I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL
Rachel Chaleski, Gladys Cooper, Richard Hawley, Richard Janneli, Patrick Johnston, Frederick Karrat, David Metrena, Kathleen Molinaro, Farley Santos, Amy Spallino

IV. RECOGNITIONS

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
The Board welcomes Public Participation and asks that speakers please limit their comments to 3 minutes. Speakers may offer objective comments of school operations and programs that concern them. The Board will not permit any expression of personal complaints or defamatory comments about Board of Education personnel and students, or against any person connected with the Danbury Public School System.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR
MOTION - that the Board of Education approves the items on the Consent Calendar, Exhibits 18-01 through 18-04, as recommended:

A. MINUTES
   11/21/17 Board Meeting .................................................. 18-01(pg.3)
   12/6/17 Special Board Meeting, Interview Candidates .............. 18-02(pg.7)
   12/6/17 Board Meeting, Annual Meeting ............................... 18-03(pg.9)
   12/13/17 Special Board Meeting ........................................ 18-04(pg.12)

B. DONATION
Accept $1,550 donation from area businesses and persons through AIS parent
go towards the Nature’s Classroom Scholarship Fund. Also an AIS parent
donated $843.84 for the cost of two buses for the trip.

VII. EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE (SPOTLIGHT YOUR SCHOOL)
   AIS Magnet School

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES (once a month – 1st meeting)
   DHS: Monique Delima, Samantha Mortara, Cameron Slingerland, Luana Barcelos
   ACE: Ricky Hernandez and Caitlyn Delaney
IX. PRESENTATION

X. ACTION ITEMS
A. Election of Board of Education Officers
   MOTION: that the Board of Education elect officers, Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary (tabled at the December 13, 2017 Special Board Meeting).

B. Danbury High School Complex Project
   MOTION: that the Board of Education authorizes the Chairperson of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools to approve the final plans, contract specifications, and cost estimate for the Danbury High School Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment and Technology - Phase 6 of the Additions and Alterations with Safety Improvements at the Danbury High School Complex project, and sign the SCG-042 form and submit it to the State of Connecticut for approval.

XI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
A. 2018-2019 School Budget
B. ECS/Priority Update
C. Teacher Focus Group Update
D. Family Resource Center Update
E. Nellie Mae Grant Update

XII. DISCUSSION
Board Committee Lists/PTO Liaison

XIII. INFORMATION

XIV. BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

XV. BOARD REPORTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
   MOTION: that the Board of Education convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations and litigation pertaining to the labor contract between the Danbury Board of Education and CSEA Local 2001 (Paraeducators and Tutors) union and discussion of a personnel matter involving certified staff member William Herzog.

XVII. PUBLIC SESSION

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

FUTURE MEETINGS AND DATES TO REMEMBER:
January 10  Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 pm
January 15  Martin Luther King Day, Schools & Offices Closed
January 16  Professional Development Day, Schools Closed
January 23  One hour early release for students
January 24  Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 pm
February 1   WSMFA lottery begins
February 5   Citywide PTO Meeting, 6:30 pm
February 13  One hour early release for students
February 14  Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 pm
February 19  Presidents' Day, Schools & Offices Closed
February 27  One hour early release for students
February 28  Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 pm
CALL TO ORDER
The Chairperson, Ralph Pietrafesa, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROTC Cadets
The Board, administration and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Danbury High School ROTC Cadets.

ROLL CALL

Present: Eileen Alberts, Gladys Cooper, Michael Ferguson, Patrick Johnston, Frederick Karrat, David Metrena, Kathleen Molinaro, Ralph Pietrafesa and Farley Santos

Absent: Richard Hawley and Richard Jannelli

Also Present: Drs. Glass and Pascarella, Kim Thompson, Kelly Truchsess and Joe Martino

RECOGNITIONS
Update on Morris Street School, National Blue Ribbon Award Ceremony, Washington DC, November 6-7, 2017

Rhoda Guider and Jennifer Strohmeyer thanked administration for providing lunch and breakfast to the staff at Morris Street School. The students each received a cupcake, which they were happy about. Ms. Guider said their days in Washington, DC were amazing. The highlights were hearing a speech by the 2017 National Teacher of the Year, Sydney Chaffee. She spoke about her daily strategies, her relationship with her students and their individual goals. We also visited with Senator Murphy. There were 342 schools involved and everyone was recognized for the work they have done. It was exciting to finally be acknowledged for all the hard work we have done at Morris Street School for a long time. We got our award and we have it here tonight and a flag that we have in our school. Morris Street has been working to close the achievement gap for at least 10 years. The staff has input into the decisions on what is best for the school, students and families. We will continue to challenge our students every day. Hard work and perseverance is what lead us to this success.

