

Connecticut Department of Correction
Unified School District #1

Annual Performance Report

2007 – 2008

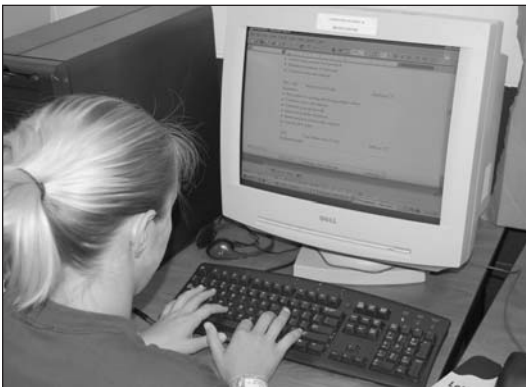
State of Connecticut
Department of Correction

Unified School District #1
24 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109

Statement of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the Unified School District #1 that no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise discriminated against under any program, including employment, because of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, mental retardation, and past/present history of mental disorder, learning disability and physical disability.

Annual Performance Report 2007-2008

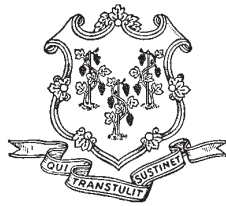


State of Connecticut Department of Correction

Unified School District #1
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Connecticut Department of Correction Unified School District #1

Mission Statement

The Connecticut Department of Correction Unified School District #1 is dedicated to providing quality educational programs for incarcerated individuals. Academic knowledge, vocational competencies and life skills integrated with technology are offered to students in a positive environment to foster lifelong learning, multicultural awareness and a successful transition to society.

Vision

The vision of Unified School District #1 is to be recognized as a community of dedicated professionals providing multifaceted educational programming to a diverse population in order to encourage the development of responsible citizens who will contribute to society in a positive way.

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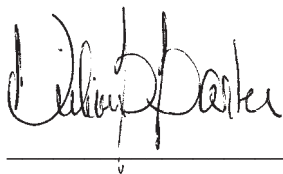
From the Office of the Superintendent

The Department's Education Services unit consists of the Unified School District # 1. The District's 18 schools served more than 19,891 incarcerated youth and adults with an average daily enrollment of 2,859 (mandated programs). The District awarded 875 GED Diplomas, 30 with honors with an overall passage rate of 61%. Planning/Placement Team meetings were held for 942 students under the age of 21 who required special education programming. Certificates of vocational training were awarded to 945 students (including 416 completers) in 26 disciplines.

During the year, 28% of the agency's incarcerated population was engaged in some formal educational training. Forty-Five (45) formal graduation and recognition ceremonies were conducted as a means to emphasize the importance of education opportunity and accomplishment. District transition efforts have increased and 8 resource/career fairs were held throughout the district in an attempt to bridge the gap from incarceration to the community.

The new USD # 1 Re-Entry Education program was implemented in July and total of 1,208 students completed this comprehensive twenty-one day instructional curriculum. The Unified School District # 1 continued to provide thousands of hours of service to various communities and state agencies in the areas of graphic printing, woodworking, auto repairs, bicycle/wheelchair repair, culinary arts, etc. Federal education grant funds have been used appropriately to supplement permanent staff services.

Through the solicitation of donations and through the wise use of these supplemental grant funds, we hope to continue to provide increased educational opportunities for our students with little or no increase in state monies. By providing exiting students with realistic job and training opportunities along with other community services which are vital to their survival, we hope to reduce the recidivism rate. This will provide significant savings to the taxpayers of the State of Connecticut.



William B. Barber
Superintendent of Schools
Unified School District #1
Connecticut Department of Correction



Achievements of Unified School District #1 2007–2008

- Duplicated enrollment of 19,891 students
- Unduplicated enrollment of 10,578 students
- Average daily enrollment of 2,859 students
- 875 State High School Diplomas, 30 with honors were awarded through the GED program
- By completing required Carnegie Units, 18 students were awarded a regular high school diploma through their local school district or the State Department of Education
- 12 students were awarded External Diploma Program (EDP) Certificates of high school completion
- 1,747 students were promoted to higher class levels
- According to the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE), students demonstrated an average academic gain of 1 year, 8 months in reading, 8 months in math and 1 year, 9 months in language arts
- On the Employability Competency System (ECS) test students met the State indicators of program quality by gaining 3.8 scale score points per semester
- Per monthly average, 396 students received programming in Family Education programs
- Per monthly average, 734 students received Transition Skills services
- 270 students completed college courses within the Federal Youth Offender Grant program
- 504 general population inmates completed college courses
- 23 Received college credits in the CLEP/Dantes college testing program
- 126 students participated in correspondence courses
- 2,651 students received certificates of attendance or achievement in ABE, GED, TESOL, and Vocational Education
- 416 students received certificates of completion in Vocational/Technology Education
- 101 Connecticut Career Certificate (CCC) Awards were earned
- Per monthly average, 152 students received tutoring services
- 45 graduation ceremonies, parenting and career fairs were held
- 1,208 inmates received Certificates of Completion for participation in re-entry classes

Unified School District #1 2007–2008

Administrative Staff

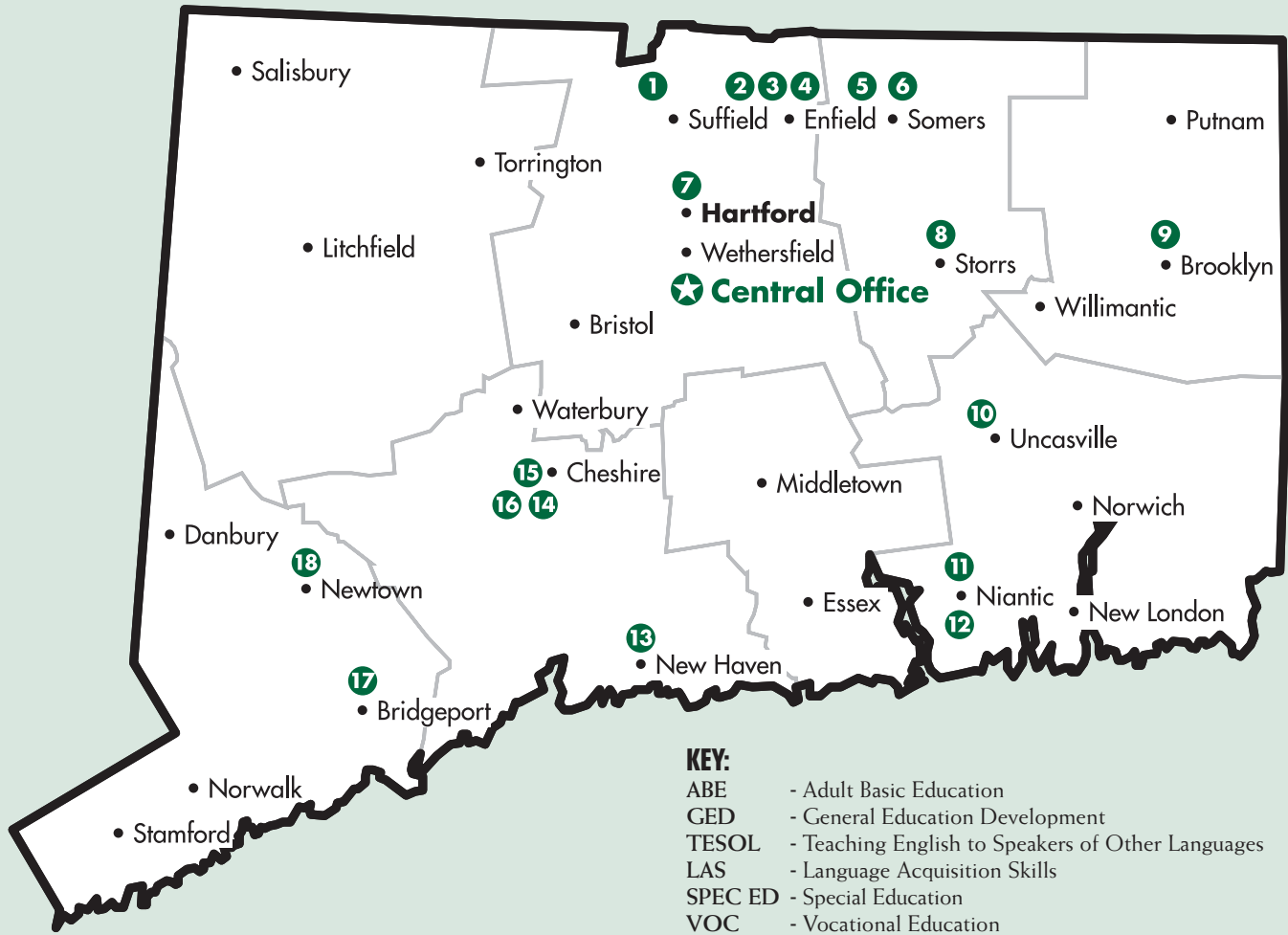
Central Office:

