



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools and Heads of Schools

FROM: Attorney Michael P. McKeon
Director of Legal and Governmental Affairs

DATE: June 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Current Statutes Pertaining to School Accommodations

In October 2008, the Connecticut State Department of Education [“CSDE”] issued a comprehensive *School Accommodations Workshop Package*, which included citations to and discussions of Connecticut statutes pertaining to school accommodations, including student transportation. There were also model policies and forms. This information can be accessed at the following link: [I. SUMMARIES \(ct.gov\)](#) Although in the intervening years some of these statutes have remain unchanged, there have been significant amendments to a number of them. Consequently, and with the 2022 legislative session having concluded, the CSDE is providing the following updated iterations of the statutory provisions that were included in its October 2008 *School Accommodations Workshop Package* as well as some additional, related statutes that have been enacted since that time.

The statutes replicated herein are not intended to represent all Connecticut laws that apply to school boards; rather, they are focused on the school accommodations that are addressed or contemplated in Section 10-186 of the Connecticut General Statutes as well as in related or ancillary statutory enactments. Most, if not all, of these statutes have commonalities, and an example of their interrelatedness is illustrated in the first sentence of Section 10-186(a), which provides: “Each local or regional board of education shall furnish, by transportation or otherwise, school accommodations so that each child five years of age and over and under twenty-one years of age who is not a graduate of a high school or technical education and career school may attend public school, except as provided in section 10-233c and subsection (d) of section 10-233d.” In this instance, and given the concluding “exception” clause, one must be aware of these latter two statutory provisions in order to understand the scope of the former.¹

A school board’s obligation to provide student transportation is not only expressly mandated by Section 10-186(a), it is also included within Section 10-220(a), which directs that school boards “shall make such provisions as will enable each child of school age residing in the district to attend some public day school for the period required by law and provide for the transportation of children wherever transportation is reasonable and desirable, and for such purpose may make contracts

¹Please note that P.A. 22-80, §31 amended Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-76a(2), thereby changing the definition of “Child” from “any person under *twenty-one years* of age” to “any person under *twenty-two years* of age” (emphasis added) in accordance with the decision in A.R. v. Connecticut State Bd. of Educ., 5 F.4th 155 (2nd Cir. 2021). Although the just-quoted language from Section 10-186(a) was not expressly revised, a student with disabilities whose Individualized Education Programs or Section 504 Accommodations Plans require transportation is entitled to such transportation up through the date of the student’s 22nd birthday.

covering periods of not more than five years.” As is evident from the fact that it is mandated by two separate statutes, the provision of student transportation is one of a school board’s most fundamental and important duties. Therefore, it is important that school boards understand the scope of that obligation.

For example, given Section 10-186(a)’s sweeping mandate that each school board “furnish, by transportation or otherwise, school accommodations so that each child . . . may attend public school,” some school districts have recently asked whether they must offer transportation to *all* of their students or whether it is permissible to revise school bus routes to reflect actual student ridership. The short answer is that school boards do have the right to structure bus routes that correspond to ridership. In fact, districts not only have that right, but many regularly exercise it. The authority for that lies in Section 10-220(a).

As noted, in iterating the educational obligations of local and regional boards of education, Section 10-220(a) mandates that they “provide for the transportation of children **wherever transportation is reasonable and desirable**, and for such purpose may make contracts covering periods of not more than five years” (emphasis added). Based upon that provision, local and regional school boards are entitled to, and do, create transportation policies that essentially define when “transportation is reasonable and desirable.” These transportation policies must, of course, implement the statutory mandates; for example, a school board cannot conclude that transportation is *never* reasonable and desirable. At the same time, these policies can also be shaped by each district’s singular characteristics and perspectives. For example, a heavily urbanized district might factor in different considerations than would a largely rural one. Similarly, a town with narrow roads that lack clear lines of sight would certainly have different safety concerns than would a district with flat topography and wider roads. An example of a school transportation policy is included in the CSDE’s October 2008 *School Accommodations Workshop Package*. [I. SUMMARIES \(ct.gov\)](#)

Having been granted the discretion to determine where student transportation is “reasonable and desirable,” a school board may, through its transportation policy, set forth the parameters of district-provided transportation. Perhaps the most common aspect of these limitations is the establishment of distances that students are expected to walk to and from their respective schools (unless, of course, they are driven by their parents or by others). This is typically predicated upon the ages or grades of the students, with longer distances allocated to older students. For the students who live within those prescribed distances, transportation is generally not provided. There are, of course, exceptions for students with disabilities whose Planning and Placement Teams or Section 504 Teams have included transportation in their Individualized Education Programs or Section 504 Accommodations Plans. Additionally, exceptions can and are routinely made for students who despite living within walking distance to their schools would encounter hazardous conditions -- as defined in the board transportation policy -- were they to walk.

School boards that do not run their own buses typically enter into transportation contracts with school bus companies, which contracts, as provided in Section 10-221(a), cannot exceed five years in duration. The districts and bus companies collaborate on setting routes based upon the school board transportation policies, the location and number of students who require busing, and, again,

the existence of hazardous situations – including but not limited to road and traffic conditions – that might necessitate transportation, regardless of how proximate a student may be to the student’s school. Bus routes should not result in students spending more than an hour traveling in either direction.

For those students who *are* provided with transportation, the setting of bus routes also necessarily involves determining the placement of bus stops. Their placement is tied to where students who avail themselves of the transportation reside. Although students are generally expected to walk to these bus stops, when deciding where to place the stops, the school board, in collaboration with its bus company, should take into account the ages of the students and weigh all relevant safety concerns. For example, school districts should take into account traffic counts, speed limits, visibility, and availability of sidewalks or shoulders when determining the route students will be required to take from their respective homes to a bus stop. Furthermore, there should be some consideration as to whether the route to the bus stop would require the students to pass through areas that include hazardous conditions. In short, the same considerations that might qualify a student who lives within walking distance to a school should also be applied when determining bus stops. Given these factors, a school board may decide that younger students -- or even older students in unsafe areas – must be picked up and dropped off at their homes, whereas in other situations in which no hazards or unreasonable distances exist, students may be required to walk a considerable distance from their homes to their stops.

It is important for school boards to understand that the establishment of bus routes and the placement of bus stops is an ongoing dynamic, and while it is typically recalibrated on an annual basis predicated upon student enrollment and ridership, changes within a school year can be made based upon an ongoing assessment of ridership or a change in conditions – such as the emergence of a hazardous situation that poses a risk to students. Boards should also bear in mind that under Section 10-186(b), parents, guardians, emancipated minors, or students eighteen or older are entitled to request a hearing before the local or regional board of education – or a hearing officer appointed by the board -- to contest the placement of a bus stop or the declination of school transportation. In such hearings, the school administration bears the burden of proving the appropriateness of either the bus stop or the non-provision of transportation. Typically, the standard is whether the administration’s decision complies with the school board’s transportation policy. Furthermore, parties to such hearings that are aggrieved by the local or regional board of education’s decision can appeal pursuant to Section 10-186 to the CSDE, which will appoint a hearing officer to hear such appeal, and, ultimately, the aggrieved party from that CSDE-level hearing can appeal to the Connecticut Superior Court pursuant to Section 10-187 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

If you have any questions or would like further clarification on this memorandum or the following statutory enactments, please feel free to contact me at mike.mckeeon@ct.gov.

SELECTED STATUTES PERTAINING TO STUDENT TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED SCHOOL ACCOMMODATIONS -- JUNE 2022

Sec. 10-15b Access of parent or guardian to student's records. Inspection and subpoena of school or student records. (a) Either parent or legal guardian of a minor student shall, upon written request to a local or regional board of education and within a reasonable time, be entitled to knowledge of and access to all educational, medical, or similar records maintained in such student's cumulative record, except that no parent or legal guardian shall be entitled to information considered privileged under section 10-154a. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit a parent who is incarcerated from being entitled to knowledge of and access to all educational, medical or similar records maintained in the cumulative record of any minor student of such incarcerated parent, except that such incarcerated parent shall not be entitled to such records if (1) such information is considered privileged under section 10-154a, (2) such incarcerated parent has been convicted in this state or any other state of a violation of section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a, or (3) such incarcerated parent is prohibited from knowledge of or access to such student's cumulative record pursuant to a court order.

(b) The parent or legal guardian with whom the student does not primarily reside shall be provided with all school notices that are provided to the parent or legal guardian with whom the student primarily resides. Such notices shall be mailed to the parent or legal guardian requesting them at the same time they are provided to the parent or legal guardian with whom the child primarily resides. Such requests shall be effective for as long as the child remains in the school the child is attending at the time of the request.

(c) If any private or public school is served with a subpoena issued by competent authority directing the production of school or student records in connection with any proceedings in any court, the school upon which such subpoena is served may deliver such record or at its option a copy thereof to the clerk of such court. Such clerk shall give a receipt for the same, shall be responsible for the safekeeping thereof, shall not permit the same to be removed from the premises of the court and shall notify the school to call for the same when it is no longer needed for use in court. Any such record or copy so delivered to such clerk shall be sealed in an envelope which shall indicate the name of the school or student, the name of the attorney subpoenaing the same and the title of the case referred to in the subpoena. No such record or copy shall be open to inspection by any person except upon the order of a judge of the court concerned, and any such record or copy shall at all times be subject to the order of such judge. Any and all parts of any such record or copy, if not otherwise inadmissible, shall be admitted in evidence without any preliminary testimony, if there is attached thereto the certification in affidavit form of the person in charge of such records indicating that such record or copy is the original record or a copy thereof, made in the regular course of the business of the school, and that it was the regular course of such business to make such record at the time of the transactions, occurrences or events recorded therein or within a reasonable time thereafter. A subpoena directing production of such school or student records shall be served not less than eighteen hours before the time for production, provided such subpoena shall be valid if served less than eighteen hours before the time of production if written notice of intent to serve such subpoena has been delivered to the person in charge of such records not less than eighteen hours or more than two weeks before such time for production.

Sec. 10-33. Tuition in towns in which no high school is maintained. Any local board of education which does not maintain a high school shall designate a high school approved by the State Board of Education as the school which any child may attend who has completed an elementary school course, and such board of

education shall pay the tuition of such child residing with a parent or guardian in such school district and attending such high school.

Sec. 10-34. Approval by state board of incorporated or endowed high school or academy. The State Board of Education may examine any incorporated or endowed high school or academy in this state and, if it appears that such school or academy meets the requirements of the State Board of Education for the approval of public high schools, said board may approve such school or academy under the provisions of this part, and any town in which a high school is not maintained shall pay the whole of the tuition fees of pupils attending such school or academy, except if it is a school under ecclesiastical control.

Sec. 10-35. Notice of discontinuance of high school service to nonresidents. Cooperative arrangements and school building projects for school accommodations. (a) A board of education which is providing educational facilities for nonresident high school students and which desires to discontinue furnishing such service to nonresident students shall notify the board of education of the school district wherein such pupils reside that such facilities will not be so furnished, such notice to be given not less than one year prior to the time when such facilities will cease to be so furnished, provided the board of education not maintaining a high school may enter into an agreement with another board of education to provide such facilities for a period not exceeding ten years, in which event the time agreed upon shall not be changed except by agreement between the parties.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, boards of education which enter into a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a for the purpose of a school building project for school accommodations for students residing within the school districts that are members of such cooperative arrangement, may enter into agreements to provide such school accommodations for a period of not less than twenty years.

Sec. 10-54. Transportation grants. Any local or regional school district which transports pupils to a regional school and any regional school district which transports pupils attending any other school in lieu of that provided by such district in accordance with approval by the regional board of education pursuant to section 10-55 shall be reimbursed by the state for such pupil transportation in accordance with the provisions of sections 10-97 and 10-266m. At the close of each school year any local or regional board of education which provides such transportation shall file an application for such reimbursement on a form to be provided by the State Board of Education. Payments shall be made as soon as possible after the close of each fiscal year.

Sec. 10-66ee. Charter school funding. Special education students. Transportation. Contracts. Cooperative arrangements. (a) For the purposes of equalization aid under section 10-262h a student enrolled (1) in a local charter school shall be considered a student enrolled in the school district in which such student resides, and (2) in a state charter school shall not be considered a student enrolled in the school district in which such student resides.

(b) (1) The local board of education of the school district in which a student enrolled in a local charter school resides shall pay, annually, in accordance with its charter, to the fiscal authority for the charter school for each such student the amount specified in its charter, including the reasonable special education costs of students requiring special education. The board of education shall be eligible for reimbursement for such special education costs pursuant to section 10-76g.

(2) The local or regional board of education of the school district in which the local charter school is located shall be responsible for the financial support of such local charter school at a level that is at least equal to the product of (A) the per pupil cost for the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year for which support will be provided, and (B) the number of students attending such local charter school in the current fiscal year. As used in this subdivision, “per pupil cost” means, for a local or regional board of education, the quotient of the current program expenditures, as defined in section 10-262f, divided by the number of resident students, as defined in section 10-262f, of such local or regional board of education.

(c) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year thereafter, the State Board of Education may approve, within available appropriations, a per student grant to a local charter school in an amount not to exceed three thousand dollars for each student enrolled in such local charter school, provided the local or regional board of education for such local charter school and the representatives of the exclusive bargaining unit for certified employees, chosen pursuant to section 10-153b, mutually agree on staffing flexibility in such local charter school, and such agreement is approved by the State Board of Education. The state shall make such payments, in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a local charter school for each student enrolled in such school as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July fifteenth and September first based on estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than January first and the remaining amount not later than April first, each based on student enrollment on October first.

(d) (1) As used in this subsection:

(A) “Total charter need students” means the sum of (i) the number of students enrolled in state charter schools under the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year, and (ii) for the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school year thereafter, (I) thirty per cent of the number of children enrolled in such state charter schools eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk, (II) fifteen per cent of the number of such children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk in excess of the number of such children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk that is equal to sixty per cent of the total number of children enrolled in such state charter schools, and (III) twenty-five per cent of the number of students enrolled in such state charter schools who are English language learners, as defined in section 10-76kk.

(B) “Foundation” has the same meaning as provided in section 10-262f.

(C) “Charter full weighted funding per student” means the quotient of (i) the product of the total charter need students and the foundation, and (ii) the number of students enrolled in state charter schools under the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year.

(D) “Charter grant adjustment” means the absolute value of the difference between the foundation and charter full weighted funding per student for state charter schools under the control of the governing authority for such state charter schools for the school year.

(2) For the fiscal year ending July 1, 2022, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus four and one-tenth per cent of its charter grant adjustment.

