learning opportunities funded through Title III statewide activities funds, coordinated by ACES, and facilitated by the RESC Alliance. This series is focused on enhancing academic outcomes for English learners (ELs) by increasing the capacity of school and district professionals to effectively meet the needs of ELs through research-based and effective practices and strategies and adherence to federal and state policies. More than 500 educators have participated in asynchronous professional learning modules hosted by ACES on the Canvas learning management system.

Recruitment Aimed at Diversifying the Educator Workforce:

As part of a statewide RESC partnership, ACES awarded grants to 4 school districts in the ACES region.

These grant-funded projects aimed at creating pathways to teaching, teacher recruitment, and retention of diverse educators. In addition, the ACES PDSI and Human Resources departments collaborated with staff from all 6 RESCs to facilitate a regional virtual networking series to develop a plan for improving the recruitment and retention of racially, ethnically, and linguistically diverse educators, gain insight into some of the issues educators of color face and learn effective responses, and establish a membership within a cohort of educators of color to enhance professional skills and expand a professional system of support.



2020-2021 SERVICE RECIPIENT CHART

	Ansonia	Bethany	Branford	Cheshire	Derby	East Haven	Hamden	Meriden	Middletown	Milford	Naugatuck	New Haven	North Branford	North Haven	Orange	Oxford	Seymour	Wallingford	Waterbury	West Haven	Wolcott	Woodbridge	Reg Dist #5	Reg Dist #13	Reg Dist #16	ACES Programs	Other
SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOLS																											
AAMS	x	x			x															x							2
AMES	x	x			x															x							2
CASDD	x				x	x	x		x			x				x		x									11
Mill Academy	x					x	x	x		x		x	x	x			x	x	x	x							2
Mill Elementary	x		x		x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x			x	x	x	x					x		5
Village School	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						13
Whitney Academy	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x				17
Whitney North	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x				x		24
MAGNET SCHOOLS																											
ECA	x		x	x		x	x	x		x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	12
ACES at Chase	x						x	x	x		x							x	x		x			x	x		6
WIMS	x				x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x				x	x	x							4
SERVICES																											
ACCESS			x			x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x			x		x			x				2
Behavior Services			x			x	x				x	x	x	x				x		x		x				x	4
Communications Services				x																			x				0
Early Headstart									x																		7
Extension Therapy	x	x	x		x	x		x			x	x			x		x			x			x			x	4
Health Insurance	x													x													1
In-District Collaboratives	x											x								x							0
International	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	63
Magnet School Parent Choice			x		x	x	x	x			x			x				x	x	x							6
Minority Teacher Recruitment							x	x	x		x	x		x					x	x		x					0
Open Choice	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x				5
PDSI/Early Childhood Services	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	111
Pupil Related Services	x		x		x		x	x	x	x		x						x	x	x							9
Assistive Technology	x	x	x		x	x	x				x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	4
Regional Special Ed Transportation	x		x	x	x	x	x					x	x	x			x			x						x	0
Security																											0
Education Technology	x					x			x			x				x		x	x					x		x	
Transportation	x		x	x	x	x	x		x			x	x	x	x			x		x					x	x	1
Translation																								x			1
Network Services	x						x	x				x							x	x	x	x					

Major Interagency Relationships & Sources of Funding

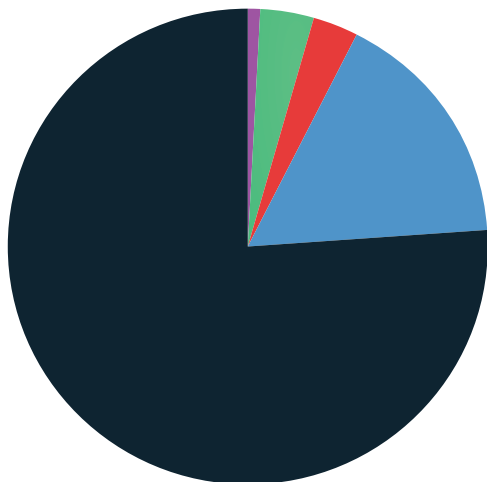
ACES maintains strong relationships with the school districts that created and govern the organization. This connection with member districts, plus other local funds, accounts for 76.59% of ACES financial support. Programs ranging from education for students with cognitive, emotional, and physical challenges to professional services including occupational and physical therapy and behavior services are financially supported by member districts through tuition and fees for services.