Mr. William Santarsiero, Principal of Morris Street School, said he normally would be the person to do the presentation, but Ms. Guider and Ms. Strohmeyer asked if they could give the Board the overview. We work really well together - our staff is bar-none the best in Danbury. Our teachers brought us to this point. I would like to mention that the poverty level and minority is at 90%. We work together with the parents. Mr. Santarsiero thanked the Board for their support. The Board and administration congratulated the staff at Morris Street School.

Board member, Mr. Santos, said he wanted to personally congratulate the school. He mentioned that he had the pleasure of touring Morris Street a month ago. He stated that he visited a couple of different schools. Students at Morris Street love their teachers and principal. The families feel the educators care about the students. I’ve heard from parents and they love the Morris Street.
Mr. Pietrafesa thanked the staff for coming to the meeting and presenting an overview of their trip to Washington, DC for the Blue Ribbon Award for Morris Street School.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

CONSENT CALENDAR

MINUTES
10/25/17 Community Relations Committee Meeting (Revised)
11/8/17 Sites & Facilities Committee Meeting
11/8/17 Board Meeting

MOTION: Kathleen Molinaro moved, seconded by Patrick Johnston, that the Board of Education amend the November 21, 2017 agenda to add consideration of the submission of the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant application to the State Department of Education in the amount of $39,583 to support the Danbury Early College Opportunity Program.

Motion passed at 7:15 pm.

MOTION: Kathleen Molinaro moved, seconded by Gladys Cooper, that the Board of Education approve the submission of the Student Support and Academy Enrichment Grant application to the State Department of Education in the amount of $39,583 to support the Danbury Early College Opportunity Program.

Motion passed at 7:16 pm.

MOTION: Kathleen Molinaro moved, Michael Ferguson seconded, that the Board of Education approves the items on the Consent Calendar, Exhibits 17-131 through 17-133, as recommended

Motion passed at 7:17 pm.

EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE
Josh Richter, a teacher at Pembroke School, told the Board that they service 90 special education students out of 342 students. He stated that the kids are very well rounded and participate in all school activities. Mr. Richter thanked the Board for listening.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES - None

PRESENTATION

Technology Update
Mr. Martino introduced Yevgeny Sklyar, IT Supervisor, to the Board. Mr. Martino then showed a slide presentation, outlining the Danbury Profile, Present State of Technology, Funding Issues and Solutions and Leasing Program next steps. The Danbury Profile statistics are 9,800+ Danbury owned computer devices; 5,900+ Chromebooks; 2,652+ Apple MacOS devices; 1,000 tablets; 207 Windows devices and 80 Windows servers.

On the funding side, Mr. Martino showed a slide that stated Danbury has a Technology Grant Awards: 2013 E-rate Funding Grant Elementary Wireless Network Replacement $213,000; 2014 State of Connecticut Technology Grant $250,000; 2015 State of Connecticut SBAC Testing Grant $234,000; 2016 E-rate Funding Grant $950,000 will replace the majority of our network switching in all building.
Mr. Martino also covered instructional applications; digital curriculum resources, 3D printing, media scope, google goggles, circuit kits leasing vs. purchasing and what the next steps would be.

Some Board members has questions about; donations, one-to-one, digital text books and subscriptions to name a few. Dr. Pascarella said that it is regrettable that we cannot accept all donations due to the fact that our platforms cannot support all types of equipment. Mr. Karrat asked about the one-to-one roll out, where each child has their own computer. Mr. Martino said we are looking at a model next week. Dr. Pascarella said the cost is so high and there are pros and cons on both side of digital text books. Dr. Glass mentioned that the nice thing about digital text books is they are virtual books and all updates are immediate, you don’t have to wait for update for 4-6 years. It is live.

Mr. Johnson asked about the cost. Mr. Martino did say there was is subscription cost since the book publishers don’t give them away – there is a savings, but not a tremendous savings. The question was do we have classes using the digital and how many do we have. Mr. Martino responded primarily the classes at the secondary schools and we have 50% or better. Mr. Pietrafesa thanked Mr. Martino for his in-depth Technology update.