(3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the state shall pay in accordance with this subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school for each student enrolled in such school, the foundation plus fourteen and seventy-six-one-hundredths per cent of its charter grant adjustment.

(4) Payments under subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection shall be paid as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than July fifteenth and September first based on estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five per cent of the amount not later than January first and the remaining amount not later than April first, each based on student enrollment on October first.

(5) In the case of a student identified as requiring special education, the school district in which the student resides shall: (A) Hold the planning and placement team meeting for such student and shall invite representatives from the charter school to participate in such meeting; and (B) pay the state charter school, on a quarterly basis, an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the state charter school for such student pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection and amounts received from other state, federal, local or private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. The charter school a student requiring special education attends shall be responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services mandated by the student's individualized education program whether such services are provided by the charter school or by the school district in which the student resides.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, if at the end of a fiscal year amounts received by a state charter school, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section, are unexpended, the charter school (1) may use, for the expenses of the charter school for the following fiscal year, up to ten per cent of such amounts, and (2) may (A) create a reserve fund to finance a specific capital or equipment purchase or another specified project as may be approved by the commissioner, and (B) deposit into such fund up to five per cent of such amounts.

(f) The local or regional board of education of the school district in which the charter school is located shall provide transportation services for students of the charter school who reside in such school district pursuant to section 10-273a unless the charter school makes other arrangements for such transportation. Any local or regional board of education may provide transportation services to a student attending a charter school outside of the district in which the student resides and, if it elects to provide such transportation, shall be reimbursed pursuant to section 10-266m for the reasonable costs of such transportation. Any local or regional board of education providing transportation services under this subsection may suspend such services in accordance with the provisions of section 10-233c. The parent or guardian of any student denied the transportation services required to be provided pursuant to this subsection may appeal such denial in the manner provided in sections 10-186 and 10-187.

(g) Charter schools shall be eligible to the same extent as boards of education for any grant for special education, competitive state grants and grants pursuant to sections 10-17g and 10-266w.

(h) If the commissioner finds that any charter school uses a grant under this section for a purpose that is inconsistent with the provisions of this part, the commissioner may require repayment of such grant to the state.

(i) Charter schools shall receive, in accordance with federal law and regulations, any federal funds available for the education of any pupils attending public schools.

(j) The governing council of a charter school may (1) contract or enter into other agreements for purposes of administrative or other support services, transportation, plant services or leasing facilities or equipment, and (2) receive and expend private funds or public funds, including funds from local or regional boards of education and funds received by local charter schools for out-of-district students, for school purposes.

(k) If in any fiscal year, more than one new state or local charter school is approved pursuant to section 10-66bb and is awaiting funding pursuant to the provisions of this section, the State Board of Education

shall determine which school is funded first based on a consideration of the following factors in order of importance as follows: (1) The quality of the proposed program as measured against the criteria required in the charter school application process pursuant to section 10-66bb, (2) whether the applicant has a demonstrated record of academic success by students, (3) whether the school is located in a school district with a demonstrated need for student improvement, and (4) whether the applicant has plans concerning the preparedness of facilities, staffing and outreach to students.

(l) Within available appropriations, the state may provide a grant in an amount not to exceed seventy-five thousand dollars to any newly approved state charter school that assists the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, for start-up costs associated with the new charter school program.

(m) Charter schools may, to the same extent as local and regional boards of education, enter into cooperative arrangements as described in section 10-158a, provided such arrangements are approved by the Commissioner of Education. Any state charter school participating in a cooperative arrangement under this subsection shall maintain its status as a state charter school and not be excused from any obligations pursuant to sections 10-66aa to 10-66ll, inclusive.

(n) The Commissioner of Education shall provide any town receiving aid pursuant to subsection (c) or (d) of this section with the amount of such aid to be paid to each state or local charter school located in such town.

Sec. 10-76d. Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education programs and services. Medicaid enrollment, participation and billing requirements. Development of individualized education program. Planning and placement team meetings. Public agency placements; apportionment of costs. Relationship of insurance to special education costs. Prohibition on punishing members of planning and placement teams for certain behavior during meetings. (a)(1) In accordance with the regulations and procedures established by the Commissioner of Education and approved by the State Board of Education, each local or regional board of education shall provide the professional services requisite to identification of children requiring special education, identify each such child within its jurisdiction, determine the eligibility of such children for special education pursuant to sections 10-76a to 10-76h, inclusive, prescribe appropriate educational programs for eligible children, maintain a record thereof and make such reports as the commissioner may require. No child may be required to obtain a prescription for a substance covered by the Controlled Substances Act, 21 USC 801 et seq., as amended from time to time, as a condition of attending school, receiving an evaluation under section 10-76ff or receiving services pursuant to sections 10-76a to 10-76h, inclusive, or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC 1400 et seq., as amended from time to time.

(2) Not later than December 1, 2017, each local and regional board of education shall (A) enroll as a provider in the state medical assistance program, (B) participate in the Medicaid School Based Child Health Program administered by the Department of Social Services, and (C) submit billable service information electronically to the Department of Social Services, or its billing agent. For each local or regional board of education with a student population of less than one thousand students, a cost benefit analysis may be conducted by such local or regional board of education in a form prescribed by the Commissioner of Social Services to determine whether the cost to participate in the medical assistance program exceeds the revenue that would be generated for the local or regional board of education. A local or regional board of education exempted from the requirements of this subdivision after such cost benefit analysis shall complete and submit such analysis to the commissioner every three years in order to remain exempt. Not later than

September 1, 2018, the Commissioner of Social Services shall develop a cost benefit analysis model and determine the feasibility of directly certifying students as eligible for Medicaid benefits on behalf of a local or regional board of education.

(3) Any local or regional board of education may enter into an agreement with a third-party vendor or another local or regional board of education to comply with the requirements of subdivision (2) of this subsection. Such agreement may provide that costs for services provided on behalf of a local or regional board of education shall be paid from the grant received pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection and shall be contingent on receipt of funds from such grant in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of providing such service. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17b-99, the Commissioner of Social Services shall not assess or extrapolate any overpayments to any third-party provider that contracts with the local or regional board of education to provide Medicaid services, when the error is determined by the department to be caused by (A) a clerical error; (B) information provided by the local or regional board of education; or (C) another third-party vendor in the submission of billable service information.

(4) Each local or regional board of education, through the planning and placement team established in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Board of Education under this section, shall determine a child's Medicaid enrollment status. In determining Medicaid enrollment status, the planning and placement team shall: (A) Inquire of the parents or guardians of each such child whether the child is enrolled in or may be eligible for Medicaid; and (B) if the child may be eligible for Medicaid, (i) request that the parent or guardian of the child apply for Medicaid, and (ii) comply with the requirements under 34 CFR 300.154, as amended from time to time, prior to billing for services under the Medicaid School Based Child Health Program administered by the Department of Social Services. For the purpose of determining Medicaid rates for Medicaid eligible special education and related services based on a representative cost sampling method, the board of education shall make available documentation of the provision and costs of Medicaid eligible special education and related services for any students receiving such services, regardless of an individual student's Medicaid enrollment status, to the Commissioner of Social Services or to the commissioner's authorized agent at such time and in such manner as prescribed. For the purpose of determining Medicaid rates for Medicaid eligible special education and related services based on an actual cost method, the local or regional board of education shall submit documentation of the costs and utilization of Medicaid eligible special education and related services for all students receiving such services to the Commissioner of Social Services or to the commissioner's authorized agent at such time and in such manner as prescribed. The commissioner or such agent may use information received from local or regional boards of education for the purposes of (I) ascertaining students' Medicaid eligibility status, (II) submitting Medicaid claims, (III) complying with state and federal audit requirements, and (IV) determining Medicaid rates for Medicaid eligible special education and related services. No child shall be denied special education and related services in the event the parent or guardian refuses to apply for Medicaid.

(5) Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, the Commissioner of Social Services shall make grant payments to local or regional boards of education in amounts representing fifty per cent of the federal portion of Medicaid claims processed for Medicaid eligible special education and related services provided to Medicaid eligible students in the school district. Beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, the commissioner shall exclude any enhanced federal medical assistance percentages in calculating the federal portion of such Medicaid claims processed. Such grant payments shall be made on at least a quarterly basis and may represent estimates of amounts due to local or regional boards of education. Any grant payments made on an estimated basis, including payments made by the Department of Education for the fiscal years prior to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, shall be subsequently reconciled to grant amounts due based upon filed and accepted Medicaid claims and Medicaid rates. If, upon review, it is determined that a grant payment or portion of a grant payment was made for ineligible or disallowed Medicaid claims, the local or regional board of education shall reimburse the Department of Social Services for any grant payment amount received based upon ineligible or disallowed Medicaid claims.

(6) Pursuant to federal law, the Commissioner of Social Services, as the state's Medicaid agent, shall determine rates for Medicaid eligible special education and related services pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection. The Commissioner of Social Services may request and the Commissioner of Education and towns and regional school districts shall provide information as may be necessary to set such rates.

(7) Based on school district special education and related services expenditures, the state's Medicaid agent shall report and certify to the federal Medicaid authority the state match required by federal law to obtain Medicaid reimbursement of eligible special education and related services costs.

(8) Payments received pursuant to this section shall be paid to the local or regional board of education which has incurred such costs in addition to the funds appropriated by the town to such board for the current fiscal year.

(9) The planning and placement team shall, in accordance with the provisions of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, 20 USC 1400, et seq., as amended from time to time, develop and include a statement of transition service needs in the individualized education program for each child requiring special education, beginning not later than the first individualized education program to be in effect when such child becomes fourteen years of age, or younger if the planning and placement team determines it is appropriate. Such individualized education program shall include (A) appropriate measurable postsecondary goals based upon age-appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment and, where appropriate, independent living skills; and (B) the transition services, including courses of study, needed to assist such child in reaching those goals. Such individualized education program shall be updated annually thereafter in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as requiring the Department of Aging and Disability Services to lower the age of transitional services for a child with disabilities from sixteen to fourteen years of age.

(10) (A) Each local and regional board of education responsible for providing special education and related services to a child or pupil shall notify the parent or guardian of a child who requires or who may require special education, a pupil if such pupil is an emancipated minor or eighteen years of age or older who requires or who may require special education or a surrogate parent appointed pursuant to section 10-94g, in writing, at least five school days before such board proposes to, or refuses to, initiate or change the child's or pupil's identification, evaluation or educational placement or the provision of a free appropriate public education to the child or pupil.

(B) Upon request by a parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent, the responsible local or regional board of education shall provide such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent an opportunity to meet with a member of the planning and placement team designated by such board prior to the referral planning and placement team meeting at which the assessments and evaluations of the child or pupil who requires or may require special education is presented to such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent for the first time. Such meeting shall be for the sole purpose of discussing the planning and placement team process and any concerns such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent has regarding the child or pupil who requires or may require special education.

(C) Such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent shall (i) be given at least five school days' prior notice of any planning and placement team meeting conducted for such child or pupil, (ii) have the right to be present at and participate in all portions of such meeting at which an educational program for such child or pupil is developed, reviewed or revised, (iii) have the right to have (I) advisors of such person's own choosing and at such person's own expense, (II) the school paraprofessional assigned to such child or pupil, if any, and (III) such child or pupil's birth-to-three service coordinator, if any, attend and participate in all portions of such meeting at which an educational program for such child or pupil is developed, reviewed or revised, and (iv) have the right to have each recommendation made in such child or pupil's birth-to-three

individualized transition plan, as required by section 17a-248e, if any, addressed by the planning and placement team during such meeting at which an educational program for such child or pupil is developed.

(D) Immediately upon the formal identification of any child as a child requiring special education and at each planning and placement team meeting for such child, the responsible local or regional board of education shall inform the parent or guardian of such child or surrogate parent or, in the case of a pupil who is an emancipated minor or eighteen years of age or older, the pupil of (i) the laws relating to special education, (ii) the rights of such parent, guardian, surrogate parent or pupil under such laws and the regulations adopted by the State Board of Education relating to special education, including the right of a parent, guardian or surrogate parent to (I) withhold from enrolling such child in kindergarten, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-184, and (II) have advisors and the school paraprofessional assigned to such child or pupil attend and participate in all portions of such meeting at which an educational program for such child or pupil is developed, reviewed or revised, in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, and (iii) any relevant information and resources relating to individualized education programs created by the Department of Education, including, but not limited to, information relating to transition resources and services for high school students. If such parent, guardian, surrogate parent or pupil does not attend a planning and placement team meeting, the responsible local or regional board of education shall mail such information to such person.

(E) Each local and regional board of education shall have in effect at the beginning of each school year an educational program for each child or pupil who has been identified as eligible for special education.

(F) At each initial planning and placement team meeting for a child or pupil, the responsible local or regional board of education shall inform the parent, guardian, surrogate parent or pupil of (i) the laws relating to physical restraint and seclusion pursuant to section 10-236b and the rights of such parent, guardian, surrogate parent or pupil under such laws and the regulations adopted by the State Board of Education relating to physical restraint and seclusion, and (ii) the right of such parent, guardian, surrogate parent or pupil, during such meeting at which an educational program for such child or pupil is developed, to have (I) such child or pupil's birth-to-three service coordinator attend and participate in all portions of such meeting, and (II) each recommendation made in the transition plan, as required by section 17a-248e, by such child or pupil's birth-to-three service coordinator addressed by the planning and placement team.

(G) Upon request by a parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent, the responsible local or regional board of education shall provide the results of the assessments and evaluations used in the determination of eligibility for special education for a child or pupil to such parent, guardian, surrogate parent or pupil at least three school days before the referral planning and placement team meeting at which such results of the assessments and evaluations will be discussed for the first time.

(H) Each local or regional board of education shall monitor the development of each child who, pursuant to subsection (a) of section 17a-248e, has been (i) referred for a registration on a mobile application designated by the Commissioner of Early Childhood, in partnership with such child's parent, guardian or surrogate parent, or (ii) provided a form for such child's parent, guardian or surrogate parent to complete and submit to such local or regional board of education that screens for developmental and social-emotional delays using a validated screening tool, such as the Ages and Stages Questionnaire and the Ages and Stages Social-Emotional Questionnaire, or its equivalent. If such monitoring results in suspecting a child of having a developmental delay, the board shall schedule a planning and placement team meeting with such child's parent, guardian or surrogate parent for the purposes of identifying services for which such child may be eligible, including, but not limited to, a preschool program under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Act, 20 USC 1471 et seq. If a parent, guardian or surrogate parent of any child referred for a registration on the mobile application or provided a form to complete and submit, pursuant to subsection (a) of section 17a-248e, fails to complete such registration or complete and submit such form after a period of six months

from the date of such referral or provision of such form, the board shall send a reminder, in the form and manner determined by the board, to such parent, guardian or surrogate parent to complete such registration or complete and submit such form. The board shall send another reminder after a period of one year from such referral or provision of such form if such registration remains incomplete or such form is not submitted.