The second major source of support is the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE). ACES receives grants and contracts primarily for state initiatives, such as the magnet school initiative, the Open Choice program, professional development activities, school construction, and school readiness programs. These programs have an impact on both school districts and local communities. This support accounts for 16.08% of ACES income.

The third major ACES interagency relationship involves the Connecticut Department of Developmental Services (DDS). ACES principal involvement with this agency is through programs for disabled adults. This funding represents 3.09% of ACES budget. The fourth major source of support for ACES programs is federal funding through grants for educational programming. This source accounts for 3.58% of the total budget.

The final category of major revenue is from private sources in the form of grants from charitable foundations and other special contracts. These grants and “other” contracts represent approximately 0.66% of the ACES annual budget.

ACES is a member of the Connecticut Alliance of Regional Educational Service Centers and works closely with the other RESC’s on collaborative projects.



ACES Funding Sources

■	Local Education Agencies	\$73,974,580		76.59%
■	State Department of Education Grants	\$15,537,467		16.08%
■	CT Department of Developmental Services	\$2,983,255		3.09%
■	Federal Education Grants	\$3,462,124		3.58%
■	Foundations/Private Donations/Other	\$638,895		0.66%
TOTAL:		\$96,596,321		

PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION		SOURCE	BUDGET	EXPENSE
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS				
SPECIAL EDUCATION				
1001	Whitney High School East & West	L	\$9,596,221	\$9,643,989
1003	Mill Academy	L	4,519,264	4,676,893
1004	Village School	L	7,291,335	7,123,077
1005	Village EIBI	L	5,012,000	4,793,368
1007	SAILS - Intensive	L	5,873,025	5,280,335
1011	Whitney High School North	L	5,999,057	5,709,435
1013	West Haven High Program	L	734,924	637,915
1017	Mill Road Elementary	L	5,300,247	5,088,448
1018	Regional Special Education Transportation	L	3,336,588	2,360,581
1019	ACES Mead Elementary	L	608,048	766,242
1040	Transportation	L	3,604,776	2,942,581
1060	Summer School	L	2,400,000	2,069,584
			\$54,275,485	\$51,092,447
MAGNET SCHOOLS				
1203	Educational Center for the Arts	S,L,O	3,545,185	3,250,191
1205	Wintergreen Magnet School (WIMS)	S,L	7,340,356	7,571,750
1210	Thomas Edison Middle School	S,L	10,561,249	10,305,325
2238-20	Title I Improving Programs 6/21	F	204,858	207,156
2238-21	Title I Improving Programs 6/22	F	405,649	379,094
2239-20	Title II A Teachers 6/21	F	30,802	30,802
2239-21	Title II A Teachers 6/22	F	76,419	68,013
2405	Magnet Transportation	L,S	1,047,753	1,078,882
2638	Title IV - Student Support & Enrichment	F	27,943	27,943
			\$23,240,214	\$22,919,155
REGULAR EDUCATION				
1204	NH Cooperative High School	L	375,038	377,152
1206	NH Betsy Ross Arts Magnet School	L	477,995	389,251
1209	New Haven (NH) ASPIRE	L	1,479,075	950,196
1218	Urban Youth	L	1,179,750	990,266
1219	New Haven Magnet Schools	L	936	936
1221	REGIONS (Hartford)	L	653,852	546,666
1223	REGIONS (Hamden)	L	652,462	309,493
1227	New Haven FY19 to FY20 Carryover	L	70,122	70,122
2616	Perkins Grant - West Haven	F	131,047	89,972
			\$5,020,277	\$3,724,055
INTERDISTRICT PROGRAMS				
1671	Personalized Learning	L	14,638	17,967
			\$14,638	\$17,967
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS			\$82,550,614	\$77,753,625
PUPIL PERSONNEL & SUPPORT SERVICES				
1101	Pupil Services	L	\$789,738	\$650,834
1102	Extension Therapy Services	L	4,274,482	3,668,233
1103	Behavioral Services	L	3,363,228	2,921,838
1105	Assistive Technology	L	469,713	304,898
1107	Translation	L	7,000	14,913
TOTAL PUPIL PERSONNEL & SUPPORT SERVICES			\$8,904,161	\$7,560,716
EARLY CHILDHOOD/EARLY HEAD START				
2810	Early Head Start 1/21-12/21	F	\$488,666	\$402,138
2812	Early Head Start 1/20-12/20	F	641,660	558,730
2817	Head Start	F	887,816	722,883
TOTAL EARLY CHILDHOOD/EARLY HEAD START			\$2,018,142	\$1,683,750

PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	SOURCE	BUDGET	EXPENSE
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS			
1602 Professional Dev/School Improvement	S, L, O	\$2,223,525	\$2,039,079
1604 Conference Management	L	83,000	51,598
1617 ACES International	O	430,257	473,625
2650 Bilingual	S	10,501	6,057
2649 Title III A English Acq. 6/22	F	56,769	47,267
2651 Title III A English Acq. 6/21	F	11,515	11,515
2662 ARCTELL/Statewide ELL	S	185,000	925
TOTAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS		\$3,000,567	\$2,630,066
RESC ENTITLEMENTS			
2401 Administering Open Choice	S	\$ 175,214	\$175,214
2404 Choice Transportation	S	3,758,200	2,865,207
TOTAL RESC ENTITLEMENTS		\$3,933,414	\$3,040,420
CAREER SERVICES			
1504 ACCESS - Supported Employment	S, O	2,485,565	2,979,525
1550 Vocational Support Services	L, O	95,000	3,730
1613 Student Careers	L	308,982	10,304
2110 Workforce Alliance - DCF	S	3,300	2,680
2105 Workforce Alliance - Summer	S	17,500	14,893
TOTAL CAREER SERVICES		\$2,910,347	\$3,011,133
CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS			
2112 CRF	F	\$563,209	\$563,209
2114 ESSER I	F	330,797	330,797
2115 ESSER II	F	1,466,606	22,605
TOTAL CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS		\$2,360,612	\$916,611
GRAND TOTAL 2020-2021		\$105,677,857	\$96,596,321

Budgets Included in Above:

Central Office (1370,1401-1410, 1415)	\$9,785,772
Building Operations (1301-1321, 1350,1360)	\$7,070,076
Magnet School Operating Grants	\$11,472,735
Misc. Grants (Funding not guaranteed on an annual basis)	\$2,418,786

Legend of Funding Sources: L: Local F: Federal S: State O: Other

PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	SOURCE	BUDGET	
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS			
SPECIAL EDUCATION			
1001	Whitney Academy	L	\$9,596,221
1003	Mill Academy	L	4,519,264
1004	Village School	L	7,291,335
1005	Village EIBI	L	5,012,000
1007	SAILS - Intensive	L	5,873,025
1011	Whitney High School North	L	5,999,057
1013	West Haven High Program	L	734,924
1017	Mill Elementary	L	5,300,247
1019	Mead Elementary School	L	608,048
1018	Regional Special Education Transportation	L	3,336,588
1040	Transportation	L	3,604,776
1060	Summer School	L	2,400,000
			\$54,275,485
MAGNET SCHOOLS			
1203	Educational Center for the Arts	S,L	\$3,545,185
1210	Thomas Edison Middle School	S,L	10,561,249
2238-20	Title I Improving Programs 6/21	F	204,858
2238-21	Title I Improving Programs 6/22	F	405,649 *
2639-20	Title II A Teachers 6/21	F	30,802 *
2239-21	Title II A Teachers 6/22	F	76,419
2405	Magnet Transportation	L,S	1,047,753
2601	Title IV Student Support Services 6/21	F	27,943
1205	Wintergreen Magnet School	S,L	7,340,356
			\$23,240,214
REGULAR EDUCATION			
1209	New Haven ASPIRE	L	\$1,479,075
1227	New Haven FY19 to FY20 Carryover	L	70,122
1219	New Haven Magnet Schools	L	936 *
1206	NH Betsy Ross Arts Magnet School	L	477,995 *
1223	Regions Hamden	L	652,462
1221	Regions Hartford	L	653,852
1204	NH Cooperative High School	L	375,038 *
1218	Urban Youth	L	1,179,750
2616	Perkins Grant - West Haven	F	131,047
			\$5,020,277
INTERDISTRICT PROGRAMS			
1671	Personalized Learning	L	\$14,638 *
			\$14,638
TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS			\$82,550,614
PUPIL PERSONNEL & SUPPORT SERVICES			
1105	Assistive Technology	L	\$469,713
1103	Behavioral Services	L	3,363,228
1102	Extension Therapy Services	L	4,274,482
1101	Pupil Services	L	789,738
1107	Translation Services	L	7,000
TOTAL PUPIL PERSONNEL & SUPPORT SERVICES			\$8,904,161

PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	SOURCE	BUDGET
EARLY CHILDHOOD/EARLY HEAD START		
2810 Early Head Start 1/21-12/21	F	\$488,666 *
2812 Early Head Start 1/20-12/20	F	641,660 *
2817 Head Start	F	887,816
TOTAL EARLY CHILDHOOD/EARLY HEAD START		\$2,018,142
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS		
1617 ACES International	O	430,257
1604 Conference Management	S, L, O	83,000
1602 PDSI Conference Services	S, L, O	2,223,525
2650 Bilingual	S	10,501
2649 Title III A English Acq. 6/22	F	56,769 *
2651 Title III A English Acq. 6/21	F	11,515 *
2662 ARCTELL - STATEWIDE ELL	L	185,000 *
TOTAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS		\$3,000,567
RESC ENTITLEMENTS		
2401 Administering Open Choice	S	\$175,214 *
2404 Choice Transportation	S	3,758,200 *
TOTAL RESC ENTITLEMENT		\$3,933,414
CAREER SERVICES		
1504 ACCESS - Supported Employment	S, O	\$2,485,565
1550 Vocational Support Services	L, O	95,000
1613 Student Career Services	L	308,982
2110 Workforce Alliance - DCF	S	3,300
2105 Workforce Alliance - Summer	S	17,500
TOTAL CAREER SERVICES		\$2,910,347
CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS		
2112 CRF	F	\$563,209
2114 ESSER I	F	330,797
2115 ESSER II	F	1,466,606
TOTAL CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS		\$2,360,612

GRAND TOTAL 2020-2021 BUDGETS: \$105,677,857

Budgets Included in Above:

Central Office (1370,1401-1416)	\$8,658,803
Building Operations (1301-1320, 3100)	\$8,335,839
Magnet School Operating Grants	\$11,472,735 *
Misc. Grants (Funding not guaranteed on an annual basis)	\$2,418,786 *

* Estimated Budgets

Legend of Funding Sources: L: Local F: Federal S: State O: Other

GOVERNING BOARD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

SERVICES PLATFORM

Deputy Executive Director

Behavior Services

Center for Strategic Innovation

CHOICE

Data Management

Education Foundation

Education Technology and Technology Services

Extension Therapy Services

Food Services

Grants Management

International Services

Marketing Services

Professional Development Services

Regional Special Education Transportation

Security Services

Translation Services

Transportation Services

SCHOOLS PLATFORM

Assistant Executive Director Schools

ACES at Chase

ACES at Mead School and
ACES at Ansonia Middle School

Center for Autism Spectrum
& Developmental Disorders

Early Head Start and Head Start Services

Educational Center for the Arts

Mill Academy

Mill Elementary

Pupil Personnel Services

REGIONS

Whitney Academy/CREATE

Whitney North

Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School

Village/EIBI



Central Administration

Peter C. Young
Administration Building
 350 State Street
 North Haven, CT 06473
 (203) 498-6800
 Directions: (203) 498-6885