William B. BarberSuperintendent of Schools
Angela J. Jalbert.....Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Diana Pacetta-Ullmann.....Director of Curriculum and Transitional Services
Christine MurphyDirector of Special Education
Ronald NapperDirector of Vocational/Technology Education

Sites:

Dorothy Durst.....School AdministratorBergin CI
Dorthula GreenSchool Principal.....Bridgeport/New Haven/Hartford CC
Christine MurphyPrincipalBrooklyn CI
Robert MatneyPrincipalCheshire CI
Melissa Stubbs.....PrincipalCorrigan-Radgowski CC
Gabe RiccioPrincipalEnfield CI
Fred SgroSchool AdministratorGarner CI
Maria Pirro.....School AdministratorGates CI
Maureen ReillySchool AdministratorHartford CC
Robert StrawsonPrincipalMacDougall-Walker CI
Mary Kane.....Assistant Principal.....MacDougall-Walker CI
Caryn McCarthyPrincipalManson Youth Institution
Kim Holley.....Associate Principal.....Manson Youth Institution
Tim Colley.....Assistant Principal.....Manson Youth Institution
Michael NunesAssistant Principal.....Manson Youth Institution/Night School
Christine MurphyPrincipalNorthern CI
Steven EllisPrincipalOsborn CI
Ed Korza.....PrincipalRobinson CI
Olivia Varanai.....School AdministratorWebster CI
Pat StamidisPrincipalWillard-Cybulski CI
Mary GreaneyPrincipalYork CI
Joseph Brady.....Assistant Principal.....York CI

Unified School District #1 Site and Program Location



- KEY:**
- ABE - Adult Basic Education
 - GED - General Education Development
 - TESOL - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
 - LAS - Language Acquisition Skills
 - SPEC ED - Special Education
 - VOC - Vocational Education
 - LVA - Literacy Volunteers of America

NORTH DISTRICT

- Suffield Area**
1. MacDougall-Walker CI Reception & Special Mgmt. Unit (ABE/GED/TESOL/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
- Enfield Area**
2. Robinson CI (ABE/GED/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
 3. Enfield CI (ABE/GED/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
 4. Willard-Cybulski CI (ABE/GED/LAS/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
- Somers Area**
5. Osborn CI (ABE/GED/TESOL/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
- Somers Area (Continued)**
6. Northern CI (Spec Ed)
- Hartford Area**
7. Hartford CC (ABE/GED/TESOL/Spec Ed/LVA)
- Storrs Area**
8. Bergin CI (Transitioning Programming/ABE/GED/TESOL/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
- Brooklyn Area**
9. Brooklyn CI (ABE/GED/Spec Ed/LVA)

SOUTH DISTRICT

- Uncasville Area**
10. Corrigan-Radgowski CC (ABE/GED/TESOL/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
- Niantic Area**
11. Gates CI (ABE/GED/TESOL/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
 12. York CI (ABE/GED/TESOL/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
- New Haven Area**
13. New Haven CC (ABE/GED/TESOL/Spec Ed/LVA)
- Cheshire Area**
14. Webster CI (ABE/GED/TESOL/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
- Cheshire Area (Continued)**
15. Manson Youth Institution (ABE/GED/TESOL/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
 16. Cheshire CI (ABE/GED/TESOL/VOC/Spec Ed/LVA)
- Bridgeport Area**
17. Bridgeport CC (ABE/GED/Spec Ed/LVA)
- Newtown Area**
18. Garner CI (ABE/GED/Spec Ed/LVA)

Important Facts and Figures

School Sites

18 Facilities (statewide)

State School Teachers

140

Vocational Instructors

42

Counselors/Social Workers

9

School Psychologists

8

Librarians & Library Media

11

Support Staff

28 (permanent)

40 (temporary part-time)

Department Heads

9

Principals

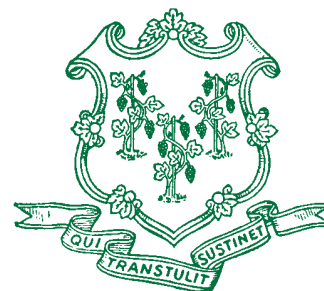
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Central Office Administrators

5

Unified School District #1

In June of 1969 the state's General Assembly passed statutes formally establishing Unified School District #1 (USD #1) as the legally vested school district within the Connecticut Department of Correction (DOC). From a small and limited beginning, the district has grown to a multifaceted and dynamic part of the Programs and Treatment division of the department. USD #1 began with only 25 full-time instructors. Today, Unified School District #1 is one of the leaders in correctional education in the nation with over 315 employees in 18 facilities. As the total prison population has grown, so has the number of students and variety of education programs within the school district.



General Information

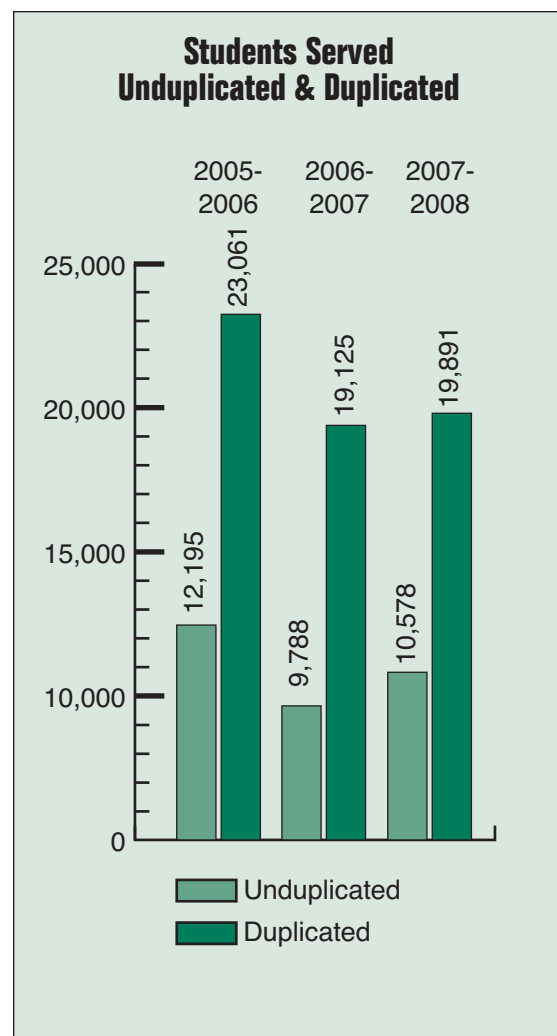
The Connecticut Department of Correction, Unified School District #1, is dedicated to providing quality educational programs for incarcerated individuals. Academic knowledge, vocational competencies, and life skills integrated with technology are offered to students in a positive environment to foster life long learning, multicultural awareness and a successful transition to society.