**ACTION ITEMS**

October 2017 Operating Results Analysis (General Fund)

**MOTION:** Kathleen Molinaro moved, seconded by Eileen Alberts that the Board of Education accept the October 2017 Operating Results Analysis (General Fund)

Mr. Martino told the Board that during the month of October 2017, the District expended $9,021,970 resulting in a fiscal year-to-date expenditure value of $27,653,691 which represents 21.56% of the General Fund.

Motion passed at 7:48 pm.

October 2017 Operating Results Analysis (Grants/Projects)

**MOTION:** Kathleen Molinaro moved, seconded by Michael Ferguson that the Board of Education accept the October 2017 Operating Results Analysis (Grant/Projects)

Mr. Martino told the Board that during the month of October 2017, the District expended $1,735,397 resulting in a fiscal year-to-date expenditure value of $4,373,808 which represents 26.4% of the Grants Budget.

Motion passed at 7:49 pm.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Budget Update

Mr. Martino said the holdback of $225,000 will leave us in a real dilemma. I think we should continue to work with teachers. We can’t buy the buses which cost between $60,000-70,000. We will be on a freeze, but will not be making any cuts at this time. We have done a lot of reduction in administration. We are going to have to figure out some next steps. Most of the cuts are ECS. We have to watch what we are doing. Mr. Martino said he is concerned about future cuts.
TEAM State Mandate

District/School Focus Groups
The Superintendent, Dr. Pascarella, said we heard Kevin Haddad speak at the last Board meeting about setting up a focus group to discuss teachers’ stress and their work load. To that end, we sent out a message to principals for feedback. We have not, at this time, received all the responses to our questionnaire.

DISCUSSION

Secondary Modular Classrooms
Dr. Pascarella told the Board that at our Sites and Facilities meeting we have talked about more modular classrooms. Mr. Martino said specifications will be discussed in January; the cost is $750,000. Dr. Pascarella said the City needs to step up and help us out.

INFORMATION

BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT
Mr. Petrafesa reminded the Board that the Annual Meeting, will be held on December 6th at 5:30 pm at the Westside Middle School.

Mr. Petrafesa thanked Drs. Glass and Pascarella, Ms. Thompson, Ms. Truchsess and Mr. Martino for all the help and support that he received in his four years on the Board, especially the last year as Chairperson. He said it was a pleasure to work with a great group of people and they are commended for always putting the kids first. He also thanked Debbie Warner.

BOARD REPORTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS
Ms. Eileen Alberts thanked the Board for the support she received in the 16 years she has been part of the group. Ms. Alberts also extended her appreciation to the administration.

Mr. Michael Ferguson said being on the Board for the last four years has been a great opportunity and a privilege. He stated that he has learned a lot and will be taking it with him to the State of Connecticut Capital. It has prepared me for assisting in the education department in the Capital, he said. You have a family member in the legislature. Best wishes to all – I will not be a stranger.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Kathleen Molinaro moved, seconded by Michael Ferguson, that the Board of Education adjourn its November 21, 2017 Board meeting and the meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Kathleen Molinaro, Secretary

(Meeting was videotaped)
DANBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
Board Candidate Interviews
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017 – 5:45 PM
WESTSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMY – MEDIA CENTER

PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Richard Hawley, Vice Chairperson, call the meeting to order at 5:45 pm and those assembled recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Rachael Chaleski, Gladys Cooper, Richard Hawley, Richard Jannelli, Patrick Johnston, Frederick Karrat, David Metrena, Kathleen Molinaro, Farley Santos and Amy Spallino

Also Present: Dr. Pascarella and Kim Thompson

MOTION - Richard Hawley moved, seconded by Kathleen Molinaro, that the agenda be amended to include Florence Modzelewski as recording secretary.

Motion carried unanimously at 5:46 pm.

The Board interviewed three candidates to fill the recent vacancies. All candidates were asked several interview questions prepared by administration.

Roberto Alves - 5:50–6:00 pm

Mr. Alves distributed a resume to the Board. He told the Board his work experience. He stated that he graduated from Danbury High School and currently a student at Naugatuck Valley Community College. He stated that her work experience in administering policies would be an asset to the Board. Mr. Alves elaborated why he would like to be a member of the Danbury Board. He feels his experience, in his position as Senior Expatriate Compensation Executive in administering policies would be an asset to the Board.

