

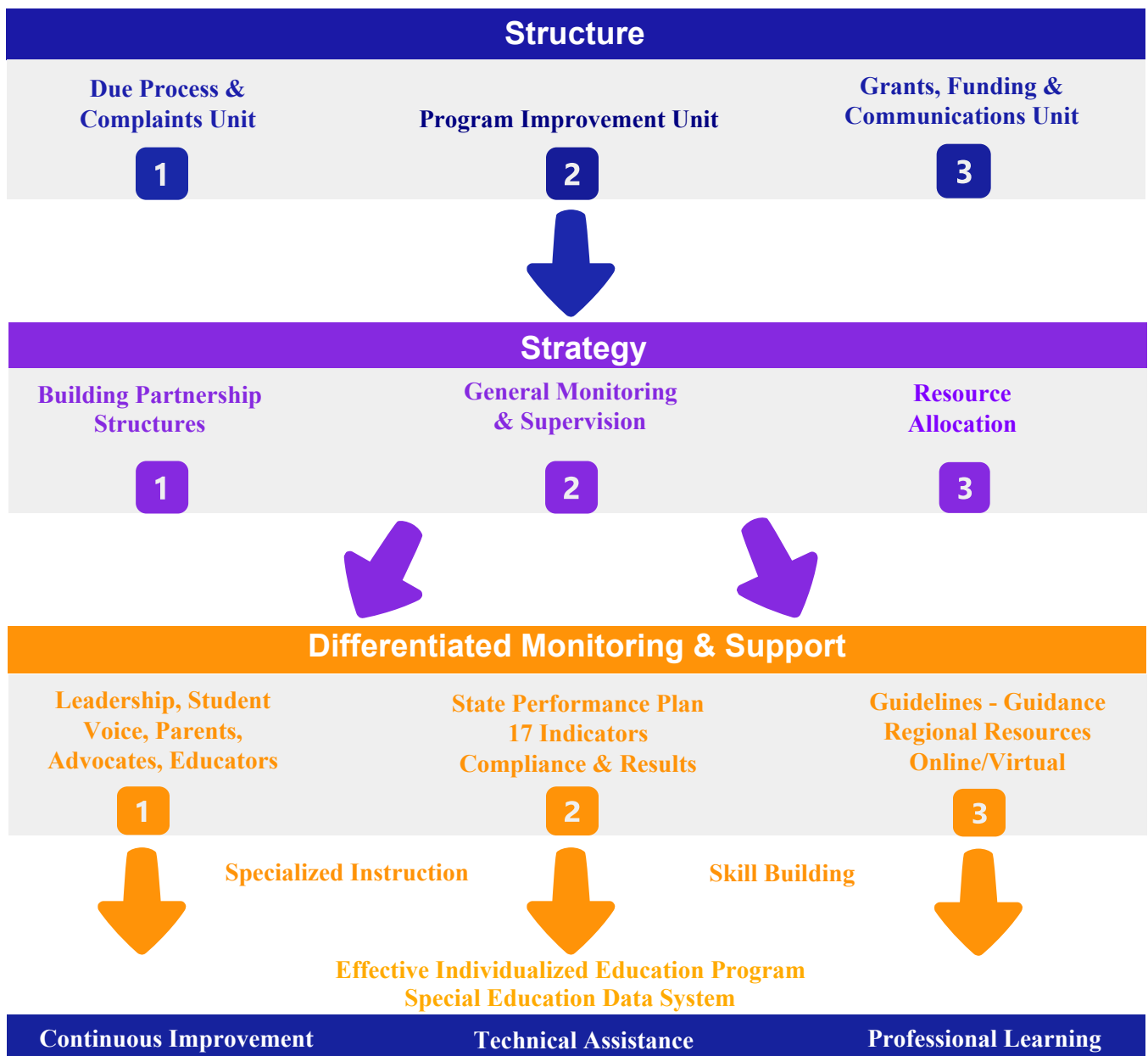


Commissioner's Back-to-School Meeting

Connecticut State Department of Education | August 2018

The State of Connecticut Bureau of Special Education


The Bureau of Special Education (BSE), under the leadership of the Bureau Chief Bryan Klimkiewicz, is driven to ensure that students with disabilities receive a free and appropriate public education. The BSE is responsible for monitoring and supporting local education agency compliance with state and federal special education laws and regulations. The BSE has engaged in a process to align our responsibilities to increase efficiencies and is prepared to support this work within the structure of three distinct yet interdependent units. The units collaborate within the State Department of Education and with outside agencies to provide guidance, support and technical assistance to all stakeholders in an effort to improve student outcomes. The flow chart below depicts this structure and process.



Improved Student Outcomes

*** Please turn over for additional information ***

The following table provides detail regarding the current special education unit structure, alignment, and organization of mandated and impactful activities designed to improve outcomes for students with a special education designation.

Bureau Chief of Special Education: Bryan Klimkiewicz			
Assistant to the Bureau Chief: Terry-Jo Pitter			
Special Education Bureau Units	1: Due Process Complaints and Investigations	2: Program Improvement	3: Grants, Funding and Communications
Support Staff	Carol Leddy	Jolie Media	Regina Gaunichaux
Education Consultants	Mary Jean Schierberl	Mike Tavernier	Tom Boudreau
	Natalie Jones	Jim Moriarty	Jay Brown
	Georgette Nemr	Colleen Hayles	Andrea Brinnel
Activities	Building Partnership Structures: Students, Parents, Educators and Advocates.	General Monitoring & Supervision	Resource Allocation
Strategies	Leadership, Conflict Resolution, Compliance, and Equity	Differentiated Monitoring & Support (State Performance Plan)	Accessible Resources
			
Improved Student Outcomes			

What's new in Special Education	
Legislation	