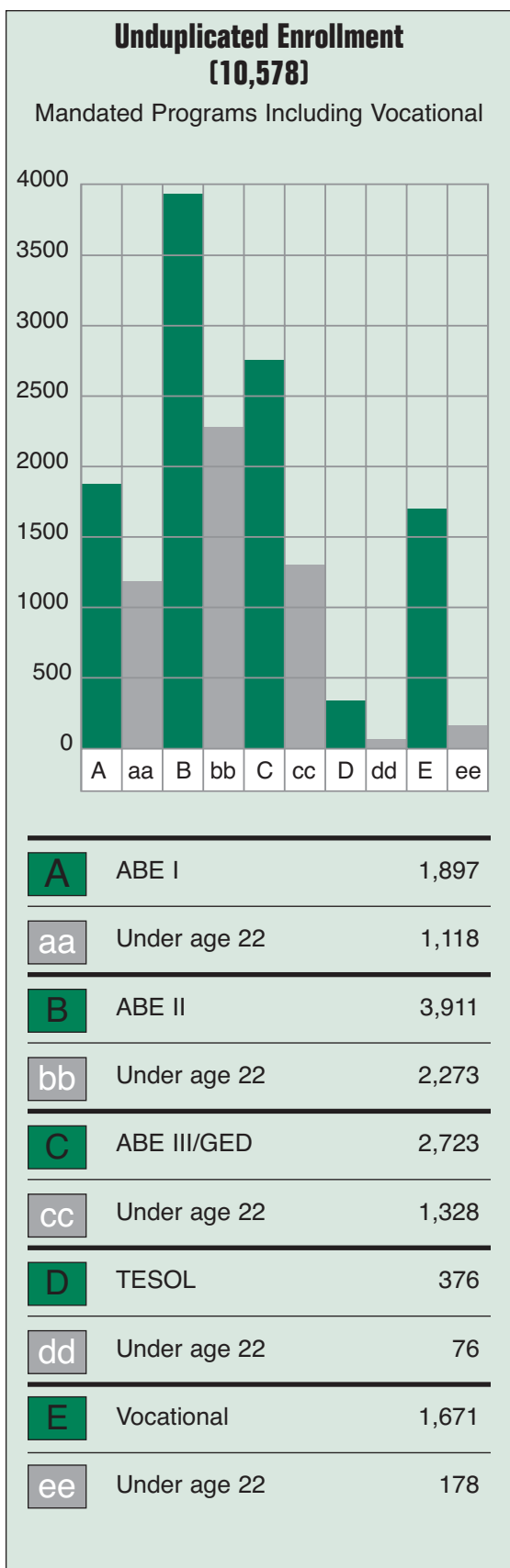
Unified School District #1 offers a wide variety of academic and vocational education programs to approximately 18,000 men and 1,400 women remanded to the Department's custody. Programs are flexible enough to accommodate a variety of learning styles and to provide sufficient structure to allow for the orderly assimilation of knowledge. Recidivism is reduced by helping offenders become responsible citizens and contribute to society in a positive way. In addition to these programs, a federal youth offender grant and the Department of Correction provided opportunity for qualified offenders to participate in college courses.

During 2007–2008, USD #1 served a total of 19,891 students in 18 schools located within the DOC correctional community. Most adult basic education (ABE) students attended classes at least 15 hours per week and most of those participating in vocational programs attended 30 hours per week. Students under the age of 18 attend school for a full 5 hour day. Typically, a USD #1 student functions on a 6th grade level in reading, math, and language arts and is approximately 27 years of age.

Organization

The Department of Correction Commissioner serves as the Chairperson of the school board for the Unified School District #1. The authority to administer, organize, manage, and supervise the daily operations of USD #1 is the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools who may further delegate this authority to administrative central office education directors, as appropriate. Reporting to





the Superintendent are the Deputy Superintendent of Schools, the Director of Special Education, the Director of Academic Programs, the Director of Curriculum and Transition Services, and the Director of Vocational/Technology Education, as well as the facility education administrators. The Superintendent is responsible for developing, implementing, maintaining and updating policies, procedures and regulations; organizing the school district to improve operations; and overseeing education fiscal management or delegating authority. In addition, the Superintendent is responsible for implementing measures to evaluate the effectiveness of USD #1 programs and acting as the liaison for the district to the Commissioner, Director of Programs and Treatment and other deputy commissioners, as needed. Employing and terminating staff for efficient operations as necessary is done in collaboration with the Human Resource Department.

During the 2007–2008 school year, the Unified School District #1 employed 265 professional full-time staff members and 40 durational part-time employees. All professional staff are appropriately state certified with an Initial, Provisional or Professional certification. Professional development is offered to all staff in accordance with state standards for certification requirements and as needed.