Emanuela Palmares – 6:00-6:10 pm

Ms. Palmares said she was born in Brazil. She currently has a son in the Danbury Schools. She is editor of the Tribuna Newspaper, also owns her own business. She is passionate about diversity in the community. She is a graduate of Danbury schools. She told the Board that in 2016 she received the Commission on Children’s Robert Haller Memorial Award working with immigrant children and families in the State of Connecticut. She also mentioned that she ran for election to the Danbury Board in 2015 and she is interested in serving the City in that capacity.
Ralph Pietrafesa – 6:10-6:20 pm

Mr. Pietrafesa told the Board that he enjoyed being on the Board for the past four years and serving the last year as Chairperson. He in those years he believes he worked together with the other Board members and administration towards a common goal of doing what's best for the kids in Danbury Public Schools. He would like the opportunity to continue on doing that believes he is the best person for the open seat on the Board. He stated that he has no other agenda and will always put all the children in the district above everything else.

The Board members thanked the candidates for coming this evening for an interview.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Richard Hawley moved, seconded by Kathleen Molinaro that the Board of Education convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the candidates for the Board of Education vacancy.

Motion carried unanimously at 6:21 pm.

PUBLIC SESSION

MOTION: David Metrena moved, seconded by Farley Santos that the Board return to Public Session to select a candidate for the Board.

Motion carried unanimously at 6:28 pm.

MOTION: Richard Hawley moved, seconded by Patrick Johnson, that the Board table the motion to select a candidate until the Danbury Board of Education’s meeting on December 13, 2017.

Motion carried unanimously at 6:29 pm.

Richard Hawley moved, seconded by Kathleen Molinaro, that the Board of Education adjourn and meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

______________________________
Kathleen Molinaro, Secretary
MINUTES OF THE 2017 ANNUAL MEETING OF
THE DANBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Westside Middle School Academy – Media Center
December 6, 2017

Present: Rachel Chaleski
          Gladys Cooper
          Richard Hawley
          Richard Jannelli
          Patrick Johnston
          Frederick Karrat
          David Metrena
          Kathleen Molinaro
          Farley Santos
          Amy Spallino

Also Present: Dr. Pascarella and Kim Thompson

CALL TO ORDER

The Vice Chairperson, Richard Hawley, called the Annual Meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING CLERK

Richard Hawley moved, seconded by Kathleen Molinaro, that Florence Modzelewski be appointed
Recording Clerk for the Board of Education. All members present voted in favor.
The motion carried unanimously at 6:32 pm.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Hawley, asked for nominations from the floor for the Office of Chairperson:

Kathleen Molinaro nominated Frederick Karrat, seconded by Richard Jannelli

Patrick Johnston nominated David Metrena, seconded by Richard Hawley

Richard Hawley asked if there were any other nominations from the floor. Being no other
nominations, the nominations were closed.

In favor of Frederick Karrat – 5 votes
          Gladys Cooper
          Richard Jannelli
          Frederick Karrat
          Kathleen Molinaro
          Farley Santos

Exhibit # 18-03 1
In favor of David Metrena – 5 votes
   Rachael Chaleski
   Richard Hawley
   Patrick Johnston
   David Metrena
   Amy Spallino

A Chairperson was not elected

VICE CHAIRPERSON

Richard Hawley asked for nominations from the floor for the Office of Vice Chairperson:

Kathleen Molinaro nominated Gladys Cooper, seconded by Farley Santos

Patrick Johnston nominated David Metrena, seconded by Richard Hawley

Richard Hawley asked if there were any other nominations from the floor. Being no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

In favor of Gladys Cooper – 5 votes
   Gladys Cooper
   Richard Jannelli
   Frederick Karrat
   Kathleen Molinaro
   Farley Santos

In favor of David Metrena – 5 votes
   Rachel Chaleski
   Richard Hawley
   Patrick Johnston
   David Metrena
   Amy Spallino

A Vice Chairperson was not elected

SECRETARY

Richard Hawley asked for nominations from the floor for the Office of Secretary.

Gladys Cooper nominated Kathleen Molinaro, seconded by Frederick Karrat
   Gladys Cooper
   Richard Jannelli
   Frederick Karrat
   Kathleen Molinaro
   Farley Santos
David Metrena nominated Richard Hawley, seconded by Patrick Johnston

Richard Hawley asked if there were any other nominations from the floor. Being no other nominations, the nominations were closed.