(11) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, for purposes of Medicaid reimbursement, when recommended by the planning and placement team and specified on the individualized education program, a service eligible for reimbursement under the Medicaid program shall be deemed to be authorized by a practitioner of the healing arts under 42 CFR 440.130, provided such service is recommended by an appropriately licensed or certified individual and is within the individual's scope of practice. Certain items of durable medical equipment, recommended pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision, may be subject to prior authorization requirements established by the Commissioner of Social Services. Diagnostic and evaluation services eligible for reimbursement under the Medicaid program and recommended by the planning and placement team shall also be deemed to be authorized by a practitioner of the healing arts under 42 CFR 440.130 provided such services are recommended by an appropriately licensed or certified individual and are within the individual's scope of practice.

(12) The Commissioner of Social Services shall implement the policies and procedures necessary for the purposes of this subsection while in the process of adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form, provided notice of intent to adopt the regulations is published in the Connecticut Law Journal within twenty days of implementing the policies and procedures. Such policies and procedures shall be valid until the time final regulations are effective.

(b) In accordance with the regulations of the State Board of Education, each local and regional board of education shall: (1) Provide special education for school-age children requiring special education who are described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (5) of section 10-76a. The obligation of the school district under this subsection shall terminate when such child is graduated from high school or reaches age twenty-one, whichever occurs first; and (2) provide special education for children requiring special education who are described in subparagraph (A) or (C) of subdivision (5) of section 10-76a. The State Board of Education shall define the criteria by which each local or regional board of education shall determine whether a given child is eligible for special education pursuant to this subdivision, and such determination shall be made by the board of education when requested by a parent or guardian, or upon referral by a physician, clinic or social worker, provided the parent or guardian so permits. To meet its obligations under this subdivision, each local or regional board of education may, with the approval of the State Board of Education, make agreements with any private school, agency or institution to provide the necessary preschool special education program, provided such private facility has an existing program which adequately meets the special education needs, according to standards established by the State Board of Education, of the preschool children for whom such local or regional board of education is required to provide such an education and provided such district does not have such an existing program in its public schools. Such private school, agency or institution may be a facility which has not been approved by the Commissioner of Education for special education, provided such private facility is approved by the commissioner as an independent school or licensed by the Office of Early Childhood as a child care center, group child care home or family child care home, as described in section 19a-77, or be both approved and licensed.

(c) Each local or regional board of education may provide special education for children requiring it who are described by subparagraph (B) of subdivision (5) of section 10-76a and for other exceptional children for whom provision of special education is not required by law.

(d) To meet its obligations under sections 10-76a to 10-76g, inclusive, any local or regional board of education may make agreements with another such board or subject to the consent of the parent or guardian of any child affected thereby, make agreements, or on and after July 1, 2019, enter into a contract with any

private provider of special education services, as defined in section 10-91g, private school, or public or private agency or institution, including a group home to provide the necessary programs or services, but no expenditures made pursuant to a contract with a private provider of special education services, private school, agency or institution for such special education shall be paid under the provisions of section 10-76g, unless (1) such contract includes a description of the educational program and other treatment the child is to receive, a statement of minimal goals and objectives which it is anticipated such child will achieve, an estimated time schedule for returning the child to the community or transferring such child to another appropriate facility, and an explanation of how the tuition or costs for services provided under the agreement or contract are to be calculated, (2) subject to the provisions of this subsection, the educational needs of the child for whom such special education is being provided cannot be met by public school arrangements in the opinion of the commissioner who, before granting approval of such contract for purposes of payment, shall consider such factors as the particular needs of the child, the appropriateness and efficacy of the program offered by such private school, agency or institution, and the economic feasibility of comparable alternatives, and (3) commencing with the 1987-1988 school year and for each school year thereafter, each such private provider of special education services, private school, agency or institution has been approved for special education by the Commissioner of Education or by the appropriate agency for facilities located out of state, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection or any regulations adopted by the State Board of Education setting placement priorities, placements pursuant to this section and payments under section 10-76g may be made pursuant to such a contract if the public arrangements are more costly than the private provider of special education services, private school, institution or agency, provided the private provider of special education services, private school, institution or agency meets the educational needs of the child and its program is appropriate and efficacious. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection to the contrary, nothing in this subsection shall (A) require the removal of a child from a nonapproved facility if the child was placed there prior to July 7, 1987, pursuant to the determination of a planning and placement team that such a placement was appropriate and such placement was approved by the Commissioner of Education, or (B) prohibit the placement of a child at a nonapproved facility if a planning and placement team determines prior to July 7, 1987, that the child be placed in a nonapproved facility for the 1987-1988 school year. Each child placed in a nonapproved facility as described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (3) of this subsection may continue at the facility provided the planning and placement team or hearing officer appointed pursuant to section 10-76h determines that the placement is appropriate. Expenditures incurred by any local or regional board of education to maintain children in nonapproved facilities as described in said subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be paid pursuant to the provisions of section 10-76g. Any local or regional board of education may enter into a contract with the owners or operators of any sheltered workshop or rehabilitation center for provision of an education occupational training program for children requiring special education who are at least sixteen years of age, provided such workshop or institution shall have been approved by the appropriate state agency. Whenever any child is identified by a local or regional board of education as a child requiring special education and such board of education determines that the requirements for special education could be met by a program provided within the district or by agreement with another board of education except for the child's need for services other than educational services such as medical, psychiatric or institutional care or services, such board of education may meet its obligation to furnish special education for such child by paying the reasonable cost of special education instruction in a private provider of special education services, private school, hospital or other institution provided such board of education or the commissioner concurs that placement in such institution is necessary and proper and no state institution is available to meet such child's needs. Any such private provider of special education services, private school, hospital or other institution receiving such reasonable cost of special education instruction by such board of education shall submit all required documentation to such board of education for purposes of submitting claims to the Medicaid School Based Child Health Program administered by the Department of Social Services.

(e) (1) Any local or regional board of education which provides special education pursuant to any mandates in this section shall provide transportation, to and from, but not beyond the curb of, the residence of the child, unless otherwise agreed upon by the board and the parent or guardian of the child, tuition, room and board and other items necessary to the provision of such special education except for children who are placed in a residential facility because they need services other than educational services, in which case the financial responsibility of the school district and payment to such district shall be limited to the reasonable costs of special education instruction as defined in the regulations of the State Board of Education. If a hearing board, pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-76h, rejects the educational program prescribed by the local or regional board of education and determines that a placement by a parent or guardian was appropriate, the local or regional board of education shall reimburse the parent or guardian for the reasonable costs incurred for the provision of special education pursuant to this section from the initiation of review procedures as provided by said section 10-76h.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, "public agency" includes the offices of a government of a federally recognized Native American tribe. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the general statutes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1987, and each fiscal year thereafter, whenever a public agency, other than a local or regional board of education, the State Board of Education or the Superior Court acting pursuant to section 10-76h, places a child in a foster home, group home, hospital, state institution, receiving home, custodial institution or any other residential or day treatment facility, and such child requires special education, the local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction the child would otherwise be attending school or, if no such board can be identified, the local or regional board of education of the town where the child is placed, shall provide the requisite special education and related services to such child in accordance with the provisions of this section. Within one business day of such a placement by the Department of Children and Families or offices of a government of a federally recognized Native American tribe, said department or offices shall orally notify the local or regional board of education responsible for providing special education and related services to such child of such placement. The department or offices shall provide written notification to such board of such placement within two business days of the placement. Such local or regional board of education shall convene a planning and placement team meeting for such child within thirty days of the placement and shall invite a representative of the Department of Children and Families or offices of a government of a federally recognized Native American tribe to participate in such meeting. (A) The local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction such child would otherwise be attending school shall be financially responsible for the reasonable costs of such special education and related services in an amount equal to the lesser of one hundred per cent of the costs of such education or the average per pupil educational costs of such board of education for the prior fiscal year, determined in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of section 10-76f. The State Board of Education shall pay on a current basis, except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, any costs in excess of such local or regional board's basic contributions paid by such board of education in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision. (B) Whenever a child is placed pursuant to this subdivision, on or after July 1, 1995, by the Department of Children and Families and the local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction such child would otherwise be attending school cannot be identified, the local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction the child attended school or in whose district the child resided at the time of removal from the home by said department shall be responsible for the reasonable costs of special education and related services provided to such child, for one calendar year or until the child is committed to the state pursuant to section 46b-129 or 46b-140 or is returned to the child's parent or guardian, whichever is earlier. If the child remains in such placement beyond one calendar year the Department of Children and Families shall be responsible for such costs. During the period the local or regional board of education is responsible for the reasonable cost of special education and related services pursuant to this subparagraph, the board shall be responsible for such costs in an amount equal to the lesser of one hundred per cent of the costs of such education and related services or the average per pupil educational costs of such board of education for the prior fiscal year, determined in accordance with the

provisions of subsection (a) of section 10-76f. The State Board of Education shall pay on a current basis, except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, any costs in excess of such local or regional board's basic contributions paid by such board of education in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision. The costs for services other than educational shall be paid by the state agency which placed the child. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to the school districts established within the Department of Children and Families, pursuant to section 17a-37 or the Department of Correction, pursuant to section 18-99a, provided in any case in which special education is being provided at a private residential institution, including the residential components of regional educational service centers, to a child for whom no local or regional board of education can be found responsible under subsection (b) of this section, Unified School District #2 shall provide the special education and related services and be financially responsible for the reasonable costs of such special education instruction for such children. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2007, inclusive, and for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, to June 30, 2023, inclusive, the amount of the grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance with this subdivision shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of this subdivision for such year.

(3) Payment for children who require special education and who reside on state-owned or leased property, and who are not the educational responsibility of the unified school districts established pursuant to section 17a-37 or section 18-99a, shall be made in the following manner: The State Board of Education shall pay to the school district which is responsible for providing instruction for each such child pursuant to the provisions of this subsection one hundred per cent of the reasonable costs of such instruction. In the fiscal year following such payment, the State Board of Education shall deduct from the special education grant due the local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction the child would otherwise be attending school, where such board has been identified, the amount for which such board would otherwise have been financially responsible pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection. No such deduction shall be made for any school district which is responsible for providing special education instruction for children whose parents or legal guardians do not reside within such district. The amount deducted shall be included as a net cost of special education by the Department of Education for purposes of the state's special education grant calculated pursuant to section 10-76g. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, and June 30, 2005, and for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, the amount of the grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance with this subdivision shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of this subdivision for such year.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall provide regular education and special education and related services to eligible residents in facilities operated by the department who are eighteen to twenty-one years of age. In the case of a resident who requires special education, the department shall provide the requisite identification and evaluation of such resident in accordance with the provisions of this section. The department shall be financially responsible for the provision of educational services to eligible residents. The Departments of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Children and Families and Education shall develop and implement an interagency agreement which specifies the role of each agency in ensuring the provision of appropriate education services to eligible residents in accordance with this section. The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services shall be responsible for one hundred per cent of the reasonable costs of such educational services provided to eligible residents of such facilities.

(5) Application for the grant to be paid by the state for costs in excess of the local or regional board of education's basic contribution shall be made by such board of education by filing with the State Board of Education, in such manner as prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, annually on or before December first a statement of the cost of providing special education, as defined in subdivision (2) of this subsection, for a child of the board placed by a state agency in accordance with the provisions of said

subdivision or, where appropriate, a statement of the cost of providing educational services other than special educational services pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) or (g) of section 10-253, provided a board of education may submit, not later than March first, claims for additional children or costs not included in the December filing. Payment by the state for such excess costs shall be made to the local or regional board of education as follows: Seventy-five per cent of the cost in February and the balance in May. The amount due each town pursuant to the provisions of this subsection and the amount due to each town as tuition from other towns pursuant to this section shall be paid to the treasurer of each town entitled to such aid, provided the treasurer shall treat such grant or tuition received, or a portion of such grant or tuition, which relates to special education expenditures incurred pursuant to subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection in excess of such board's budgeted estimate of such expenditures, as a reduction in expenditures by crediting such expenditure account, rather than town revenue. The state shall notify the local or regional board of education when payments are made to the treasurer of the town pursuant to this subdivision.

(f) No children placed out primarily for special education services shall be placed in a private school, agency or institution outside of the state, except when in the opinion of the Commissioner of Education it is determined that: (1) No public or approved private facility which can reasonably provide appropriate special education programs for such children is available in the state; (2) no public or approved private facility which can reasonably provide appropriate special education programs for such children is available in the state and the out-of-state placement is required for a period of time not to exceed two years, during which time the local or regional board of education responsible for providing such children with a special education shall develop an appropriate special education program or cause such program to be developed within the state; or (3) an out-of-state placement is more economically feasible than an existing special education program in the state or any such program that could be developed within the state within a reasonable period of time. No placement in an out-of-state private special education school, agency or facility shall be approved unless such school, agency or facility first agrees in writing to submit to the state Department of Education any such financial program and student progress reports as the commissioner may require for the purpose of making an annual determination as to the economic feasibility and program adequacy of the special education program provided. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to children placed out primarily for services other than educational services as described in subsection (d) of this section.

(g) (1) Each local or regional board of education shall review annually and make a report as to the progress of each child for whom such board is obligated to provide a special education and who receives special education services in any private school, agency or institution and shall, upon request of the commissioner, submit such reports to the State Board of Education.

(2) Whenever a local or regional board of education determines that a child who has for three years received special education services in private facilities pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-76d must receive such services from private facilities for an additional period of time, the State Board of Education, shall annually thereafter review the progress of such child prior to approving or disapproving for purposes of reimbursement, pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-76d, any continuation of private placement, considering such factors as the educational and other needs of the child.

(h) The provisions of this section and sections 10-76a, 10-76b, 10-76c, 10-76f and 10-76g shall not be construed to relieve any insurer or provider of health or welfare benefits from paying any otherwise valid claim.

(i) (1) No local or regional board of education shall discipline, suspend, terminate or otherwise punish any member of a planning and placement team employed by such board who discusses or makes recommendations concerning the provision of special education and related services for a child during a planning and placement team meeting for such child.