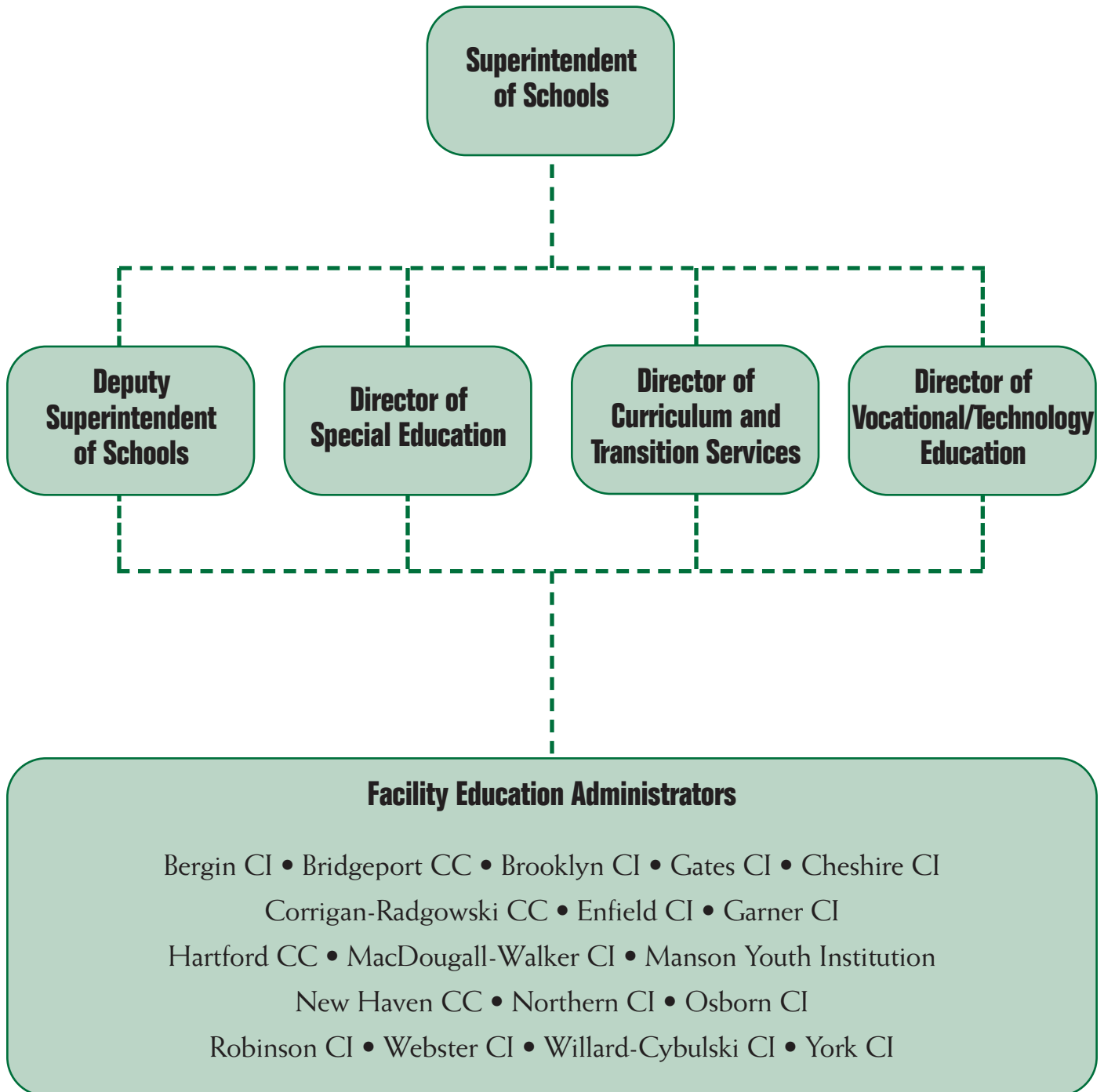
There are 20 education administrators who oversee the education programs in 18 facilities. Their responsibilities include various duties ranging from administering student programming to evaluation of staff. Four central office directors are responsible for the coordination of school district programs and policies, new initiatives, state mandates and various staff issues.

Unified School District #1 employs state school teachers, vocational instructors, school counselors, school social workers, school psychologists, library media staff, librarians, and other support staff.

District educators have developed multi-leveled education programs designed to meet the individual needs and interests of each student. Educational programs are offered in the areas of General Academic Instruction, Vocational Education and special services for students with disabilities. Specific offerings in these district-wide programs include Adult Basic Education (ABE), General Educational Development (GED), alternative high school programs including the External Diploma Program (EDP), Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), and well over twenty different Vocational/Technology Education trades.

Other programs include community re-entry/transition services, family education and parenting, and numerous other personal and social development programs. College credit programs are offered to eligible students through a federal grant program, as well as through correspondence courses and the CLEP/DANTES testing program.

Unified School District #1 Administration





USD #1 academic programs provide comprehensive instruction in basic reading, writing and math skills.



Vocational education programs offer opportunities for hands-on experience.



As part of the National External Diploma Program (NEDP), USD #1 provides another alternative to students who want to earn a high school diploma.

Adult Basic Education (ABE) I, II

The Adult Basic Education I & II program is designed to provide training in basic academic skills in the areas of reading, mathematics, language arts, general science and social studies. The program is directed toward increasing proficiency to the eighth grade level.

During the 2007–2008 school year, 5,808 USD #1 students participated in 0-8 grade level basic education classes. Of these students, 3,391 were under the age of 22. Community volunteers were recruited and encouraged to serve as tutors and mentors for students. Inmate tutors were also used to assist individual students with educational improvement. Computer assisted instruction was utilized as a supplement to the regular education program at all sites.

Adult Basic Education (ABE) III/ General Educational Development (GED)

The General Educational Development program, also known as ABE III, is for students functioning above an eighth grade level who wish to earn a high school equivalency diploma through the examination process. Students receive a State High School Diploma upon successful completion of the test. The District awarded 875 GED diplomas, 30 with honors.

During the 2007–2008 school year, 2,723 students participated in the Pre-GED academic skills areas of reading, language arts, mathematics, general science and social studies. There were 1,328 students under the age of 22. Volunteers from the community and inmate tutors were recruited, trained and encouraged to assist individual students with educational improvement. GED classes were supplemented with computer-assisted instruction.

External Diploma Program (EDP)

The state-approved External Diploma Program (EDP) was offered at the Cheshire and Carl Robinson Correctional Institutions. Twelve (12) students earned their high school diplomas. The program measures academic skills acquired through life and work experiences.

USD #1 is the only correctional school district in the United States that has graduated students through this alternative high school method.

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Language Acquisition Skills (LAS)

The TESOL/LAS program is an instructional program for students whose primary language is not English. TESOL/LAS instruction helps students to speak, read and write English and assists them in developing the language skills necessary for overall academic and vocational progress. Certified TESOL/LAS teachers provided instruction in vocabulary and oral language development. As with the above programs, volunteers were recruited to assist student learners and computer assisted instruction was utilized as a supplement to the regular education program. There were 376 students who participated in TESOL/LAS instruction during the 2007–2008 school year. There were 76 students under the age of 22. A workshop for TESOL/LAS teachers was held in the spring of 2008.

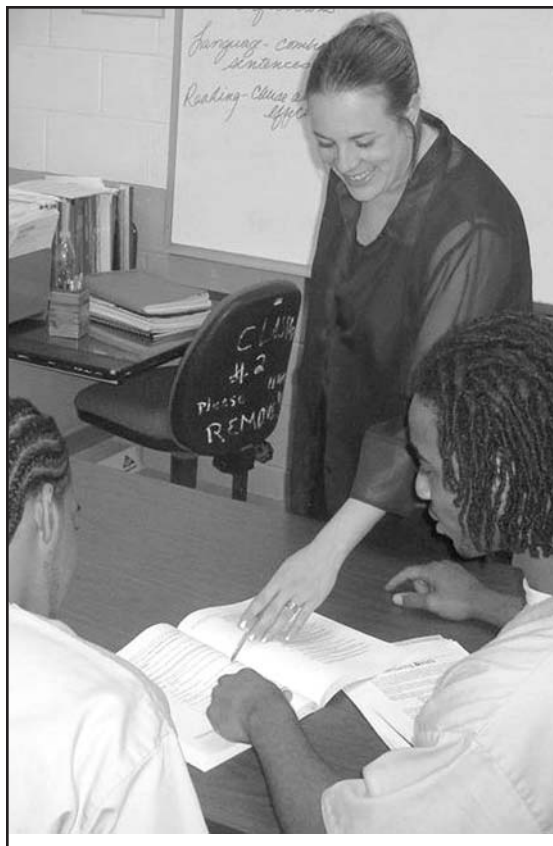


Students participate in TESOL or LAS classes throughout the district.