In favor of Gladys Cooper – 5 votes
Gladys Cooper
Richard Jannelli
Frederick Karrat
Kathleen Molinaro
Farley Santos

In favor of David Metrena – 5 votes
Rachael Chaleski
Richard Hawley
Patrick Johnston
David Metrena
Amy Spallino

A Secretary was not elected

MOTION: Richard Hawley moved, seconded by Patrick Johnston, that the elections of officers for the Board of Education be tabled until the Board of Education’s meeting on Wednesday, December 13, 2017.

Motion carried unanimously at 6:42 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Gladys Cooper moved, seconded by Patrick Johnston, to adjourn the December 6, 2017 meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Kathleen Molinaro, Secretary
MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 13, 2017 SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE DANBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administrative Center, 63 Beaver Brook Road

Present: Rachel Chaleski
Gladys Cooper
Richard Hawley
Richard Jannelli
Patrick Johnston
Frederick Karrat
David Metrena
Kathleen Molinaro
Farley Santos
Amy Spallino

Also Present: Sal Pascarella, William Glass, Joseph Martino, Kim Thompson, Kelly Truchsess

CALL TO ORDER

Richard Hawley, Vice Chairperson, called the Special Meeting to order at 6:30 pm and those assembled recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: P. Johnston moved, seconded by F. Karrat that the Board of Education convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Board Candidates and act on appointment in Public Session.

PUBLIC SESSION

MOTION: D. Metrena moved, seconded by P. Johnston that the Board of Education table all outside motions to January 10, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

G. Cooper moved, seconded by D. Metrena, to adjourn the December 13, 2017 meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

____________________, Secretary

Exhibit # 18-04
2017 Changes to the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) Formula

By: John D. Moran, Principal Analyst  
December 20, 2017 | 2017-R-0319

Issue

Describe the changes PA 17-2, June Special Session, §§ 225-230 made to the ECS aid formula, the largest municipal aid grant that Connecticut provides to towns.

Revisions to the ECS Formula

The act revises the state education equalization formula, commonly referred to as the ECS formula. (The state has not used the formula since FY 14; instead it has set a specific aid amount in statute for each town.) The act makes changes to key factors in the formula and establishes a method to determine each town’s aid amount for FY 18 and the following years. For FY 18, alliance district towns receive the same ECS grant they received in FY 17; non-alliance district towns receive 5% less than they received in FY 17.

Formula Factors

The ECS formula has the following three key factors:

1. the foundation dollar amount ($11,525);

2. the student count with weightings for high need students, referred to as total need students; and

3. the base aid ratio, which is a measure of town wealth.
Under the formula, the foundation is multiplied by the number of need students, and the result is multiplied by the base aid ratio, to produce the grant amount. A small bonus is added for regional schools (if applicable), and this results in a town's fully-funded grant. For example, under prior law, a school district with no regional bonus and 1,000 need students that has a base aid ratio of .50 would receive a grant of $5.76 million (1,000 x $11,525 x .50).

The act modifies the student count and the base aid ratio, but leaves the foundation dollar amount unchanged.

**Student Count**

Beginning with the 2017-18 school year, the act modifies two aspects of student need weightings. Specifically, it:

1. changes the student poverty weighting from 30% of students eligible for free or reduced priced meals or free milk (FRPM) to 30% of FRPM-eligible students plus an additional 5% of any FRPM-eligible students above 75% of the total number of resident students; and

2. adds a new 15% weighting for the number of students who are English language learners, as identified by the school district.

**Base Aid Ratio**

The base aid ratio (also known as the aid percentage) is a measure of a town's property and income wealth in relation to a median town wealth level set in the formula. Poorer towns have higher ratios than wealthier towns. The higher a town's ratio, the closer the town comes to receiving the maximum aid.

**Wealth Adjustment Factor.** By law, in calculating a town's base aid ratio, town wealth is compared to the wealth adjustment factor (WAF) (formerly called the guaranteed wealth level). The WAF is determined by a three-step process: (1) determining the property and income wealth measures with each expressed in a ratio, (2) applying weights to each, and (3) adding the ratios together.

The act alters the way the WAF is determined by lowering the multiplier from 1.5 to 1.35. By lowering the multiplier, this part of the formula decreases the state's share of total education funding.
The property wealth measure is the ratio of (1) a town’s equalized net grand list (ENGL) per capita to (2) the ENGL per capita of the town with the state’s median ENGL multiplied by 1.35. The income wealth measure is the ratio of (1) a town’s median household income to (2) the state’s median town household income multiplied by 1.35.