(2) No birth-to-three service coordinator or qualified personnel, as those terms are defined in section 17a-248, who discusses or makes recommendations concerning the provision of special education and related services for a child during a planning and placement team meeting for such child or in a transition plan, as required by section 17a-248e, shall be subject to discipline, suspension, termination or other punishment on the basis of such recommendations.

Sec. 10-97. Transportation to technical education and career schools. (a) The board of education of any town or, where the boards of education of constituent towns have so agreed, any regional school district shall provide the reasonable and necessary transportation, except as provided in section 10-233c, for any student under twenty-one years of age who is not a graduate of a high school or technical education and career school and who resides with a parent or guardian in such town or regional school district or who belongs to such town, and who attends a state or state-approved technical education and career school within such local or regional school district as a regular all-day student or as a high school cooperative student, and for any such student who attends any such school in a town other than the town of his residence. When the cost of such transportation out-of-town would exceed the sum of two hundred dollars per year, said board of education may elect to maintain such student in the town where he or she attends such technical education and career school and for the cost of such maintenance the local or regional school district shall be reimbursed in the same manner and to the same extent as in the case of payment for transportation. Each such board's reimbursement percentage pursuant to section 10-266m for expenditures in excess of eight hundred dollars per pupil incurred in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1987, and in each fiscal year thereafter, shall be increased by an additional twenty percentage points.

(b) Any local or regional board of education which does not furnish agricultural science and technology education approved by the State Board of Education shall designate a school or schools having such a course approved by the State Board of Education as the school which any person may attend who has completed an elementary school course through the eighth grade. The board of education shall pay the tuition and reasonable and necessary cost of transportation of any person under twenty-one years of age who is not a graduate of a high school or technical education and career school and who attends the designated school, provided transportation services may be suspended in accordance with the provisions of section 10-233c. Each such board's reimbursement percentage pursuant to section 10-266m for expenditures in excess of eight hundred dollars per pupil incurred in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1987, and in each fiscal year thereafter, shall be increased by an additional twenty percentage points.

(c) Any local or regional board of education which transports students to a state or state-approved technical education and career school, or school furnishing agricultural science and technology education shall be reimbursed for a portion of such pupil transportation annually in accordance with the provisions of section 10-266m, and the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section relating to reimbursement percentages, provided the reimbursement for transportation costs to a school furnishing vocational agricultural training shall not exceed an amount equal to such reimbursement of the costs of transporting such pupils to the school furnishing a full program of vocational agricultural training nearest to the sending school district at the time of the pupil's initial enrollment in the program. Application for such reimbursement shall be made by the board of education to the State Board of Education at such time and in such manner as said state board prescribes. The provisions of this section shall apply to a veteran who served in time of war, as defined in section 27-103, without regard to age or whether or not such veteran resides with a parent or guardian provided such veteran is attending a state or state-approved vocational secondary school.

(d) The parents or guardian of any student or any veteran over twenty-one who is denied the reasonable and necessary transportation required in this section may appeal such lack of transportation in the same manner as is provided in sections 10-186 and 10-187.

(e) For purposes of this section, a local or regional board of education shall not be required to expend for transporting a student to a technical education and career school or an agricultural science and technology education center an amount greater than six thousand dollars, except that a board of education shall continue to pay the reasonable and necessary costs of transporting a student who is enrolled in such a school or center on July 1, 1996, until such student completes the program at such school or center.

Sec. 10-158a. Cooperative arrangements among towns. School building projects. Student transportation. (a) Any two or more boards of education may, in writing, agree to establish cooperative arrangements to provide school accommodations services, programs or activities, special education services, health care services, alternative education, as defined in section 10-74j, or administrative and central office duties to enable such boards to carry out the duties specified in the general statutes. Such arrangements may include the establishment of a committee to supervise such programs, the membership of the committee to be determined by the agreement of the cooperating boards. Such committee shall have the power, in accordance with the terms of the agreement, to (1) apply for, receive directly and expend on behalf of the school districts which have designated the committee an agent for such purpose any state or federal grants which may be allocated to school districts for specified programs, the supervision of which has been delegated to such committee, provided such grants are payable before implementation of any such program or are to reimburse the committee pursuant to subsection (d) of this section for transportation provided to a school operated by a cooperative arrangement; (2) receive and disburse funds appropriated to the use of such committee by the cooperating school districts, the state or the United States, or given to the committee by individuals or private corporations; (3) hold title to real or personal property in trust, or as otherwise agreed to by the parties, for the appointing boards; (4) employ personnel; (5) enter into contracts; and (6) otherwise provide the specified programs, services and activities. Teachers employed by any such committee shall be subject to the provisions of the general statutes applicable to teachers employed by the board of education of any town or regional school district. For purposes of this section, the term "teacher" shall include each professional employee of a committee below the rank of superintendent who holds a regular certificate issued by the State Board of Education and who is in a position requiring such certification.

(b) Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, any board of education may withdraw from any agreement entered into under subsection (a) of this section if, at least one year prior to the date of the proposed withdrawal, it gives written notice of its intent to do so to each of the other boards. Upon withdrawal by one or more boards of education, two or more boards of education may continue their commitment to the agreement. If two or more boards of education continue the arrangement, then such committee established within the arrangement may continue to hold title to any real or personal property given to or purchased by the committee in trust for all the boards of education which entered the agreement, unless otherwise provided in the agreement or by law or by the grantor or donor of such property. Upon dissolution of the committee, any property held in trust shall be distributed in accordance with the agreement, if such distribution is not contrary to law.

(c) If a cooperative arrangement receives a grant for a school building project pursuant to chapter 173, the cooperative arrangement shall use the building for which the grant was provided for a period of not less than twenty years after completion of such project. If the cooperative arrangement ceases to use the building for the purpose for which the grant was provided, the Commissioner of Education shall determine whether (1) title to the building and any legal interest in appurtenant land reverts to the state or (2) the cooperative

arrangement reimburses the state an amount equal to ten per cent of the eligible school building project costs of the project.

(d) Any cooperative arrangement established pursuant to this section, or any local or regional board of education which is a member of such a cooperative arrangement which transports students to a school operated by such cooperative arrangement shall be reimbursed in accordance with the provisions of section 10-266m. At the end of each school year, any such cooperative arrangement or local or regional board of education which provides such transportation shall file an application for reimbursement on a form provided by the Department of Education.

Sec. 10-186. Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance. Hearings. Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board. Readmission. Transfers. (a) Each local or regional board of education shall furnish, by transportation or otherwise, school accommodations so that each child five years of age and over and under twenty-one years of age who is not a graduate of a high school or technical education and career school may attend public school, except as provided in section 10-233c and subsection (d) of section 10-233d. For purposes of establishing the residency of a child of a member of the armed forces, as defined in section 27-103, and who is seeking enrollment in a school under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education for a town in which such child is not yet a resident, such board shall accept the military orders directing such member to the state or any other documents from the armed forces indicating the transfer of such member to the state as proof of residency. Any board of education which denies school accommodations, including a denial based on an issue of residency, to any such child shall inform the parent or guardian of such child or the child, in the case of an emancipated minor, a pupil eighteen years of age or older or an unaccompanied youth, as described in 42 USC 11434a, as amended from time to time, of his or her right to request a hearing by the board of education in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section. A board of education which has denied school accommodations shall advise the board of education under whose jurisdiction it claims such child should be attending school of the denial. For purposes of this section, (1) a "parent or guardian" shall include a surrogate parent appointed pursuant to section 10-94g, and (2) a child residing in a dwelling located in more than one town in this state shall be considered a resident of each town in which the dwelling is located and may attend school in any one of such towns. For purposes of this subsection, "dwelling" means a single, two or three-family house or a condominium unit.

(b) (1) If any board of education denies such accommodations, the parent or guardian of any child who is denied schooling, or an emancipated minor, a pupil eighteen years of age or older or an unaccompanied youth who is denied schooling, or an agent or officer charged with the enforcement of the laws concerning attendance at school, may, in writing, request a hearing by the board of education. The board of education may (A) conduct the hearing, (B) designate a subcommittee of the board composed of three board members to conduct the hearing, or (C) establish a local impartial hearing board of one or more persons not members of the board of education to conduct the hearing. The board, subcommittee or local impartial hearing board shall give such person a hearing not later than ten days after receipt of the written request, make a stenographic record or tape recording of the hearing and make a finding not later than ten days after the hearing. Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-176e to 4-180a, inclusive, and section 4-181a. Any child, emancipated minor, pupil eighteen years of age or older or unaccompanied youth who is denied accommodations on the basis of residency may continue in attendance in the school district at the request of the parent or guardian of such child or emancipated minor, pupil eighteen years of age or older or unaccompanied youth, pending a hearing pursuant to this subdivision. The party claiming ineligibility for school accommodations shall have the burden of proving such ineligibility by a preponderance of the evidence, except in cases of denial of schooling based on residency, the party denied schooling shall have the burden of proving residency by a preponderance of the evidence, unless the

party denied schooling is claiming that he or she is a homeless child or youth, as defined in 42 USC 11434a, as amended from time to time, in which case, the party claiming ineligibility based on residency shall have the burden of proving that the party denied schooling is not a homeless child or youth by a preponderance of the evidence in accordance with the provisions of 42 USC 11431, et seq., as amended from time to time.

(2) Any homeless child or youth who is denied accommodations by a board of education as the result of a determination by such board, or a subcommittee of the board or local impartial hearing board, that the child is not entitled to school accommodations in the district, shall continue in attendance or be immediately enrolled in the school selected by the child in the school district pursuant to 42 USC 11432(g)(3), as amended from time to time. The board of education for such school district shall (A) provide, in accordance with the provisions of 42 USC 11432(g)(3)(E)(ii), as amended from time to time, the homeless child or youth or the parent or guardian of such homeless child or youth with (i) a written explanation of the reasons for the denial of accommodations that is in a manner and form understandable to such homeless child or youth or parent or guardian, and (ii) information regarding the right to appeal the decision of the denial of accommodations pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection, and (B) refer, in accordance with the provisions of 42 USC 11432(g)(3)(E)(iii), as amended from time to time, the homeless child or youth or the parent or guardian of such homeless child or youth to the liaison, designated pursuant to 42 USC 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii), as amended from time to time, who is responsible for carrying out the duties described in 42 USC 11432(g)(6)(A), as amended from time to time.

(3) Any such parent, guardian, emancipated minor, pupil eighteen years of age or older, unaccompanied youth, or agent or officer, aggrieved by the finding shall, upon request, be provided with a transcript of the hearing within thirty days after such request and may take an appeal from the finding to the State Board of Education. A copy of each notice of appeal shall be filed simultaneously with the local or regional board of education and the State Board of Education. Any child, emancipated minor or pupil eighteen years of age or older or unaccompanied youth who is denied accommodations by a board of education as the result of a determination by such board, or a subcommittee of the board or local impartial hearing board, that the child is not a resident of the school district and therefore is not entitled to school accommodations in the district may continue in attendance in the school district at the request of the parent or guardian of such child or such minor or pupil, pending a determination of such appeal, except any homeless child or youth shall be entitled to continue in attendance in the school district during all available appeals pursuant to 42 USC 11432(g)(2)(E). If an appeal is not taken to the State Board of Education within twenty days of the mailing of the finding to the aggrieved party, the decision of the board, subcommittee or local impartial hearing board shall be final. The local or regional board of education shall, within ten days after receipt of notice of an appeal, forward the record of the hearing to the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall, on receipt of a written request for a hearing made in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, establish an impartial hearing board of one or more persons to hold a public hearing in the local or regional school district in which the cause of the complaint arises. Members of the hearing board may be employees of the Department of Education or may be qualified persons from outside the department. No member of the board of education under review nor any employee of such board of education shall be a member of the hearing board. Members of the hearing board, other than those employed by the Department of Education, shall be paid reasonable fees and expenses as established by the State Board of Education within the limits of available appropriations. Such hearing board may examine witnesses and shall maintain a verbatim record of all formal sessions of the hearing. Either party to the hearing may request that the hearing board join all interested parties to the hearing, or the hearing board may join any interested party on its own motion. The hearing board shall have no authority to make a determination of the rights and responsibilities of a board of education if such board is not a party to the hearing. The hearing board may render a determination of actual residence of any child, emancipated minor, pupil eighteen years of age or older or unaccompanied youth where residency is at issue.

(4) The hearing board shall render its decision within forty-five days after receipt of the notice of appeal except that an extension may be granted by the Commissioner of Education upon an application by a party or the hearing board describing circumstances related to the hearing which require an extension.

(5) If, after the hearing, the hearing board finds that any child is illegally or unreasonably denied schooling, the hearing board shall order the board of education under whose jurisdiction it has been found such child should be attending school to make arrangements to enable the child to attend public school. Except in the case of a residency determination, the finding of the local or regional board of education, subcommittee of such board or a local impartial hearing board shall be upheld unless it is determined by the hearing board that the finding was arbitrary, capricious or unreasonable. If such school officers fail to take action upon such order in any case in which such child is currently denied schooling and no suitable provision is made for such child within fifteen days after receipt of the order and in all other cases, within thirty days after receipt of the order, there shall be a forfeiture of the money appropriated by the state for the support of schools amounting to fifty dollars for each child for each day such child is denied schooling. If the hearing board makes a determination that the child was not a resident of the school district and therefore not entitled to school accommodations from such district, the board of education may assess tuition against the parent or guardian of the child or the emancipated minor or pupil eighteen years of age or older based on the following: One one-hundred-eightieth of the town's net current local educational expenditure, as defined in section 10-261, per pupil multiplied by the number of days of school attendance of the child in the district while not entitled to school accommodations provided by that district. The local board of education may seek to recover the amount of the assessment through available civil remedies.

(c) In the event of an appeal pursuant to section 10-187 from a decision of a hearing board established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, upon request, the State Board of Education shall supply for the fee per page specified in section 1-212, a copy of the transcript of the formal sessions of the hearing board to the parent or guardian or emancipated minor or a pupil eighteen years of age or older or unaccompanied youth and to the local or regional board of education.

(d) (1) For the school year commencing July 1, 2010, if a child sixteen years of age or older voluntarily terminates enrollment in a school district and subsequently seeks readmission, the local or regional board of education for the school district may deny school accommodations to such child for up to ninety school days from the date of such termination, unless such child seeks readmission to such school district not later than ten school days after such termination in which case such board shall provide school accommodations to such child not later than three school days after such child seeks readmission.

