

CSDE Intervention in Hartford Public Schools

May 15, 2024: Accountability and Support Committee Meeting – State Board of Education

The Committee hears testimony from the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and the Hartford Public Schools (HPS) superintendent regarding the impact of proposed 2024–25 budget reductions, particularly cuts to staffing.

June 5, 2024: Full State Board of Education Action

The Connecticut State Board of Education authorizes the Commissioner of Education to take necessary actions under Section 10-223e of the Connecticut General Statutes to stabilize the fiscal operations of Hartford Public Schools. In response, the CSDE deployed a three-pronged approach that began immediately recognizing that when a district manages its funding, leveraging and allocating all available resources effectively, it ensures student access to a quality education that meets their individual needs and prepares them for learning, life, and work beyond school.

CSDE Three-Pronged Approach Concerning HPS' Fiscal Operations Review

Improvement of Financial Systems

Public Works
Contracted June 20, 2024

46 Findings and Recommendations



[Fiscal Services Review
of Hartford Public
Schools](#)

Published March 5, 2025

Technical Assistance
provided by Public Works to guide
implementation of the recommen-
dations, March–June 2025

Special Education Services Assessment and Enhancement

New Solutions K12
Contracted September 6, 2024

6 Findings and Recommendations



[Executive Summary
of the Final Findings
Report](#)

Published May 7, 2025

Enhanced Monitoring Activities
initiated by CSDE April 9, 2025

Magnet School Assessment: Optimizing Funds Utilization

CSDE Office of Internal Audit
Commenced July 2024

3 Findings and Recommendations



[Executive Summary
of Hartford Magnet
School Operations](#)

Published Nov. 5, 2025

Guidance and Support
Report shared with district and city
leaders. CSDE developing next steps.

CSDE Strategic Action Plan

In alignment with the April 2025 initiated special education enhanced monitoring activities, the CSDE deployed an Accountability Team in July 2025 to: (a) ensure Hartford Public Schools implements the recommendations identified by Public Works and New Solutions K12; (b) deliver technical assistance and coordination of supports to HPS on a monthly basis aligned with the recommendations and any issues that emerge; (c) intensify support and targeted monitoring activities within the district concerning special education including, but not limited to, comprehensive parent interviews, detailed verification of individualized education program service implementation, and robust onsite program reviews focused on both compliance and quality of services; and (d) identify additional recommendations for improvement as an outcome of the CSDE's enhanced role in overseeing HPS' special education implementation and the Magnet School Assessment, ensuring accountability at every stage and sustaining a close watch on measurable progress.