Special Education and Related Services

A comprehensive identification and referral process is used to identify those inmates who are remanded to the Department of Correction and have been found in need of special education services. Special education services are provided to students who have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Individualized Accommodation Plans (IAP) are developed for those students eligible for accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

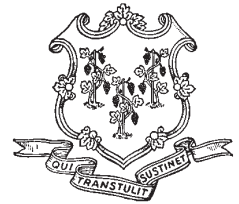
Certified special education teachers and pupil services specialists provide special education services as deemed appropriate by students' Individual Education Plans. Special education staff collaborate with regular education staff to ensure identified special education students are instructed with their non-disabled peers, in the least restrictive educational environment. This collaborative effort provides strategies, modifications and accommodations to ensure that eligible students with disabilities make progress in the general education curriculum. Related services are provided in areas such as individual and group counseling occupational therapy and speech language therapy whenever needed. Inter-agency collaboratives assist to ensure special education students returning to their communities receive the necessary support and guidance to be successful and positive contributors to society.



State certified and highly qualified teachers work with students individually as well as in small and large group settings.



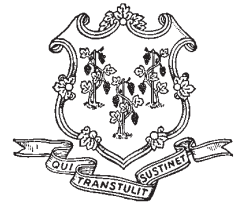
Staff Data by Site 2007-2008



| Correctional Facilities: | Administrators | Number of Academic Teachers | Number of Vocational Instructors | Number of Re-Entry Teachers | Number of Other Professional Staff | Number of Support Staff |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bergin C.I. | Dorothy Durst – School Administrator | 5 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Bridgeport C.C. | Dorthula Green – Principal | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Brooklyn C.I. | Christine Murphy – Principal | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Cheshire C.I. | Robert Matney – Principal | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Corrigan-Radgowski C.C. | Melissa Stubbs – Principal | 10 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 |
| Enfield C.I. | Gabe Riccio – Principal | 6 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Garner C.I. | Fred Sgro – School Administrator | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| Gates C.I. | Maria Pirro – School Administrator | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Hartford C.C. | Dorthula Green – Principal | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| MacDougall-Walker C.I. | Robert Strawson – Principal Mary Kane – Assistant Principal | 13 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Manson Youth Institution | Caryn McCarthy Russell – Principal Kim Holley – Associate Principal Michael Nunes – Assistant Principal Tim Colley – Assistant Principal | 35 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 10 |
| New Haven C.C. | Dorthula Green – Principal | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Northern C.I. | Christine Murphy – Principal | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Osborn C.I. | Steven Ellis – Principal | 8 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Robinson C.I. | Edward Korza – Principal | 9 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Webster C.I. | Olivia Varanai – School Administrator | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Willard-Cybulski C.I. | Patricia Stamidis – Principal | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| York C.I. | Mary Greaney – Principal Joseph Brady – Assistant Principal | 13 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Total | | 132 | 40 | 8 | 35 | 43 |



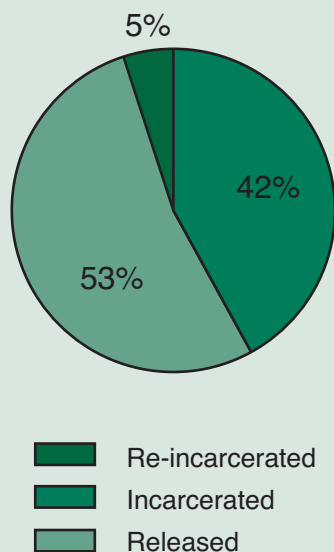
Student Data by Site 2007-2008



General Population (GP) College Courses
Youth Offender (YO) College Courses

| Correctional Facilities: | Enrollment for the Year | Average Daily Attendance | GED Awarded | HSD Awarded | EDP Awarded | Enrolled | Completed | Enrolled | Completed | Re-Entry Completers | No. of Special Education & Under Age 22 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------------|---|
| Bergin C.I. | 783 | 194 | 69 | 1 | 0 | 58 | 53 | 47 | 40 | 76 | 242 |
| Bridgeport C.C. | 311 | 38 | 41 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 208 |
| Brooklyn C.I. | 274 | 57 | 19 | 8 | 0 | 55 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 48 |
| Cheshire C.I. | 419 | 178 | 73 | 0 | 11 | 48 | 38 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 108 |
| Corrigan-Radgowski C.C. | 1,092 | 220 | 64 | 1 | 0 | 44 | 39 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 484 |
| Enfield C.I. | 433 | 206 | 49 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 30 | 31 | 29 | 0 | 101 |
| Garner C.I. | 270 | 86 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 166 |
| Gates C.I. | 794 | 102 | 62 | 0 | 0 | 40 | 30 | 38 | 27 | 142 | 179 |
| Hartford C.C. | 538 | 54 | 65 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 694 |
| MacDougall-Walker C.I. | 649 | 324 | 88 | 2 | 0 | 48 | 48 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 265 |
| Manson Youth Institution | 1,570 | Day: 253 Eve: 66 | 85 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37 | 25 | 71 | 2,167 |
| New Haven C.C. | 276 | 46 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 210 |
| Northern C.I. | 63 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 107 |
| Osborn C.I. | 653 | 311 | 56 | 1 | 0 | 60 | 56 | 60 | 42 | 183 | 222 |
| Robinson C.I. | 535 | 225 | 49 | 0 | 1 | 43 | 36 | 32 | 30 | 254 | 155 |
| Webster C.I. | 400 | 75 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 43 | 31 | 30 | 19 | 89 | 86 |
| Willard-Cybulski C.I. | 856 | 120 | 67 | 0 | 0 | 66 | 60 | 65 | 27 | 301 | 156 |
| York C.I. | 767 | 198 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 42 | 33 | 37 | 31 | 92 | 475 |
| Total | 10,681 | -- | 875 | 18 | 12 | 577 | 504 | 377 | 270 | 1,208 | 6,073 |

Inmate Status of USD #1 Re-entry Class Completers July 2007 – April 2008



Volunteers

The Literacy Volunteers of America (LVA) program, currently called the Pro Worldwide Literacy Program, continues to be a strong component within the school district for additional student support. There were 522 students who received tutoring from 178 inmate tutors.

Transition and Re-entry

Transition Counselors are in 8 facilities overseeing the Youthful Offender College Program for inmates 25 years of age or less with a high school degree. Counselors assisted students with transition plans and post-secondary education opportunities.

Eight re-entry teachers presented a 21 day curriculum to inmates expected to be released in 6 months or less. This curriculum included how to obtain your birth certificate and social security card, and also how to prepare for employment and housing. Starting in July 2007, over 1,000 inmates completed re-entry classes.

Career Resource Fairs

USD #1 conducted 8 Resource Fairs for thousands of inmates bringing over 100 outside representatives of agencies and businesses to the prison to assist with re-entry. A thank you breakfast was held in July 2008 formally thanking these representatives for their time at the Fairs.

Family Education and Parenting

Classes in Family Education and Parenting included curriculum on child behavior and management, parenting from a distance, and promoting literacy and reading to children. The culmination of several of these classes is a family celebration that brings the children into the facility, as well as books sent to the inmate's child or children to encourage reading.

Vocational/Technology Education

Vocational/Technology trade courses are incorporated in classroom instruction and occupational training. Thirteen sites provided students with the opportunity to learn 24 different trades and a variety of marketable skills preparing the student for entry level jobs when they are discharged and re-enter the community. There were 1,671 students who participated in this program during the 2007-2008 school year with 178 students under the age of 22. There were 416 students who received certificates for full course completion and 529 students who received certificates for partial course completion.