(2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2011, and each school year thereafter, if a child seventeen years of age or older voluntarily terminates enrollment in a school district and subsequently seeks readmission, the local or regional board of education for the school district may deny school accommodations to such child for up to ninety school days from the date of such termination, unless such child seeks readmission to such school district not later than ten school days after such termination in which case such board shall provide school accommodations to such child not later than three school days after such child seeks readmission.

(e) A local or regional board of education shall immediately enroll any student who transfers from Unified School District #1 or Unified School District #2. In the case of a student who transfers from Unified School District #1 or Unified School District #2 to the school district in which such student attended school prior to enrollment in Unified School District #1 or Unified School District #2, such student shall be enrolled in the school such student previously attended, provided such school has the appropriate grade level for such student.

Sec. 10-212a. Administration of medications in schools, at athletic events and to children in school readiness programs. (a)(1) A school nurse or, in the absence of such nurse, any other nurse licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 378, including a nurse employed by, or providing services under the direction of a local or regional board of education at, a school-based health clinic, who shall administer medical preparations only to students enrolled in such school-based health clinic in the absence of a school nurse, the principal, any teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, or coach of intramural and interscholastic athletics of a school may administer, subject to the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection, medicinal preparations, including such controlled drugs as the Commissioner of Consumer Protection may, by regulation, designate, to any student at such school pursuant to the written order of a physician licensed to practice medicine, or a dentist licensed to practice dental medicine in this or another state, or an optometrist licensed to practice optometry in this state under chapter 380, or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a, or a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d, and the written authorization of a parent or guardian of such child. The administration of medicinal preparations by a nurse licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 378, a principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, or coach shall be under the general supervision of a school nurse. No such school nurse or other nurse, principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or school paraprofessional administering medication pursuant to this section shall be liable to such student or a parent or guardian of such student for civil damages for any personal injuries that result from acts or omissions of such school nurse or other nurse, principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or school paraprofessional administering medication pursuant to this section in administering such preparations that may constitute ordinary negligence. This immunity does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, wilful or wanton negligence.

(2) Each local and regional board of education that allows a school nurse or, in the absence of such nurse, any other nurse licensed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 378, including a nurse employed by, or providing services under the direction of a local or regional board of education at, a school-based health clinic, who shall administer medical preparations only to students enrolled in such school-based health clinic in the absence of a school nurse, the principal, any teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach of intramural and interscholastic athletics or school paraprofessional of a school to administer medicine or that allows a student to possess, self-administer or possess and self-administer medicine, including medicine administered through the use of an asthmatic inhaler or an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment, shall adopt written policies and procedures, in accordance with this section and the regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, that shall be approved by the school medical advisor, if any, or other qualified licensed physician. Once so approved, such administration of medication shall be in accordance with such policies and procedures.

(3) A director of a school readiness program as defined in section 10-16p, as amended by this act, or a before or after school program exempt from licensure by the Department of Public Health pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 19a-77, or the director's designee, may administer medications to a child enrolled in such a program in accordance with regulations adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. No individual administering medications pursuant to this subdivision shall be liable to such child or a parent or guardian of such child for civil damages for any personal injuries that result from acts or omissions of such individual in administering such medications which may constitute ordinary negligence. This immunity shall not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross, wilful or wanton negligence.

(b) Each school wherein any controlled drug is administered under the provisions of this section shall keep such records thereof as are required of hospitals under the provisions of subsections (f) and (h) of section 21a-254 and shall store such drug in such manner as the Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall, by regulation, require.

(c) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, determined to be necessary by the board to carry out the provisions of this section, including, but not limited to, regulations that (1) specify conditions under which a coach of intramural and interscholastic athletics may administer medicinal preparations, including controlled drugs specified in the regulations adopted by the commissioner, to a child participating in such intramural and interscholastic athletics, (2) specify conditions and procedures for the administration of medication by school personnel to students, including but not limited to, (A) the conditions and procedures for the storage and administration of epinephrine by school personnel to students for the purpose of emergency first aid to students who experience allergic reactions and who do not have a prior written authorization for the administration of epinephrine, in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section, and (B) the conditions and procedures for the storage and administration of opioid antagonists by school personnel to students who experience an opioid-related drug overdose and who do not have a prior written authorization for the administration of an opioid antagonist, in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of this section, and (3) specify conditions for the possession, self-administration or possession and self-administration of medication by students, including permitting a child diagnosed with: (A) Asthma to retain possession of an asthmatic inhaler at all times while attending school for prompt treatment of the child's asthma and to protect the child against serious harm or death provided a written authorization for self-administration of medication signed by the child's parent or guardian and an authorized prescriber is submitted to the school nurse; and (B) an allergic condition to retain possession of an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment at all times, including while attending school or receiving school transportation services, for prompt treatment of the child's allergic condition and to protect the child against serious harm or death provided a written authorization for self-administration of medication signed by the child's parent or guardian and an authorized prescriber is submitted to the school nurse. The regulations shall require authorization pursuant to: (i) The written order of a physician licensed to practice medicine in this or another state, a dentist licensed to practice dental medicine in this or another state, an advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378, a physician assistant licensed under chapter 370, a podiatrist licensed under chapter 375, or an optometrist licensed under chapter 380; and (ii) the written authorization of a parent or guardian of such child.

(d)(1)(A) With the written authorization of a student's parent or guardian, and (B) pursuant to the written order of a qualified medical professional, a school nurse and a school medical advisor, if any, may jointly approve and provide general supervision to an identified school paraprofessional to administer medication, including, but not limited to, medication administered with a cartridge injector, to a specific student with a medically diagnosed allergic condition that may require prompt treatment in order to protect the student against serious harm or death.

(2) A school nurse or, in the absence of a school nurse, a qualified school employee shall maintain epinephrine in cartridge injectors for the purpose of emergency first aid to students who experience allergic reactions and do not have a prior written authorization of a parent or guardian or a prior written order of a qualified medical professional for the administration of epinephrine. A school nurse or a school principal shall select qualified school employees to administer such epinephrine under this subdivision, and there shall be at least one such qualified school employee on the grounds of the school during regular school hours in the absence of a school nurse. A school nurse or, in the absence of such school nurse, such qualified school employee may administer such epinephrine under this subdivision, provided such administration of

epinephrine is in accordance with policies and procedures adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Such administration of epinephrine by a qualified school employee shall be limited to situations when the school nurse is absent or unavailable. No qualified school employee shall administer such epinephrine under this subdivision unless such qualified school employee annually completes the training program described in section 10-212g. The parent or guardian of a student may submit, in writing, to the school nurse and school medical advisor, if any, that epinephrine shall not be administered to such student under this subdivision.

(3) In the case of a student with a medically diagnosed life-threatening allergic condition, (A) with the written authorization of such student's parent or guardian, and (B) pursuant to the written order of a qualified medical professional, such student may possess, self-administer or possess and self-administer medication, including, but not limited to, medication administered with a cartridge injector, to protect such student against serious harm or death.

(4) For purposes of this subsection, (A) "cartridge injector" means an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment used to deliver epinephrine in a standard dose for emergency first aid response to allergic reactions, (B) "qualified school employee" means a principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or school paraprofessional, and (C) "qualified medical professional" means (i) a physician licensed under chapter 370, (ii) an optometrist licensed to practice optometry under chapter 380, (iii) an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a, or (iv) a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d.

(e)(1) With the written authorization of a student's parent or guardian, and (2) pursuant to a written order of the student's physician licensed under chapter 370 or the student's advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378, a school nurse or a school principal shall select, and a school nurse shall provide general supervision to, a qualified school employee to administer medication with injectable equipment used to administer glucagon to a student with diabetes that may require prompt treatment in order to protect the student against serious harm or death. Such authorization shall be limited to situations when the school nurse is absent or unavailable. No qualified school employee shall administer medication under this subsection unless (A) such qualified school employee annually completes any training required by the school nurse and school medical advisor, if any, in the administration of medication with injectable equipment used to administer glucagon, (B) the school nurse and school medical advisor, if any, have attested, in writing, that such qualified school employee has completed such training, and (C) such qualified school employee voluntarily agrees to serve as a qualified school employee. For purposes of this subsection, "injectable equipment used to administer glucagon" means an injector or injectable equipment used to deliver glucagon in an appropriate dose for emergency first aid response to diabetes. For purposes of this subsection, "qualified school employee" means a principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or school paraprofessional.

(f)(1)(A) With the written authorization of a student's parent or guardian, and (B) pursuant to the written order of a physician licensed under chapter 370 or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378, a school nurse and a school medical advisor, if any, shall select, and a school nurse shall provide general supervision to, a qualified school employee to administer antiepileptic medication, including by rectal syringe, to a specific student with a medically diagnosed epileptic condition that requires prompt treatment in accordance with the student's individual seizure action plan. Such authorization shall be limited to situations when the school nurse is absent or unavailable. No qualified school employee shall administer medication under this subsection unless (i) such qualified school employee annually completes the training program described in subdivision (2) of this subsection, (ii) the school nurse and school medical advisor, if any, have attested, in writing, that such qualified school employee has completed such training, (iii) such qualified school employee receives monthly reviews by the school nurse to confirm such qualified

school employee's competency to administer antiepileptic medication under this subsection, and (iv) such qualified school employee voluntarily agrees to serve as a qualified school employee. For purposes of this subsection, "qualified school employee" means a principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or school paraprofessional.

(2) The Department of Education, in consultation with the School Nurse Advisory Council, established pursuant to section 10-212f, and the Association of School Nurses of Connecticut, shall develop an antiepileptic medication administrating training program. Such training program shall include instruction in (A) an overview of childhood epilepsy and types of seizure disorders, (B) interpretation of individual student's emergency seizure action plan and recognition of individual student's seizure activity, (C) emergency management procedures for seizure activity, including administration techniques for emergency seizure medication, (D) when to activate emergency medical services and postseizure procedures and follow-up, (E) reporting procedures after a student has required such delegated emergency seizure medication, and (F) any other relevant issues or topics related to emergency interventions for students who experience seizures

(g)(1) A school nurse or, in the absence of a school nurse, a qualified school employee may maintain opioid antagonists for the purpose of emergency first aid to students who experience an opioid-related drug overdose and do not have a prior written authorization of a parent or guardian or a prior written order of a qualified medical professional for the administration of such opioid antagonist. A school nurse or a school principal shall select qualified school employees to administer such opioid antagonist under this subdivision, and there shall be at least one such qualified school employee on the grounds of the school during regular school hours in the absence of a school nurse. A school nurse or, in the absence of such school nurse, such qualified school employee may administer such opioid antagonist under this subdivision, provided such administration of the opioid antagonist is in accordance with policies and procedures adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Such administration of an opioid antagonist by a qualified school employee shall be limited to situations when the school nurse is absent or unavailable. No school nurse or qualified school employee shall administer such opioid antagonist under this subdivision unless such school nurse or qualified school employee completes a training program in the distribution and administration of an opioid antagonist developed by the Department of Education, Department of Public Health and the Department of Consumer Protection, or under an agreement entered into pursuant to section 21a-286, as amended by this act. The parent or guardian of a student may submit a request, in writing, to the school nurse and school medical advisor, if any, that an opioid antagonist shall not be administered to such student under this subdivision.

(2) Not later than October 1, 2022, the Department of Education, in consultation with the Departments of Consumer Protection and Public Health, shall develop guidelines for use by local and regional boards of education on the storage and administration of opioid antagonists in schools in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

(3) For purposes of this subsection, (A) "opioid antagonist" means naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting and equally safe drug approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of a drug overdose, (B) "qualified school employee" means a principal, teacher, licensed athletic trainer, licensed physical or occupational therapist employed by a school district, coach or school paraprofessional, and (C) "qualified medical professional" means (i) a physician licensed under chapter 370, (ii) an optometrist licensed to practice optometry under chapter 380, (iii) an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-94a, or (iv) a physician assistant licensed to prescribe in accordance with section 20-12d.

Sec. 10-220. Duties of boards of education. (a) Each local or regional board of education shall maintain good public elementary and secondary schools, implement the educational interests of the state, as defined

in section 10-4a, and provide such other educational activities as in its judgment will best serve the interests of the school district; provided any board of education may secure such opportunities in another school district in accordance with provisions of the general statutes and shall give all the children of the school district, including children receiving alternative education, as defined in section 10-74j, as nearly equal advantages as may be practicable; shall provide an appropriate learning environment for all its students which includes (1) adequate instructional books, supplies, materials, equipment, staffing, facilities and technology, (2) equitable allocation of resources among its schools, (3) proper maintenance of facilities, and (4) a safe school setting; shall, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (f) of this section, maintain records of allegations, investigations and reports that a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee, as defined in section 53a-65, employed by the local or regional board of education; shall have charge of the schools of its respective school district; shall make a continuing study of the need for school facilities and of a long-term school building program and from time to time make recommendations based on such study to the town; shall adopt and implement an indoor air quality program that provides for ongoing maintenance and facility reviews necessary for the maintenance and improvement of the indoor air quality of its facilities; shall adopt and implement a green cleaning program, pursuant to section 10-231g, that provides for the procurement and use of environmentally preferable cleaning products in school buildings and facilities; on and after July 1, 2021, and every five years thereafter, shall report to the Commissioner of Administrative Services on the condition of its facilities and the action taken to implement its long-term school building program, indoor air quality program and green cleaning program, which report the Commissioner of Administrative Services shall use to prepare a report every five years that said commissioner shall submit in accordance with section 11-4a to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education; shall advise the Commissioner of Administrative Services of the relationship between any individual school building project pursuant to chapter 173 and such long-term school building program; shall have the care, maintenance and operation of buildings, lands, apparatus and other property used for school purposes and at all times shall insure all such buildings and all capital equipment contained therein against loss in an amount not less than eighty per cent of replacement cost; shall determine the number, age and qualifications of the pupils to be admitted into each school; shall develop and implement a written plan for minority educator recruitment for purposes of subdivision (3) of section 10-4a; shall employ and dismiss the teachers of the schools of such district subject to the provisions of sections 10-151 and 10-158a; shall designate the schools which shall be attended by the various children within the school district; shall make such provisions as will enable each child of school age residing in the district to attend some public day school for the period required by law and provide for the transportation of children wherever transportation is reasonable and desirable, and for such purpose may make contracts covering periods of not more than five years; may provide alternative education, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-74j, or place in another suitable educational program a pupil enrolling in school who is nineteen years of age or older and cannot acquire a sufficient number of credits for graduation by age twenty-one; may arrange with the board of education of an adjacent town for the instruction therein of such children as can attend school in such adjacent town more conveniently; shall cause each child five years of age and over and under eighteen years of age who is not a high school graduate and is living in the school district to attend school in accordance with the provisions of section 10-184, and shall perform all acts required of it by the town or necessary to carry into effect the powers and duties imposed by law.