*Balance of Property Wealth and Income Wealth.* The act also modifies the proportion of property to income wealth in the WAF. Under prior law, WAF was calculated using 90% property wealth and 10% income wealth. Under the act, it is calculated using 70% property and 30% income, thus increasing the weight for income wealth in the aid ratio part of the formula.

*Minimum Aid Ratios.* The act maintains the minimum aid ratio for alliance districts at 10% and reduces the minimum aid ratio for all other districts from 2% to 1%. The minimum aid ratio guarantees that wealthier towns receive at least a minimum amount of ECS aid.

**New Factor: Base Aid Ratio Adjustment**

The act creates the base aid ratio adjustment factor, which is a bonus added to a town’s base aid ratio if the town is ranked in the top 19 Connecticut towns based on points awarded through the eligibility index for public investment communities (PIC) (i.e., towns with the lowest relative wealth). The PIC eligibility index measures towns’ relative wealth and need by ranking them in descending order by their cumulative point allocations for five categories: (1) per capita income, (2) adjusted equalized net grand list per capita, (3) equalized mill rate, (4) per capita temporary family assistance, and (5) unemployment rate (*CGS § 7-545*).

Under the act, the adjustment factor gives towns anywhere from three to six percentage points bonus in their base aid ratio if they rank in the top 19 of all towns in total eligibility index points as shown in Table 1 below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town Rank Based on PIC Eligibility Index</th>
<th>Bonus % Points Added to Base Aid Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-15</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-19</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Town Aid Determination for FYs 18 and 19**

The act establishes a new “base grant amount” for each town from which future aid is based. The base grant amount is the ECS grant amount a town was entitled to for FY 17 under the 2016 budget act (PA 16-2, May Special Session), minus authorized cuts that were implemented during FY 17.

For FY 18 the act entitles a town to receive an ECS grant in an amount determined by its alliance district status:

1. an alliance district town receives the same ECS grant amount it received in FY 17 (i.e., the “base grant amount”), and

2. a non-alliance district town receives the ECS amount it received in FY 17, reduced by 5%.

For FY 19, the act compares a town’s new base grant amount to its fully-funded grant. For some towns the fully-funded grant is an amount greater than the aid they had received in the past. For other towns, especially those with declining student enrollments, the fully-funded grant may be less than the town is receiving (this is primarily due to the past practice of keeping ECS aid at least level for all towns, even if student enrollment dropped).

The act entitles a town to receive, for FY 19, an ECS grant as follows:

1. If a town’s fully funded ECS grant is greater than its FY 17 amount received, then the town is entitled to its base grant amount, plus 4.1% of the difference.

2. If a town’s fully funded ECS grant is less than its FY 17 amount received, then the town is entitled to its base grant amount, minus 25% of the difference; however, if this town is an alliance district, it is entitled to its FY 17 amount received with no reduction.

**Town Aid Determination for FYs 20 to 27 and Out Years**

The act entitles a town to receive, for FYs 20 through 27, an ECS grant in an amount determined by comparing its base grant amount to its fully funded grant, with an exception for alliance districts:

1. If a town’s fully funded ECS grant is greater than the base grant amount, then the town is entitled to the prior year’s amount, plus 10.66% of the difference.
2. If a town’s fully funded ECS grant is less than the base grant amount, then the town is entitled to the prior year’s amount, minus 8.33% of the difference; however, if the town is an alliance district, it is entitled to the base grant amount with no reduction.

For FY 28 and all years following, towns will receive their fully-funded amount, except alliance districts continue to receive their base grant amount if that is higher than the fully-funded grant.

JM:cmg
Alliance District Program

By: John D. Moran, Principal Analyst
December 21, 2017 | 2017-R-0321

Issue
Summarize the 2017 legislative changes to Connecticut’s Alliance District Program and include the current list of these districts.

Alliance District Program

Program Reauthorization

The Alliance District Program identifies the state’s lowest performing school districts and requires them to submit plans explaining how they will use a portion of their Education Cost Sharing (ECS) funding to help them increase student outcomes and close achievement gaps. The program was set to expire on June 30, 2017, but the 2017 budget act (PA 17-2, June Special Session (JSS), § 224), reauthorized the program for a five-year period starting in FY 18. By law, the education commissioner measures school districts’ performance using their score on the state’s accountability index, which ranks districts by combining various measures of student performance, primarily standardized assessment scores, into a single score.