A father reads to his child during a family celebration within the facility.

The State Department of Education program for students to earn a Connecticut Career Certificate (CC) was offered in the career cluster for Retail, Tourism, Recreation and Entrepreneurship. There were 101 students who earned this certificate by completing a rigorous program of academic, technical and employability skill requirements.

USD #1 teachers/instructors, representing each technology trade area, participated in curriculum revision and development to meet entry-level industry standards. Community partnerships for services were established with many non-profit organizations to provide on-the-job experience to students in their respective fields. As part of the learning experience students received instruction in the technologies specific to the course of study in which they were enrolled.

Apprenticeship

Within the vocational education program is a smaller component known as the Prospective Apprenticeship Program. Coordinated through the State Department of Labor, this program provided real work training and experience for specific vocational programs.

Outreach

The Unified School District #1 participated in several outreach programs within the community. These programs took many forms, such as designing and producing pamphlets and brochures for non-profit organizations, fixing bicycles and wheelchairs for needy children and creating braille books for the blind. Outreach programs included but were not limited to the following:

Bergin Correctional Institution

- Horticulture Program: Tropical plants were given to the Town of Enfield's Adult Day Care/Senior Center, East Longmeadow Garden Club, Town of Mansfield School System and the University of Connecticut School of Agriculture/Horticulture Club.
- Steer Straight: Through the Safe and Drug Free Grant, the Steer Straight Program was resurrected at the Bergin Correctional Institution and met with great success. There were 10 inmates who participated in this community program to deliver the message of making good choices, staying away from drugs and the drug/gang culture and taking responsibility for your actions. There were over 1,300 community high school students who participated



Culinary Arts is one of several apprenticeship programs that provide real work training and experience for vocational students.



The Dental Technology vocational program is one of twenty-four different trades offered to USD #1 students.

Participants in USD #1 Programs including Post-secondary

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Adult Basic Education (ABE) | 5,808 |
| General Educational Development (GED) Program | 2,723 |
| Vocational Education | 1,671 |
| Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)..... | 376 |
| Post-secondary | 737 |
| Total..... | 11,315 |

in this program within the community. The feedback the Steer Straight group and coordinator received from high school students and teachers was all very positive and appreciative for the group's attendance.

Cheshire Correctional Institution

- The Bicycle/Wheelchair Repair Program: Services were provided for the Homes of the Brave Veterans Organization, Wolcott Volunteer Fire Department's Christmas Program, Salvation Army's Marshall House, Big Brother/Big Sister, Department of Children & Families and Wheels for the World/Joni and Friends. Over two hundred wheelchairs were refurbished this year.
- The Pre-Vocational Program: The Pre-Vocational Program has devoted over 4,950 hours fabricating the plaques and a number of similar items for non-profit organizations such as: Disabled American Veterans Organization, Veterans Club of Bristol, CT, Beacon Falls, MA Fire Marshall and State of Connecticut Trooper/Police Departments.

- The Computer Repair Program: Hundreds of donated computers were refurbished for the non-profit Computers for the Community Organization, Bristol, CT.

Enfield Correctional Institution

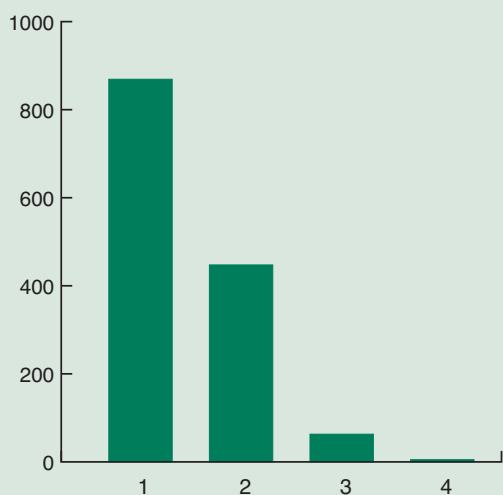
- The Small Engine Repair Program: Over 100 pieces of equipment have been refurbished for senior citizens and over 80 state owned machines.
- Enfield Carpentry Program: Has made furniture items for the Governor and the Chief of Homeland Security. In addition, numerous projects have been completed for various units within the Department of Correction including the Unified School District #1.

Gates Correctional Institution

- The Graphic & Print Program: Printing jobs have been completed for many non-profit organizations including, but not limited to: The Sisters of Saint Joseph, Holyoke, MA, Marlborough Arts Center, Marlborough, CT, Care & Share of East Lyme, CT, Saint Mark Parish, Westbrook, CT.

Certificates & Diplomas

- 1) GED Certificates of Diploma – 875, with Honors – 30
- 2) Vocational Certificates of Completion – 416
- 3) Connecticut Career Certificates – 101
- 4) Apprenticeship Training Certificates of Completion – 3



Personal and Social Development

An Extension Curriculum provided for student programming in the areas of Family Education, Transition Skills, HIV/Aids and Sexual Harassment. Each month as many as 396 students participated in the Family Education and Parenting program, 734 students participated in transition skills training, 265 students participated in HIV/Aids training, 185 students were involved in sexual harassment training and 169 students received suicide prevention training. Additional components on suicide prevention and creating climates of respect have been added to the Extension Curriculum.

Technology

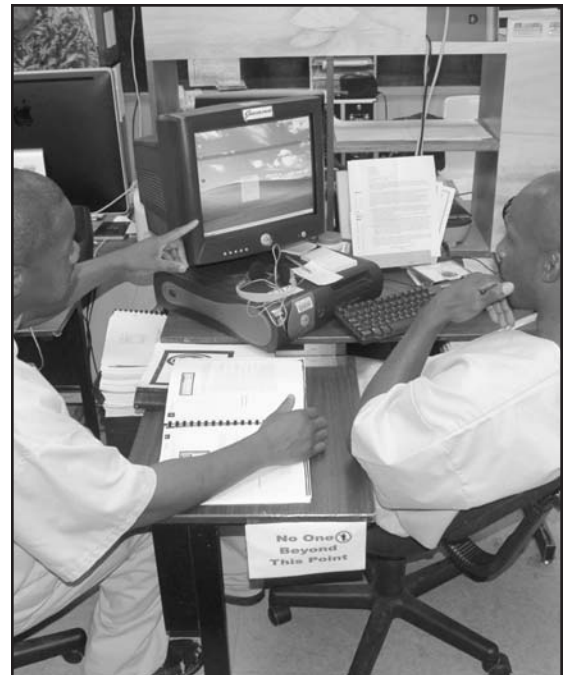
All students participated in some level of computer instruction throughout the year. Students were offered many opportunities to increase their knowledge of basic academic skills in reading, language arts, math, science, and social studies through computer assisted instruction. Non-English speaking students and students with special needs also have opportunities to use technology in their daily educational programs. Technology was used extensively in most vocational classes and micro-computer applications were offered as well.