(b) The board of education of each local or regional school district shall, with the participation of parents, students, school administrators, teachers, citizens, local elected officials and any other individuals or groups such board shall deem appropriate, prepare a statement of educational goals for such local or regional school district. The statement of goals shall be consistent with state-wide goals pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-4 and include goals for the integration of principles and practices of social-emotional learning and restorative practices in the program of professional development for the school district, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-148a, and career placement for students who do not pursue an advanced degree

immediately after graduation. Each local or regional board of education shall annually establish student objectives for the school year which relate directly to the statement of educational goals prepared pursuant to this subsection and which identify specific expectations for students in terms of skills, knowledge and competence.

(c) Annually, each local and regional board of education shall submit to the Commissioner of Education a strategic school profile report for each school and school or program of alternative education, as defined in section 10-74j, under its jurisdiction and for the school district as a whole. The superintendent of each local and regional school district shall present the profile report at the next regularly scheduled public meeting of the board of education after each November first. The profile report shall provide information on measures of (1) student needs, (2) school resources, including technological resources and utilization of such resources and infrastructure, (3) student and school performance, including in-school suspensions, out-of-school suspensions and expulsions, the number of truants, as defined in section 10-198a, and chronically absent children, as defined in section 10-198c, (4) the number of students enrolled in an adult high school credit diploma program, pursuant to section 10-69, operated by a local or regional board of education or a regional educational service center, (5) equitable allocation of resources among its schools, (6) reduction of racial, ethnic and economic isolation, (7) special education, and (8) school-based arrests, as defined in section 10-233n. For purposes of this subsection, measures of special education include (A) special education identification rates by disability, (B) rates at which special education students are exempted from mastery testing pursuant to section 10-14q, (C) expenditures for special education, including such expenditures as a percentage of total expenditures, (D) achievement data for special education students, (E) rates at which students identified as requiring special education are no longer identified as requiring special education, (F) the availability of supplemental educational services for students lacking basic educational skills, (G) the amount of special education student instructional time with nondisabled peers, (H) the number of students placed out-of-district, and (I) the actions taken by the school district to improve special education programs, as indicated by analyses of the local data provided in subparagraphs (A) to (H), inclusive, of this subdivision. The superintendent shall include in the narrative portion of the report information about parental involvement and any measures the district has taken to improve parental involvement, including, but not limited to, employment of methods to engage parents in the planning and improvement of school programs and methods to increase support to parents working at home with their children on learning activities. For purposes of this subsection, measures of truancy include the type of data that is required to be collected by the Department of Education regarding attendance and unexcused absences in order for the department to comply with federal reporting requirements and the actions taken by the local or regional board of education to reduce truancy in the school district. Such truancy data shall be considered a public record, as defined in section 1-200.

(d) Prior to January 1, 2008, and every five years thereafter, for every school building that is or has been constructed, extended, renovated or replaced on or after January 1, 2003, a local or regional board of education shall provide for a uniform inspection and evaluation program of the indoor air quality within such buildings, such as the Environmental Protection Agency's Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools Program. The inspection and evaluation program shall include, but not be limited to, a review, inspection or evaluation of the following: (1) The heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems; (2) radon levels in the air; (3) potential for exposure to microbiological airborne particles, including, but not limited to, fungi, mold and bacteria; (4) chemical compounds of concern to indoor air quality including, but not limited to, volatile organic compounds; (5) the degree of pest infestation, including, but not limited to, insects and rodents; (6) the degree of pesticide usage; (7) the presence of and the plans for removal of any hazardous substances that are contained on the list prepared pursuant to Section 302 of the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, 42 USC 9601 et seq.; (8) ventilation systems; (9) plumbing, including water distribution systems, drainage systems and fixtures; (10) moisture incursion; (11) the overall cleanliness of the facilities; (12) building structural elements, including, but not limited to, roofing,

basements or slabs; (13) the use of space, particularly areas that were designed to be unoccupied; and (14) the provision of indoor air quality maintenance training for building staff. Local and regional boards of education conducting evaluations pursuant to this subsection shall make available for public inspection the results of the inspection and evaluation at a regularly scheduled board of education meeting and on the board's or each individual school's web site.

(e) Each local and regional board of education shall establish a school district curriculum committee. The committee shall recommend, develop, review and approve all curriculum for the local or regional school district.

(f) Each local and regional board of education shall maintain in a central location all records of allegations, investigations and reports that a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee, as defined in section 53a-65, employed by the local or regional board of education, conducted pursuant to sections 17a-101a to 17a-101d, inclusive, and section 17a-103. Such records shall include any reports made to the Department of Children and Families. The Department of Education shall have access to such records.

Sec. 10-220c. Transportation of children over private roads. Immunity from liability. (a) Each town, or local or regional board of education may when providing for the transportation of children to and from school or school activities, in accordance with the provisions of sections 10-47 or 10-220, authorize the operator of any vehicle owned, leased or hired by or operated under contract with such town, local or regional board of education to travel on any private road, provided the owner or owners thereof consent to such travel and such roads have been constructed and are maintained in accordance with the standards for the construction and maintenance of similar roads of the municipality wherein such private road lies, as determined by the chief executive officer of such municipality or his designee.

(b) No town, or local or regional board of education or member thereof nor the school bus owner or operator authorized thereby shall be liable to any person for personal injuries received while being transported to or from school or school activities on a private road in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, provided the proximate cause of such injuries was the negligent construction or maintenance of such private road.

Sec. 10-221c. Development of policy for reporting complaints re school transportation safety. Reporting of accidents at school bus stops. (a) The superintendent of schools of each local or regional school district and the supervisory agent of each nonpublic school shall develop and implement a policy for the reporting of all complaints relative to school transportation safety, and shall cause to be maintained a written record of all such complaints received. Each such superintendent of schools and each such supervisory agent shall, annually, within thirty days after the end of the school year, provide the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles with a copy of the written record of complaints received for the previous twelve-month period.

(b) The superintendent of schools of each local or regional school district and the supervisory agent of each nonpublic school shall make a written report of the circumstances of any accident within his jurisdiction and knowledge, involving a motor vehicle and any pedestrian who is a student, which occurs at a designated school bus stop or in the immediate vicinity thereof, to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles within ten days thereafter on a form prescribed by the commissioner.

Sec. 10-233a. Definitions. Whenever used in sections 10-233a to 10-233g, inclusive:

(a) "Exclusion" means any denial of public school privileges to a pupil for disciplinary purposes.

(b) "Removal" means an exclusion from a classroom for all or part of a single class period, provided such exclusion shall not extend beyond ninety minutes.

(c) "In-school suspension" means an exclusion from regular classroom activity for no more than ten consecutive school days, but not exclusion from school, provided such exclusion shall not extend beyond the end of the school year in which such in-school suspension was imposed.

(d) "Suspension" means an exclusion from school privileges or from transportation services only for no more than ten consecutive school days, provided such exclusion shall not extend beyond the end of the school year in which such suspension was imposed.

(e) "Expulsion" means an exclusion from school privileges for more than ten consecutive school days and shall be deemed to include, but not be limited to, exclusion from the school to which such pupil was assigned at the time such disciplinary action was taken, provided such exclusion shall not extend beyond a period of one calendar year.

(f) "Emergency" means a situation under which the continued presence of the pupil in school poses such a danger to persons or property or such a disruption of the educational process that a hearing may be delayed until a time as soon after the exclusion of such pupil as possible.

(g) "School" means any school under the direction of a local or regional board of education or any school for which one or more such boards of education pays eighty per cent or more of the tuition costs for students enrolled in such school.

(h) "School-sponsored activity" means any activity sponsored, recognized or authorized by a board of education and includes activities conducted on or off school property.

Sec. 10-233c. Suspension of pupils. (a) Any local or regional board of education may authorize the administration of the schools under its direction to suspend from school privileges a pupil whose conduct on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity is violative of a publicized policy of such board or is seriously disruptive of the educational process or endangers persons or property or whose conduct off school grounds is violative of such policy and is seriously disruptive of the educational process. In making a determination as to whether conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process, the administration may consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to: (1) Whether the incident occurred within close proximity of a school; (2) whether other students from the school were involved or whether there was any gang involvement; (3) whether the conduct involved violence, threats of violence or the unlawful use of a weapon, as defined in section 29-38, and whether any injuries occurred; and (4) whether the conduct involved the use of alcohol. Any such board may authorize the administration to suspend transportation services for a pupil whose conduct while awaiting or receiving transportation to and from school endangers persons or property or is violative of a publicized policy of such board. Unless an emergency exists, no pupil shall be suspended without an informal hearing by the administration, at which such pupil shall be informed of the reasons for the disciplinary action and given an opportunity to explain the situation, provided nothing herein shall be construed to prevent a more formal hearing from being held if the circumstances surrounding the incident so require, and further provided no pupil shall be suspended more than ten times or a total of fifty days in one school year, whichever results in fewer days of exclusion, unless

such pupil is granted a formal hearing pursuant to sections 4-176e to 4-180a, inclusive, and section 4-181a. If an emergency situation exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the suspension as possible.

(b) In determining the length of a suspension period, the administration may receive and consider evidence of past disciplinary problems which have led to removal from a classroom, suspension or expulsion of such pupil.

(c) Whenever any administration suspends a pupil, such administration shall not later than twenty-four hours after the suspension notify the superintendent or such superintendent's designee as to the name of the pupil against whom such disciplinary action was taken and the reason therefor.

(d) Any pupil who is suspended shall be given an opportunity to complete any classwork including, but not limited to, examinations which such pupil missed during the period of suspension.

(e) For any pupil who is suspended for the first time pursuant to this section and who has never been expelled pursuant to section 10-233d, the administration may shorten the length of or waive the suspension period if the pupil successfully completes an administration-specified program and meets any other conditions required by the administration. Such administration-specified program shall not require the pupil or the parent or guardian of the pupil to pay for participation in the program.

(f) Whenever a pupil is suspended pursuant to the provisions of this section, notice of the suspension and the conduct for which the pupil was suspended shall be included on the pupil's cumulative educational record. Such notice shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the local or regional board of education if a pupil graduates from high school, or in the case of a suspension of a pupil for which the length of the suspension period is shortened or the suspension period is waived pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, such notice shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the local or regional board of education (1) if the pupil graduates from high school, or (2) if the administration so chooses, at the time the pupil completes the administration-specified program and meets any other conditions required by the administration pursuant to said subsection (e), whichever is earlier.

(g) On and after July 1, 2015, all suspensions pursuant to this section shall be in-school suspensions, except a local or regional board of education may authorize the administration of schools under its direction to impose an out-of-school suspension on any pupil in (1) grades three to twelve, inclusive, if, during the hearing held pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, (A) the administration determines that the pupil being suspended poses such a danger to persons or property or such a disruption of the educational process that the pupil shall be excluded from school during the period of suspension, or (B) the administration determines that an out-of-school suspension is appropriate for such pupil based on evidence of (i) previous disciplinary problems that have led to suspensions or expulsion of such pupil, and (ii) efforts by the administration to address such disciplinary problems through means other than out-of-school suspension or expulsion, including positive behavioral support strategies, or (2) grades preschool to two, inclusive, if during the hearing held pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the administration determines that an out-of-school suspension is appropriate for such pupil based on evidence that such pupil's conduct on school grounds is of a violent or sexual nature that endangers persons. An in-school suspension may be served in the school that the pupil attends, or in any school building under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education, as determined by such board. Nothing in this section shall limit a person's duty as a mandated reporter pursuant to section 17-101a to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

Sec. 10-233d. Expulsion of pupils. (a)(1) Any local or regional board of education, at a meeting at which three or more members of such board are present, or the impartial hearing board established pursuant

to subsection (b) of this section, may expel, subject to the provisions of this subsection, any pupil in grades three to twelve, inclusive, whose conduct on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity is violative of a publicized policy of such board and is seriously disruptive of the educational process or endangers persons or property or whose conduct off school grounds is violative of such policy and is seriously disruptive of the educational process, provided a majority of the board members sitting in the expulsion hearing vote to expel and that at least three affirmative votes for expulsion are cast. In making a determination as to whether conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process, the board of education or impartial hearing board may consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to: (A) Whether the incident occurred within close proximity of a school; (B) whether other students from the school were involved or whether there was any gang involvement; (C) whether the conduct involved violence, threats of violence or the unlawful use of a weapon, as defined in section 29-38, and whether any injuries occurred; and (D) whether the conduct involved the use of alcohol.

(2) Expulsion proceedings pursuant to this section, except as provided in subsection (i) of this section, shall be required for any pupil in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, whenever there is reason to believe that any pupil (A) on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity, was in possession of a firearm, as defined in 18 USC 921, as amended from time to time, or deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or martial arts weapon, as defined in section 53a-3, (B) off school grounds, did possess such a firearm in violation of section 29-35 or did possess and use such a firearm, instrument or weapon in the commission of a crime under chapter 952, or (C) on or off school grounds, offered for sale or distribution a controlled substance, as defined in subdivision (9) of section 21a-240, whose manufacture, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing, transporting or possessing with intent to sell or dispense, offering, or administering is subject to criminal penalties under sections 21a-277 and 21a-278. Such a pupil shall be expelled for one calendar year if the local or regional board of education or impartial hearing board finds that the pupil did so possess or so possess and use, as appropriate, such a firearm, instrument or weapon or did so offer for sale or distribution such a controlled substance, provided the board of education or the hearing board may modify the period of expulsion for a pupil on a case-by-case basis, and as provided for in subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section.

(3) Unless an emergency exists, no pupil shall be expelled without a formal hearing held pursuant to sections 4-176e to 4-180a, inclusive, and section 4-181a, provided whenever such pupil is a minor, the notice required by section 4-177 and section 4-180 shall also be given to the parents or guardian of the pupil at least five business days before such hearing. If an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible. The notice shall include information concerning the parent's or guardian's and the pupil's legal rights and concerning legal services provided free of charge or at a reduced rate that are available locally and how to access such services. An attorney or other advocate may represent any pupil subject to expulsion proceedings. The parent or guardian of the pupil shall have the right to have the expulsion hearing postponed for up to one week to allow time to obtain representation, except that if an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible.