When the program was created for FY 13, it included the 30 districts with the lowest index scores. PA 17-2, JSS, requires the commissioner to designate the 30 districts with the lowest index scores, plus keep on the list the three districts that were among the 30 lowest when the program started, but are no longer in the lowest 30. This makes a total of 33 alliance districts.
As under the program’s prior authorization, the act requires the education commissioner to withhold any ECS aid increase over an alliance district’s FY 12 base amount until she approves the district’s plan to improve academic performance. According to the State Department of Education’s (SDE) FY 17 data, alliance district funds comprise roughly $140.6 million of the almost $1.9 billion in ECS aid.

Approved alliance district plans are available on SDE’s alliance district webpage. According to SDE, the alliance districts serve more than 200,000 students in 410 schools.

**Current List of Alliance Districts**
Table 1 lists SDE’s new alliance districts for FYs 18-22.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ansonia</th>
<th>New Britain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bloomfield¹</td>
<td>New Haven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridgeport</td>
<td>New London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bristol</td>
<td>Norwalk</td>
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<td>Danbury</td>
<td>Norwich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Derby</td>
<td>Putnam</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Hartford</td>
<td>Stamford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Haven</td>
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<td>East Windsor</td>
<td>Torrington²</td>
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<td>Groton²</td>
<td>Vernon</td>
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<td>Hamden</td>
<td>Waterbury</td>
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<td>Hartford</td>
<td>West Haven</td>
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<tr>
<td>Killingly</td>
<td>Winchester¹</td>
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<td>Manchester</td>
<td>Windham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meriden</td>
<td>Windsor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middletown</td>
<td>Windsor Locks¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naugatuck</td>
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</table>

1. Districts designated as alliance districts in the original group in FY 13, but are no longer among the 30 lowest scoring districts.

2. Newly designated alliance districts that were not part of the group designated in FY 13, but are now among the 30 lowest scoring districts.

JM:cmg
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOE COMMITTEES</th>
<th>R.Chaleski</th>
<th>G.Cooper</th>
<th>R.Hawley</th>
<th>R.Jannelli</th>
<th>P.Johnston</th>
<th>F.Karrat</th>
<th>D.Metrena</th>
<th>K.Molinaro</th>
<th>F.Santos</th>
<th>A.Spallino</th>
<th>TBD</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operations, Sites &amp; Facilities &amp; City Board Bldg.</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| DISTRICT COMMITTEES | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Citywide PTO | X | | | | | | | | | | X |
| DSABC | | | | | | | | | | | X |
| EdAdvance | | | | | | | | | | | X |
| Magnet School Trustees | | | | | | | | | | | X |
| TDEC/TEVAL | | | | | | | | | | | X |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School PTO Liaison</th>
<th>DHS/AIS</th>
<th>SS/ShR</th>
<th>HA</th>
<th>MO/PA/PE</th>
<th>WSMS</th>
<th>AIS/KS</th>
<th>BMS/RPMS</th>
<th>DHS/Str</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Exhibit #: 18-060
Guidelines for Scheduling School Events:
Monday – High School
First Monday each month – Citywide PTO
Tuesday – Elementary Schools
Wednesday (second & fourth) – Board of Education Meetings
Thursday – Middle Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL PTO</th>
<th>MEETING DATE &amp; TIME</th>
<th>CURRENT BOARD MEMBER ASSIGNED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danbury High School PAC</td>
<td>Last Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Chaleski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A. Spallino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative Center for Excellence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadview Middle</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>K. Molinaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rogers Park Middle</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>K. Molinaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIS Magnet School</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>D. Metrena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellsworth Avenue</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Chaleski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Plain</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayestown Avenue</td>
<td>4th Tuesday every other month, 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Hawley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King Street Primary &amp; Intermediate</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>D. Metrena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Ridge Primary</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris Street</td>
<td>1st Tuesday every other month, 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Jannelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Avenue</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Jannelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pembroke</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>R. Jannelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelter Rock</td>
<td>3rd Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>G. Cooper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Street</td>
<td>1st Tuesday every month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>G. Cooper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stadley Rough</td>
<td>1st Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>A. Spallino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westside Middle School Academy</td>
<td>1st Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>P. Johnston</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1-18 (revised)