Student Services

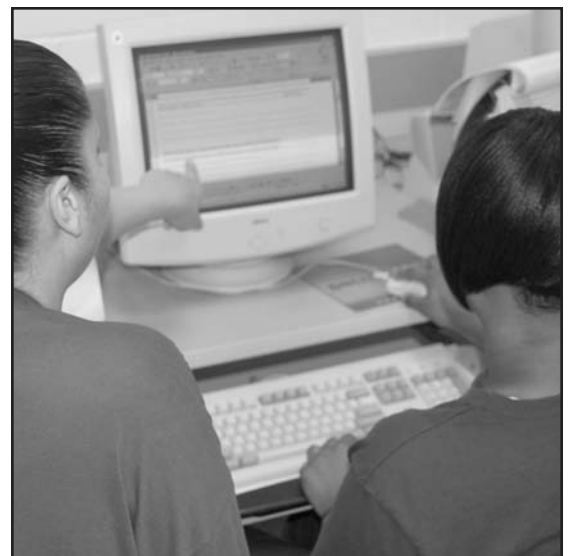
Assessment

The USD #1 administers the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) to offenders to determine educational level. There were 5,306 students who were administered TABE tests during the year. Pre and Post-TABE testing is administered twice a year, September and May, to determine progress of students. On the average, during the 2007–2008 school year, USD #1 students made impressive gains. Students improved their reading grade level by 1 year, 8 months, math grade level by 8 months, and language arts grade level by 1 year, 9 months. There were 1,179 students who read at a 9th grade level or higher. Of 4,631 that were administered TABE reading tests this year 1,236 students read below the 5th grade level, 3,465 students read below the 9th grade level.

As mandated by the Connecticut State Bureau of Adult Education, USD #1 participates in the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS) by administering the tests for the Employability Competency System (ECS) to adult basic education students. This instrument measures a



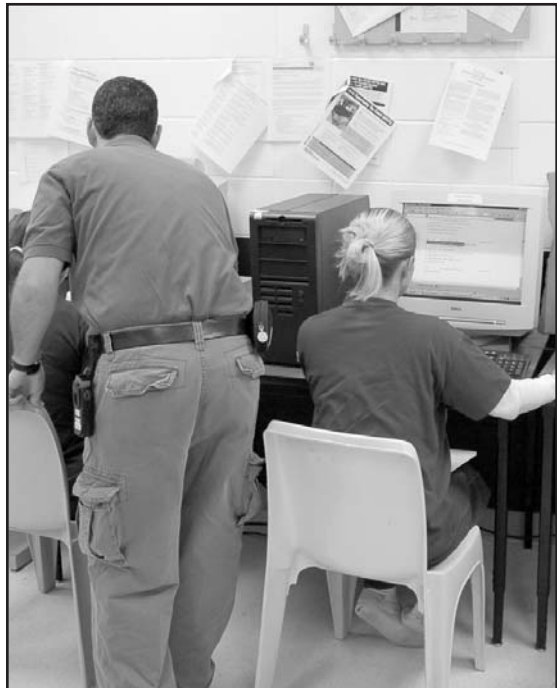
Post-secondary education opportunities are available to students who wish to pursue their education after achieving their high school diploma.



Students are vocationally assessed by using career software.



Libraries throughout the district provide many opportunities for research and pleasure reading.



District-wide testing provides planning information for program placement.

person's ability to apply reading and basic math skills to the workplace as well as in their personal life. During the school year of 2007–2008, over 1,052 tests were administered. Students made an average gain of 3.8 scale score points per semester, meeting the State Department of Education's expectations for program quality.

USD #1 also serves as the agency assessment center for the General Educational Development (GED) program, the largest preparation and testing site in Connecticut. During the school year, a total of 875 diplomas were awarded, 30 with honors.

Libraries

During the 2007–2008 school year, 11 professional library media specialists/librarians were employed to oversee 14 libraries. The librarians were responsible for operating and maintaining inventories of unit libraries that circulated a total of 82,782 books to the entire inmate population.

Pupil Services

During the 2007–2008 school year, there were 17 full-time education pupil services staff serving the Unified School District #1. In addition, there were 9 part-time transition counselors. Every facility was served by at least one full or part-time counselor or psychologist.

Pupil services staff, counselors, social workers and psychologists provided services such as group counseling, student recruitment for program participation and student placement in various classes. They also created and maintained career information centers and provided career guidance activities and placement services. Counselors and psychologists assisted students with the development of career path plans to enable them to make informed educational and occupational choices. Pupil services staff coordinated the administration of standardized education achievement tests, coordinated and administered the GED tests, and administered the vocational interest and aptitude tests. They also assisted students in developing problem-solving skills, communication skills and employability skills. Pupil services staff consult with staff members and assist with helping students achieve a level consistent with their abilities.

Continuing Education

Students with a GED or high school diploma were offered the opportunity to take part in continuing education. Appropriate post-secondary academic and vocational programs were provided to students who met eligibility requirements.

Youth Offender Grant

State community college academic and vocational post-secondary courses, coupled with transition services, were offered to youth offenders who met particular federal requirements for this special grant program. There were 377 students at 9 sites who took part in the State and Community for Workplace Transition Training for Incarcerated Youth Offenders Program during the 2007–2008 school year. There were 270 students who completed this program which yielded a 72% passage rate.

General Population College Courses

College courses were also offered this year to the general population. There were 577 students enrolled in college classes at 12 sites. Of these students, 504 completed classes which resulted in an 87% passage rate. There were 3 Associates Degrees and 2 Bachelor Degrees awarded to students this year.

Nellie Mae Grant

The Nellie Mae Foundation provides funding for an ABE to College program at Webster CI. This program prepares inmates for a successful transition to college by funding a counselor and teacher who provide a curriculum to these students. College courses have also been funded through this grant.

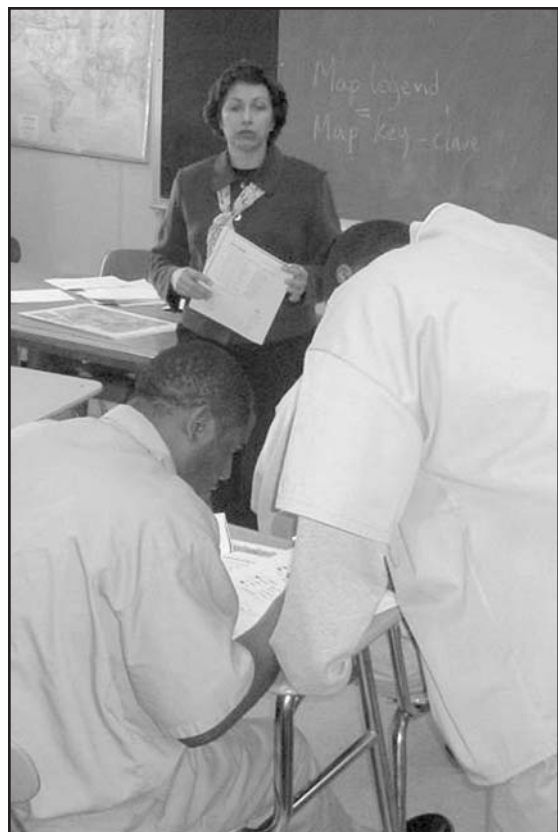
Correspondence Courses and DAN TES

USD #1 also offered post secondary students the opportunity to receive college credits through correspondence courses and the DAN TES testing program.

There were 126 students who participated in correspondence courses. There were 23 students involved in the CLEP/DAN TES college testing program. A total of 66 credits were issued.



Students with a high school diploma are offered the opportunity to take part in various college courses.



The Workplace & Community Transition Training for Incarcerated Youth Offender and Nellie Mae Grant are two federal funding sources for college courses.



A state certified vocational instructor works closely with a student in the carpentry program.



All academic teachers are state certified and highly qualified. Here a teacher is reviewing skills for re-entry to the community.