(b) For purposes of conducting expulsion hearings as required by subsection (a) of this section, any local or regional board of education or any two or more of such boards in cooperation may establish an impartial hearing board of one or more persons. No member of any such board or boards shall be a member of the hearing board. The hearing board shall have the authority to conduct the expulsion hearing and render a final decision in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-176e to 4-180a, inclusive, and section 4-181a.

(c) (1) In determining the length of an expulsion and the nature of the alternative educational opportunity to be offered under subsection (d) of this section, the local or regional board of education, or the impartial hearing board established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, may receive and consider evidence of past disciplinary problems that have led to removal from a classroom, suspension or expulsion of such pupil.

(2) For any pupil expelled for the first time pursuant to this section and who has never been suspended pursuant to section 10-233c, except for a pupil who has been expelled based on possession of a firearm or deadly weapon as described in subsection (a) of this section, the local or regional board of education may shorten the length of or waive the expulsion period if the pupil successfully completes a board-specified program and meets any other conditions required by the board. Such board-specified program shall not require the pupil or the parent or guardian of the pupil to pay for participation in the program.

(d) No local or regional board of education is required to offer an alternative educational opportunity, except in accordance with this section. Any pupil under sixteen years of age who is expelled shall be offered an alternative educational opportunity, which shall be (1) alternative education, as defined by section 10-74j, with an individualized learning plan, if such board provides such alternative education, or (2) in accordance with the standards adopted by the State Board of Education, pursuant to section 10-233o, during the period of expulsion, provided any parent or guardian of such pupil who does not choose to have his or her child enrolled in an alternative educational opportunity shall not be subject to the provisions of section 10-184. Any pupil expelled for the first time who is between the ages of sixteen and eighteen and who wishes to continue his or her education shall be offered such an alternative educational opportunity if he or she complies with conditions established by his or her local or regional board of education. Such alternative educational opportunity may include, but shall not be limited to, the placement of a pupil who is at least seventeen years of age in an adult education program pursuant to section 10-69. Any pupil participating in any such adult education program during a period of expulsion shall not be required to withdraw from school under section 10-184. A local or regional board of education shall count the expulsion of a pupil when he was under sixteen years of age for purposes of determining whether an alternative educational opportunity is required for such pupil when he is between the ages of sixteen and eighteen. A local or regional board of education may offer an alternative educational opportunity to a pupil for whom such alternative educational opportunity is not required pursuant to this section.

(e) If a pupil is expelled pursuant to this section for possession of a firearm, as defined in 18 USC 921, as amended from time to time, or deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or martial arts weapon, as defined in section 53a-3, the board of education shall report the violation to the local police department or in the case of a student enrolled in a technical education and career school to the state police. If a pupil is expelled pursuant to this section for the sale or distribution of a controlled substance, as defined in subdivision (9) of section 21a-240, whose manufacture, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing, transporting or possessing with the intent to sell or dispense, offering, or administration is subject to criminal penalties under sections 21a-277 and 21a-278, the board of education shall refer the pupil to an appropriate state or local agency for rehabilitation, intervention or job training, or any combination thereof, and inform the agency of its action.

(f) Whenever a pupil is expelled pursuant to the provisions of this section, notice of the expulsion and the conduct for which the pupil was expelled shall be included on the pupil's cumulative educational record. Such notice, except for notice of an expulsion of a pupil in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, based on possession of a firearm or deadly weapon as described in subsection (a) of this section, (1) shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the local or regional board of education if a pupil graduates from high school, or (2) may be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the local or regional board of education before a pupil graduates from high school if (A) in the case of a pupil for which the length of the expulsion period is shortened or the expulsion period is waived pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section, such board determines that an expungement is warranted at the time such pupil completes the board-specified program and meets any other conditions required by such board pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section, or (B) such pupil has demonstrated to such board that the conduct and behavior of such pupil in the years following such expulsion warrants an expungement. A local or regional board of education, in determining whether to expunge such notice under subparagraph (B) of this

subdivision, may receive and consider evidence of any subsequent disciplinary problems that have led to removal from a classroom, suspension or expulsion of such pupil.

(g) A local or regional board of education may adopt the decision of a pupil expulsion hearing conducted by another school district provided such local or regional board of education or impartial hearing board shall hold a hearing pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of this section which shall be limited to a determination of whether the conduct which was the basis for the expulsion would also warrant expulsion under the policies of such board. The pupil shall be excluded from school pending such hearing. The excluded student shall be offered an alternative educational opportunity in accordance with the provisions of subsections (d) and (e) of this section.

(h) Whenever a pupil against whom an expulsion hearing is pending withdraws from school after notification of such hearing but before the hearing is completed and a decision rendered pursuant to this section, (1) notice of the pending expulsion hearing shall be included on the pupil's cumulative educational record, and (2) the local or regional board of education or impartial hearing board shall complete the expulsion hearing and render a decision. If such pupil enrolls in school in another school district, such pupil shall not be excluded from school in the other district pending completion of the expulsion hearing pursuant to this subsection unless an emergency exists, provided nothing in this subsection shall limit the authority of the local or regional board of education for such district to suspend the pupil or to conduct its own expulsion hearing in accordance with this section.

(i) Prior to conducting an expulsion hearing for a child requiring special education and related services described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (5) of section 10-76a, a planning and placement team shall convene to determine whether the misconduct was caused by the child's disability. If it is determined that the misconduct was caused by the child's disability, the child shall not be expelled. The planning and placement team shall reevaluate the child for the purpose of modifying the child's individualized education program to address the misconduct and to ensure the safety of other children and staff in the school. If it is determined that the misconduct was not caused by the child's disability, the child may be expelled in accordance with the provisions of this section applicable to children who do not require special education and related services. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (d) and (e) of this section, whenever a child requiring such special education and related services is expelled, an alternative educational opportunity, consistent with such child's educational needs shall be provided during the period of expulsion.

(j) An expelled pupil may apply for early readmission to school. Except as provided in this subsection, such readmission shall be at the discretion of the local or regional board of education. The board of education may delegate authority for readmission decisions to the superintendent of schools for the school district. If the board delegates such authority, readmission shall be at the discretion of the superintendent. Readmission decisions shall not be subject to appeal to Superior Court. The board or superintendent, as appropriate, may condition such readmission on specified criteria.

(k) Local and regional boards of education shall submit to the Commissioner of Education such information on expulsions for the possession of weapons as required for purposes of the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994, 20 USC 8921 et seq., as amended from time to time.

(l) (1) Any student who commits an expellable offense and is subsequently placed in a juvenile residential center or any other residential placement for such offense may be expelled by a local or regional board of education in accordance with the provisions of this section. The period of expulsion shall run concurrently with the period of placement in a juvenile residential center or other residential placement.

(2) If a student who committed an expellable offense seeks to return to a school district after participating in a diversionary program or having been placed in a juvenile residential center or any other residential

placement and such student has not been expelled by the local or regional board of education for such offense under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the local or regional board of education for the school district to which the student is returning shall allow such student to return and may not expel the student for additional time for such offense.

Sec. 10-253. School privileges for children in certain placements, nonresident children, children in temporary shelters, homeless children and children in juvenile detention facilities. Liaison to facilitate transitions between school districts and juvenile and criminal justice systems. (a) Children placed out by the Commissioner of Children and Families or by other agencies or persons, including offices of a government of a federally recognized Native American tribe, private child-caring or child-placing agencies licensed by the Department of Children and Families, and eligible residents of facilities operated by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services or by the Department of Public Health who are eighteen to twenty-one years of age, shall be entitled to all free school privileges of the school district where they then reside as a result of such placement, except as provided in subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d. Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section and subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d, payment for such education shall be made by the board of education of the school district under whose jurisdiction such child would otherwise be attending school where such a school district is identified.

(b) The board of education of the school district under whose jurisdiction a child would otherwise be attending school shall be financially responsible for the reasonable costs of education for a child placed out by the Commissioner of Children and Families or by other agencies, including, but not limited to, offices of a government of a federally recognized Native American tribe, in a private residential facility when such child requires educational services other than special education services. Such financial responsibility shall be the lesser of one hundred per cent of the costs of such education or the average per pupil educational costs of such board of education for the prior fiscal year, determined in accordance with subsection (a) of section 10-76f. Any costs in excess of the board's basic contribution shall be paid by the State Board of Education on a current basis. The costs for services other than educational shall be paid by the state agency which placed the child. Application for the grant to be paid by the state for costs in excess of the local or regional board of education's basic contribution shall be made in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (5) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2007, inclusive, and for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, to June 30, 2023, inclusive, the amount of the grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance with this subsection shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of this subsection for such year.

(c) No board of education shall be required to provide school accommodations for any child whose legal residence is in another state unless the board has entered into an agreement concerning the provision of educational services and programs with the state or local educational agency of such state responsible for educating the child, the facility where the child is placed or the parent or guardian placing such child, and provided that a bond, in a sum equal to the tuition payable for such child, issued by a surety company authorized to do business in this state and conditioned upon the payment of tuition at the rate established by the board, shall be filed with the treasurer of the school district in which such child is attending school by the parent or guardian or other person or organization in control of such child.

(d) Children residing with relatives or nonrelatives, when it is the intention of such relatives or nonrelatives and of the children or their parents or guardians that such residence is to be permanent, provided without pay and not for the sole purpose of obtaining school accommodations, and, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1981, and each fiscal year thereafter, children not requiring special education who

are residing in any facility or home as a result of a placement by a public agency, including, but not limited to, offices of a government of a federally recognized Native American tribe, other than a local or regional board of education, and except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, shall be entitled to all free school privileges accorded to resident children of the school district in which they then reside. A local or regional board of education may require documentation from the parent or guardian, the relative or nonrelative, emancipated minor or pupil eighteen years of age or older that the residence is to be permanent, provided without pay and not for the sole purpose of obtaining school accommodations provided by the school district. Such documentation may include affidavits, provided that prior to any request for documentation of a child's residency from the child's parent or guardian, relative or nonrelative, or emancipated minor or pupil eighteen years of age or older, the board of education shall provide the parent or guardian, relative or nonrelative, emancipated minor or pupil eighteen years of age or older with a written statement specifying the basis upon which the board has reason to believe that such child, emancipated minor or pupil eighteen years of age or older is not entitled to school accommodations.

(e) (1) For purposes of this subsection:

(A) "Temporary shelters" means facilities which provide emergency shelter for a specified, limited period of time, and

(B) "Educational costs" means the reasonable costs of providing regular or, except as otherwise provided, special education, but in no event shall such costs exceed the average per pupil cost for regular education students or the actual cost of providing special education for special education students.

(2) Children in temporary shelters shall be entitled to free school privileges from either the school district in which the shelter is located or the school district in which the child would otherwise reside, if not for the need for temporary shelter. Upon notification from the school district in which the temporary shelter is located, the school district in which the child would otherwise reside, if identified, shall either pay tuition to the school district in which the temporary shelter is located for the child to attend school in that district or shall continue to provide educational services, including transportation, to such child. If the school district where the child would otherwise reside cannot be identified, the school district in which the temporary shelter is located shall be financially responsible for the educational costs for such child, except that in the case of a child who requires special education and related services and is placed by the Department of Children and Families in a temporary shelter on or after July 1, 1995, the school district in which the child resided immediately prior to such placement or the Department of Children and Families shall be responsible for the cost of such special education and related services, to the extent such board or department is responsible for such costs under subparagraph (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d. If the school district where the child would otherwise reside declines to provide free school privileges, the school district where the temporary shelter is located shall provide free school privileges and may recover tuition from the school district where the child would otherwise reside. In the case of children requiring special education who have been placed in out-of-district programs by either a board of education or state agency, the school district in which the child would otherwise reside shall continue to be responsible for the child's education until such time as a new residence is established, notwithstanding the fact that the child or child's family resides in a temporary shelter.

(f) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, educational services shall be provided by each local and regional board of education to homeless children and youths in accordance with the provisions of 42 USC 11431, et seq., as amended from time to time. If a homeless child or youth is denied school accommodations by a local or regional board of education on the basis of residency, such homeless child or youth shall be entitled to a hearing conducted pursuant to section 10-186. An unaccompanied youth, as described in 42 USC 11434a, as amended from time to time, shall be entitled to knowledge of and have

access to all educational, medical or similar records in the cumulative record of such unaccompanied youth maintained by a local or regional board of education.

(g) (1) For purposes of this subsection, “juvenile residential center” means a juvenile residential center operated by, or under contract with, the Judicial Department.

(2) The local or regional board of education for the school district in which a juvenile residential center is located shall be responsible for the provision of general education and special education and related services to children detained in such center. The provision of general education and special education and related services shall be in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws concerning the provision of educational services. Such board may provide such educational services directly or may contract with public or private educational service providers for the provision of such services. Tuition may be charged to the local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction the child would otherwise be attending school for the provision of general education and special education and related services. Responsibility for the provision of educational services to the child shall begin on the date of the child's placement in the juvenile residential center and financial responsibility for the provision of such services shall begin upon the receipt by the child of such services.

(3) The local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction the child would otherwise be attending school or, if no such board can be identified, the local or regional board of education for the school district in which the juvenile residential center is located shall be financially responsible for the tuition charged for the provision of educational services to the child in such juvenile residential center. The State Board of Education shall pay, on a current basis, any costs in excess of such local or regional board of education's prior year's average per pupil costs. If the local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction the child would otherwise be attending school cannot be identified, the local or regional board of education for the school district in which the juvenile residential center is located shall be eligible to receive on a current basis from the State Board of Education any costs in excess of such local or regional board of education's prior year's average per pupil costs. Application for the grant to be paid by the state for costs in excess of the local or regional board of education's basic contribution shall be made in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (5) of subsection (e) of section 10-76d.

(4) The local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction the child would otherwise be attending school shall be financially responsible for the provision of educational services to the child placed in a juvenile residential center as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection notwithstanding that the child has been suspended from school pursuant to section 10-233c, has been expelled from school pursuant to section 10-233d or has withdrawn, dropped out or otherwise terminated enrollment from school. Upon notification of such board of education by the educational services provider for the juvenile residential center, the child shall be reenrolled in the school district where the child would otherwise be attending school or, if no such district can be identified, in the school district in which the juvenile residential center is located, and provided with educational services in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

(5) The local or regional board of education under whose jurisdiction the child would otherwise be attending school or, if no such board can be identified, the local or regional board of education for the school district in which the juvenile residential center is located shall be notified in writing by the Judicial Branch of the child's placement at the juvenile residential center not later than one business day after the child's placement, notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes. The notification shall include the child's name and date of birth, the address of the child's parents or guardian, placement location and contact information, and such other information as is necessary to provide educational services to the child.