Public Act 18-51; Section 4 revisions	Amends the restraint and seclusion statute to provide for a definition of exclusionary time out and clarifies definitions for Physical Restraint, Seclusion, and Escort. These changes will impact the guidance and training that districts are required to provide to all staff and district data reporting requirements. BSE Contact: Colleen Hayles; 860-713-6922 or colleen.hayles@ct.gov
Public Act 18-183; revisions	Revisions within the Recommendations of the Auditors of Public Accounts concerning Private Providers of Special Education legislation specify requirements related to the development of standards and a process for the provision of services, district reimbursement requirements pursuant to section 10-76g, and budget submission. BSE Contact: Colleen Hayles; 860-713-6922 or colleen.hayles@ct.gov
Initiatives	
ReadConn	<u>Free Special Education K-3 Reading Professional Learning Opportunities</u> A Professional Develop Series focused on identifying students' needs related to early literacy skills and delivering explicit instruction regardless of the reading approach or program. Contact: Joanne White; 860-713-6751 or joanne.white@ct.gov
Special Education Youth Advisory	A collaborative partnership between the (CSDE), (SERC), and (CPAC) and is designed to increase student involvement in the special education process and to help students develop strong, effective leadership skills in order to make positive changes in their school and community. BSE Contact: Bryan Klimkiewicz; 860-713-6910 or bryan.klimkiewicz@ct.gov
Special Education Leadership Series	Professional Learning Series, Training, Resources, Coaching, Mentoring and more are available for Central Office Administrators, Special Education Administrators, Principals, Assistant Principals, PPT Chairs, and School-Based Supervisors to improve and enhance special education systems of support. Contact: Jay Brown; 860-713-6918 or jay.brown@ct.gov
Parent Advisory	A collaborative partnership between the (CSDE), (RESCs), and (CPAC) to provide a structure for parents to share their experiences and recommendations for improvements to special education in CT and inform the State Advisory Council of Special Education. Contact: Bryan Klimkiewicz; 860-713-6910 or bryan.klimkiewicz@ct.gov