Personnel

General Information

During the 2007–2008 school year, the Unified School District #1 employed 263 full-time education staff and 40 part-time staff. All teachers, instructors and administrators are appropriately state certified with an Initial, Provisional or Professional certification. All beginning teachers are registered in the state mandated program for Beginning Educator Support and Training (BEST).

Employment

In the 2007–2008 school year, 8 state school teachers, 2 vocational instructor, 8 re-entry teachers, 2 support staff and 2 department heads were hired to fill vacancies in the district. All new full-time state employees attended the Department of Correction Center for Training and Staff Development for 10 weeks to receive training relative to correctional issues. All durational employees participated in facility orientation and training.

Professional Development

USD #1 provides two days of planned professional development activities throughout the school year. Certified staff members are also allowed two days of professional development of their own appropriate choosing. Topics are chosen by a professional development committee and are based on district goals, staff surveys, test results and student needs. In addition to the 2 professional development days, ongoing administrative training and content area training sessions such as Civics, TESOL, and Math were provided during the year.

Mentoring

This school year a formal mentoring program and orientation to USD #1 was established for teaching new to the District and not part of the BEST program to take part in. Each newly hired teacher is provided with a match in their school to assist them with the transition into USD #1.

District Performance Information

Unified School District #1 Student Performance Information

| Performance Item | District |
|--|--|
| 1) Overall growth gain on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) | 1.5 year gain over the course of one school year |
| 2) Overall growth gain on Employability Competency System (ECS) | 3.8 scale points per semester (met State standards of program quality) |
| 3) Number of ABE, GED, Vocational and ESL students who received certificates of achievement and attendance | 2,651 |
| 4) Number of students promoted to higher class levels | 1,747 |
| 5) Number of students who received Vocational Certificates of Completion | 416 |
| 6) Number of students who earned a Connecticut Career Certificate | 101 |
| 8) Number of students who completed college courses | 270 (YO), 504 (GP) |
| 9) Number of students who earned GED diplomas | 875 |
| 10) Number of students who earned their GED with honors | 30 |
| 11) Number of students who earned their EDP Diploma | 12 |
| 12) Number of students who earned a high school diploma through Carnegie Units | 18 |

Significant Accomplishments

Program Initiatives:

- USD #1 continued to enhance and update all school district databases to stay aligned with the State Department Education Public School Information System (PSIS) and the Special Education Database for Assessment in Connecticut (SEDAC). Additional reporting capabilities were added to nearly all of the databases for more complete statistical analysis.
- Approximately 90% of the 2005-2009 USD #1 Strategic Plan was completed, accomplished or addressed. The 2006-2009 Technology Plan objectives have been reviewed, completed, accomplished or addressed for the future. Changes were made as necessary. Communication was increased throughout the district using the LAN system and the X-drive as well as better communication through regular staff meetings, memo binders, bulletin boards, etc.
- Of all students TABE tested this year, the average student functions at a 6th grade level in reading, math and language arts. This has remained the same over the past few years.
- The Expanded GED program continues to be quite successful with GED scores topping out at over 875 diplomas distributed, more than 30 with honors. This is approximately a 61% passage rate, up from a 50% passage rate last year. Overall, we will have increased our numbers by about 250 GEDs over the course of 2 years.
- During the year, 28% of the incarcerated population was engaged in some formal educational training. Forty-five formal graduation and recognition ceremonies were conducted as a means to emphasize the importance of educational opportunity and accomplishment.
- Using the annual TABE district-wide results, as of this point in time, 5,306 pre and post-tests have been administered. There was a 1 year, 8 month increase in reading scores, an 8 month increase in math scores, and a 1 year 9 month increase in language arts scores for an overall grade level increase of 1.5 years.
- Eight GED examiners were hired through the Capitol Region Education Council in the spring to help with the GED program. These positions were extremely instrumental in the increase of GED diplomas for this year.
- A mentoring program for non-BEST teachers was developed.
- USD#1 Vocational Project Request (and form) was developed and implemented. This new procedure is in accordance with Administrative Directive 10.5 Public Service. The system will be incorporated in the DOC's Administrative Directive 10.5.
- USD#1 Culinary Arts instructors enrolled and attended the EXG–Food Service Manager Certification Qualified Food Operator training course given by the Connecticut Hospitality Educational Foundation instructors. As a result of the training and successful exam/testing all instructors received ServeSafe certification. This training is strongly advised by the CT Health Department. USD#1 Instructors training students in this area will result in the Health Department recognizing/honoring the USD#1 student's ServeSafe certificate awarded by the USD#1 Culinary Arts Instructor.

Significant Accomplishments

- An article was placed in the PRIDE AT WORK newsletter and the DOC Intranet requesting staff to donate their unwanted old or in disrepair vehicles to the USD#1's Vocational/Technical Automotive program. As a result: a 1981 Chevrolet Malibu, a GMC truck and a 1992 Ford Escort was received. The vehicles were taken to MYI's Vocational / Technical Auto program to be used for student instruction.
- A purchase order for 214 Maroon graduation caps & gowns, various sizes was placed with Correctional Enterprises. The items will be worn by graduating vocational students at facility school graduation programs.
- An in-depth two-day vocational audit / program review of vocational program operations at the MacDougall CI school was held. The audit report will be used to show compliance with ACA mandates. Overall the programs were in compliance with Department of Correction Directives, Unified School District Policy & Procedures, Office of Health & Safety Administration regulations and State and Federal Education regulations.
- The new CT Department of Labor and Department of Correction's USD#1 Prospective Apprenticeship program was activated. Students who complete the USD#1's Vocational / Technical Programs (curriculum approved by DOL) and enter a similar apprenticeship program with a recognized CT apprenticeship Sponsor (employer) shall be eligible for a maximum of 1000 hours of on- the job credits toward the completion of the apprenticeship program. The Labor Department. has made their counselors in the CTWorks locations aware of the new policy.
- Over 1,000 inmates received certificates of completion for participating in the 21 day re-entry classes.

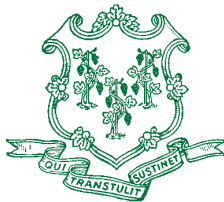
Cost Savings Measures:

- Collectively the Vocational/Technology Cabinet Making, Carpentry, Small Engine, Drafting, Electronics Horticulture, Graphic & Print, Optical and the Pre-Vocational programs continue to perform thousands of jobs for this agency, and other state agencies at a substantial cost savings.
- The Optical Technology program fabricated 4,000 pairs of eyeglasses, with a value of approximately \$350,000.
- The facilities with Vocational Commercial Cleaning programs (Cheshire CI, Gates CI, York CI) not only use the programs to help keep the facility clean but also train offenders in the proper method of using cleaning products in a non-wasteful manner.
- Graphic & Print programs use scrap paper to make note pads and continue to manufacture student composition notebooks. These products save agency funds since they would otherwise be ordered from a contract vendor
- Waste was reduced by using more automated technology rather than paper forms. Also, less time was used by staff to document, collect, store and analyze data using the enhanced databases.
- Through the use of technology many of the documents are available on an electronic format. This allows for staff to complete documents in a professional manner and decrease the number of photocopies that need to be made.

Theresa C. Lantz
Commissioner

Mary M. Marcial
Director
Programs and Treatment

William B. Barber
Superintendent
Unified School District #1



**State of Connecticut
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