Executive Director
 Thomas M. Danehy, Ed.D.
 (203) 498-6817

Deputy Executive Director
 Timothy Howes
 (203) 498-6838

**Assistant Executive Director,
 Schools & Curriculum**
 William Rice
 (203) 498-6868

Director, Human Resources
 Steven Cook
 (203) 498-6823

Director of Fiscal Services
 Olga Simoes
 (203) 498-6812

Director, Equity and Inclusion
 Kevin Walton
 (203) 498-6837

Director, Talent Management
 William Grimm
 (203) 498-6800

Schools

ACES at Ansonia Middle School
 115 Howard Ave
 Ansonia, CT 06401
 Heather Gish, Principal
 (203) 736-5070

**ACES Center for Autism Spectrum and
 Developmental Disorders**
 26 Old Post Road
 Northford, CT 06472
 Leslie Peters, Principal
 (203) 484-9501

ACES Educational Center for the Arts
 55 Audubon Street
 New Haven, CT 06510
 Leslie Abbatiello, Principal
 (203) 777-5451

ACES at Mead Elementary School
 75 Ford Street
 Ansonia, CT 06401
 Heather Gish, Principal
 (203) 736-5090 ext 4229

ACES Mill Elementary School
 295 Mill Road
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Cynthia Ratchelous, Principal
 Olafemi Hunter, Assistant Principal
 (203) 234-0303

ACES Mill Academy
 295 Mill Road
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Kerri Gilmore, Principal
 Olafemi Hunter, Assistant Principal
 (203) 281-6949

ACES REGIONS
 995 Sherman Avenue
 Hamden, CT 06514
 123 Washington Street
 Hartford, CT 06514
 Lisa Simone, Principal
 (203) 507-5545

ACES at Chase
 565 Chase Parkway
 Waterbury, CT 06708
 Karen Habegger, Principal
 Megan Conatser, Assistant Principal
 Vicki Rose, Assistant Principal
 (203) 639-8403

ACES Village School
 31 Temple Street
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Virginia Tagliatela, Principal
 Jennifer Santarcangelo, Assistant Principal
 (203) 234-7611

ACES Whitney Academy
 130-A Leeder Hill Drive
 Hamden, CT 06517
 John Tarka, Principal
 Patricia Hart, Assistant Principal
 Juliellen Rodriguez, Assistant Principal
 (203) 281-3577

ACES Whitney High School North
 130-B Leeder Hill Drive
 Hamden, CT 06517
 Bryan Markewicz, Principal
 Kristin Harvey, Assistant Principal
 (203) 407-4500

ACES Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School
 88 Bassett Road
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Todd Solli, Principal
 (203) 281-9668

Services

ACCESS and Outreach
 205 Skiff Street
 Hamden, CT 06517
 Evelyn Rossetti-Ryan, Ed.D.
 (203) 234-1344

Behavior Services and Autism Programs
 205 Skiff Street
 Hamden, CT 06517
 Carrie Hartman
 (203) 484-6862

Educational Technology
 60 United Drive
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Wanda Wagner, D.M.
 (203) 287-6840

Extension Therapy Services
 205 Skiff Street
 Hamden, CT 06517
 Laura Evangelist
 (203) 407-4470

Facilities & Construction Services
 350 State Street
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Timothy Gunn
 (203) 498-6839

Health Insurance Collaborative
 350 State Street
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Timothy Howes
 (203) 498-6838

**International Programs &
 Security and Emergency Preparedness**
 350 State Street
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Jason Hiruo
 (203) 498-6832

Early Head Start & Head Start Services
 300 Washington Street
 Middletown, CT 06457
 Rebecca Cuevas, LMSW
 (860) 704-0725

Marketing & Communications
 350 State Street
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Elaine Sein
 (203) 498-6816

Network Services
 60 United Drive
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Lon Harrigan
 (203) 287-6850

**Professional Development and School
 Improvement Services / Early Childhood
 Services**
 205 Skiff Street
 Hamden, CT 06517
 Emily Freel
 (203) 407-4408

Pupil Services and Collaborative Programs
 205 Skiff Street
 Hamden, CT 06517
 Eric Protulis
 (203) 498-6849

Regional Special Education Transportation
 350 State Street
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Timothy Howes
 (203) 498-6838

Translation Services
 350 State Street
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Melissa Alers
 (203) 498-6845

Transportation Services
 60 United Drive
 North Haven, CT 06473
 Rosemarie Arma-Nowlin
 (203) 234-2406

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