(6) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, a child who is enrolled in a school district at the time of placement in a juvenile residential center shall remain enrolled in that same school district for

the duration of his or her detention, unless the child voluntarily terminates enrollment, and shall have the right to return to such school district immediately upon discharge from the juvenile residential center into the community.

(7) When a child is not enrolled in a school at the time of placement in a juvenile residential center:

(A) The child shall be enrolled in the school district where the child would otherwise be attending school not later than three business days after notification is given pursuant to subdivision (4) of this subsection.

(B) If no such district can be identified, the child shall be enrolled in the school district in which the juvenile residential center is located not later than three business days after the determination is made that no such district can be identified.

(8) Upon learning that a child is to be discharged from a juvenile residential center, the educational services provider for the juvenile residential center shall immediately notify the jurisdiction in which the child will continue his or her education after discharge from the juvenile residential center.

(9) Prior to the child's discharge from the juvenile residential center, the local or regional board of education responsible for the provision of educational services to children in the juvenile residential center shall conduct an assessment of the school work completed by the child to determine an assignment of academic credit for the work completed. Credit assigned shall be the credit of the local or regional board of education responsible for the provision of the educational services. Credit assigned for work completed by the child shall be accepted in transfer by the local or regional board of education for the school district in which the child continues his or her education after discharge from the juvenile residential center.

(h) (1) On or before August 1, 2018, each eligible school district shall designate and maintain at least one employee as a liaison to facilitate transitions between the school district and the juvenile and criminal justice systems.

(2) The designation required under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be made by providing the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch with written notice, on or before August first annually, of the name and professional title of and the contact information for such liaison.

(3) In each district, the liaison shall assist the school district, the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch and any relevant educational service providers in ensuring that:

(A) All persons under twenty-two years of age in justice system custody are promptly evaluated for eligibility for special education services, pursuant to section 17a-65 and any other applicable law;

(B) Students in justice system custody and returning to the community from justice system custody are promptly enrolled in school pursuant to this section and section 10-186;

(C) Students in justice system custody and returning to the community from justice system custody receive appropriate credit for school work completed in custody, pursuant to this section or section 10-220h;

(D) All relevant school records for students who enter justice system custody and who return to the community from justice system custody are promptly transferred to the appropriate school district or educational service provider, pursuant to section 10-220h.

(4) For purposes of this subsection:

(A) An “eligible school district” means a school district that enrolled at least six thousand students during the school year ending June 30, 2017.

(B) “Justice system custody” means physical or legal custody or control of a child in a facility or program run by or contracted with the Department of Correction, or the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch, either pending or pursuant to an adjudication or conviction for a delinquent act or criminal offense.

(C) “Child” means child, as defined in section 46b-120, or any other person under eighteen years of age.

Sec. 10-262f. Definitions. Whenever used in this section and sections 10-262h to 10-262j, inclusive:

(1) “Adjusted equalized net grand list” means the equalized net grand list of a town multiplied by its income adjustment factor.

(2) “Base aid ratio” means (A) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, 2013, inclusive, one minus the ratio of a town's wealth to the state guaranteed wealth level, provided no town's aid ratio shall be less than nine one-hundredths, except for towns which rank from one to twenty when all towns are ranked in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine based on the ratio of the number of children below poverty to the number of children age five to seventeen, inclusive, the town's aid ratio shall not be less than thirteen one-hundredths when based on data used to determine the grants pursuant to section 10-262h of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (B) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2014, to June 30, 2017, inclusive, one minus the town's wealth adjustment factor, except that a town's aid ratio shall not be less than (i) ten one-hundredths for a town designated as an alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u, and (ii) two one-hundredths for a town that is not designated as an alliance district, and (C) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the sum of (i) one minus the town's wealth adjustment factor, and (ii) the town's base aid ratio adjustment factor, if any, except that a town's base aid ratio shall not be less than (I) ten per cent for a town designated as an alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u, and (II) one per cent for a town that is not designated as an alliance district.

(3) “Income adjustment factor” means the average of a town's per capita income divided by the per capita income of the town with the highest per capita income in the state and a town's median household income divided by the median household income of the town with the highest median household income in the state.

(4) “Median household income” for each town means that enumerated in the most recent federal decennial census of population or that enumerated in the current population report series issued by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, whichever is more recent and available on January first of the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year in which payment is to be made pursuant to section 10-262i.

(5) “Supplemental aid factor” means for each town the average of its percentage of children eligible under the temporary family assistance program and its grant mastery percentage.

(6) “Percentage of children eligible under the temporary family assistance program” means the town's number of children under the temporary family assistance program divided by the number of children age five to seventeen, inclusive, in the town.

(7) "Average mastery percentage" means for each school year the average of the three most recent mastery percentages available on December first of the school year.

(8) "Equalized net grand list", for purposes of calculating the amount of grant to which any town is entitled in accordance with section 10-262h, means the average of the net grand lists of the town upon which taxes were levied for the general expenses of the town two, three and four years prior to the fiscal year in which such grant is to be paid, provided such net grand lists are equalized in accordance with section 10-261a.

(9) "Foundation" means (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1990, three thousand nine hundred eighteen dollars, (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1991, four thousand one hundred ninety-two dollars, (C) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1992, four thousand four hundred eighty-six dollars, (D) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1993, June 30, 1994, and June 30, 1995, four thousand eight hundred dollars, (E) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, June 30, 1997, and June 30, 1998, five thousand seven hundred eleven dollars, (F) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, five thousand seven hundred seventy-five dollars, (G) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2000, to June 30, 2007, inclusive, five thousand eight hundred ninety-one dollars, (H) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, 2013, inclusive, nine thousand six hundred eighty-seven dollars, and (I) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year thereafter, eleven thousand five hundred twenty-five dollars.

(10) "Number of children age five to seventeen, inclusive" means that enumerated in the most recent federal decennial census of population or enumerated in the current population report series issued by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, whichever is more recent and available on January first of the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year in which payment is to be made pursuant to section 10-262i.

(11) "Supplemental aid ratio" means .04 times the supplemental aid factor of a town divided by the highest supplemental aid factor when all towns are ranked from low to high, provided any town whose percentage of children eligible under the temporary family assistance program exceeds twenty-five shall have a supplemental aid ratio of .04.

(12) "Grant mastery percentage" means (A) for the school year ending June 30, 1989, average mastery percentage, and (B) for the school years ending June 30, 1990, through the school year ending June 30, 1995, the average mastery percentage plus the mastery improvement bonus, and (C) for each school year thereafter, the average mastery percentage.

(13) "Mastery count" of a town means for each school year the grant mastery percentage of the town multiplied by the number of resident students.

(14) "Mastery improvement bonus" means for each school year through the school year ending June 30, 1995, seventy-five per cent of the difference between (A) the grant mastery percentage for the previous school year, and (B) the average mastery percentage for the school year, but not less than zero.

(15) "Mastery percentage" of a town for any school year means, using the mastery test data of record for the mastery examination administered in such year, pursuant to section 10-14n, the number obtained by dividing (A) the total number of valid tests with scores below the state-wide standard for remedial assistance, as determined by the Department of Education, in each subject of the examinations pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-14n taken by resident students, by (B) the total number of such valid tests taken by such students.

(16) “Mastery test data of record” means for the school year commencing July 1, 2013, and each school year thereafter, the data of record subsequent to the administration of the mastery examinations pursuant to subsection (b) of section 10-14n, as adjusted by the Department of Education pursuant to a request by a local or regional board of education filed with the department not later than the August thirtieth following the administration of such examination.

(17) “Number of children under the temporary family assistance program” means the number obtained by adding together the unduplicated aggregate number of children five to eighteen years of age eligible to receive benefits under the temporary family assistance program or its predecessor federal program, as appropriate, in October and May of each fiscal year, and dividing by two, such number to be certified and submitted annually, no later than the first day of July of the succeeding fiscal year, to the Commissioner of Education by the Commissioner of Social Services.

(18) “Per capita income” for each town means that enumerated in the most recent federal decennial census of population or that enumerated in the current population report series issued by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, whichever is more recent and available on January first of the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year in which payment is to be made pursuant to section 10-262i.

(19) “Regional bonus” means, (A) for any town which is a member of a regional school district and has students who attend such regional school district, an amount equal to one hundred dollars for each such student enrolled in the regional school district on October first or the full school day immediately preceding such date for the school year prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid multiplied by the number of grades, kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in the regional school district, and (B) for any town which pays tuition for its students to attend an incorporated or endowed high school or academy approved by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-34, an amount equal to one hundred dollars for each such student enrolled in an incorporated or endowed high school or academy on October first or the full school day immediately preceding such date for the school year prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid multiplied by the number of grades for which students attend an incorporated or endowed high school or academy.

(20) “Regular program expenditures” means (A) total current educational expenditures less (B) expenditures for (i) special education programs pursuant to subsection (h) of section 10-76f, (ii) pupil transportation eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-266m, (iii) land and capital building expenditures, and equipment otherwise supported by a state grant pursuant to chapter 173, including debt service, (iv) health services for nonpublic school children, (v) adult education, (C) expenditures directly attributable to (i) state grants received by or on behalf of school districts except grants for the categories of expenditures listed in subparagraphs (B)(i) to (B)(iv), inclusive, of this subdivision and except grants received pursuant to section 10-262i and section 10-262c of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 1987, and except grants received pursuant to chapter 173, (ii) federal grants received by or on behalf of school districts except for adult education and federal impact aid, and (iii) receipts from the operation of child nutrition services and student activities services, (D) expenditures of funds from private and other sources, and (E) tuition received on account of nonresident students. The town of Woodstock may include as part of the current expenses of its public schools for each school year the amount expended for current expenses in that year by Woodstock Academy from income from its endowment funds upon receipt from said academy of a certified statement of such current expenses. The town of Winchester may include as part of the current expenses of its public school for each school year the amount expended for current expenses in that year by the Gilbert School from income from its endowment funds upon receipt from said school of a certified statement of such current expenses.

(21) “Regular program expenditures per need student” means, in any year, the regular program expenditures of a town for such year divided by the number of total need students in the town for such school year, provided for towns which are members of a kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district and for such regional school district, “regular program expenditures per need student” means, in any year, the regular program expenditures of such regional school district divided by the sum of the number of total need students in all such member towns.

(22) “Resident students” means the number of pupils of the town enrolled in public schools at the expense of the town on October first or the full school day immediately preceding such date, provided the number shall be decreased by the Department of Education for failure to comply with the provisions of section 10-16 and shall be increased by one one-hundred-eightieth for each full-time equivalent school day in the school year immediately preceding such date of at least five hours of actual school work in excess of one hundred eighty days and nine hundred hours of actual school work and be increased by the full-time equivalent number of such pupils attending the summer sessions immediately preceding such date at the expense of the town; “enrolled” shall include pupils who are scheduled for vacation on the above date and who are expected to return to school as scheduled. Pupils participating in the program established pursuant to section 10-266aa shall be counted in accordance with the provisions of subsection (h) of section 10-266aa.

(23) “Schools” means nursery schools, kindergarten and grades one to twelve, inclusive.

(24) “State guaranteed wealth level” means (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1990, 1.8335 times the town wealth of the town with the median wealth as calculated using the data of record on December first of the fiscal year prior to the year in which the grant is to be paid pursuant to section 10-262i, (B) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1991, and 1992, 1.6651 times the town wealth of the town with such median wealth, (C) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1993, June 30, 1994, and June 30, 1995, 1.5361 times the town wealth of the town with the median wealth, (D) for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1996, to June 30, 2007, inclusive, 1.55 times the town wealth of the town with the median wealth, and (E) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, and each fiscal year thereafter, 1.75 times the town wealth of the town with the median wealth.

(25) “Total need students” means the sum of (A) the number of resident students of the town for the school year, (B) for the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and each school year thereafter, (i) thirty per cent of the number of children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk, (ii) fifteen per cent of the number of children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk in excess of the number of children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk that is equal to sixty per cent of the total number of resident students of the town for the school year, and (iii) twenty-five per cent of the number of resident students who are English language learners, as defined in section 10-76kk.

(26) “Town wealth” means the average of a town's adjusted equalized net grand list divided by its total need students for the fiscal year prior to the year in which the grant is to be paid and its adjusted equalized net grand list divided by its population.

(27) “Population” of a town means that enumerated in the most recent federal decennial census of population or that enumerated in the current population report series issued by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census available on January first of the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year in which a grant is to be paid, whichever is most recent; except that any town whose enumerated population residing in state and federal institutions within such town and attributed to such town by the census exceeds forty per cent of such “population” shall have its population adjusted as follows: Persons who are incarcerated or in custodial situations, including, but not limited to jails, prisons, hospitals or

training schools or persons who reside in dormitory facilities in schools, colleges, universities or on military bases shall not be counted in the “population” of a town.

(28) “Base revenue” for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, means the sum of the grant entitlements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, of a town pursuant to section 10-262h of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, and subsection (a) of section 10-76g, including its proportional share, based on enrollment, of the revenue paid pursuant to section 10-76g, to the regional district of which the town is a member, and for each fiscal year thereafter means the amount of each town's entitlement pursuant to section 10-262h of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, minus its density supplement, as determined pursuant to subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 10-262h of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, except that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, each town's entitlement shall be determined without using the adjustments made to the previous year's grant pursuant to subparagraph (M) of subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 10-262h of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, except that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, each town's entitlement shall be determined without using the adjustments made to the previous year's grant pursuant to subparagraph (N) of subdivision (6) of subsection (a) of section 10-262h of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013.

(29) “Density” means the population of a town divided by the square miles of a town.

(30) “Density aid ratio” means the product of (A) the density of a town divided by the density of the town in the state with the highest density, and (B) .006273.

(31) “Mastery goal improvement count” means the product of (A) the difference between the percentage of state-wide mastery examination scores, pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-14n, at or above the mastery goal level for the most recently completed school year and the percentage of such scores for the prior school year, and (B) the resident students of the town, or zero, whichever is greater.

(32) “Target aid” means the sum of (A) the product of a town's base aid ratio, the foundation level and the town's total need students for the fiscal year prior to the year in which the grant is to be paid, (B) the product of a town's supplemental aid ratio, the foundation level and the sum of the portion of its total need students count described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of subdivision (25) of this section for the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid, and the adjustments to its resident student count described in subdivision (22) of this section relative to length of school year and summer school sessions, and (C) the town's regional bonus.

(33) “Fully funded grant” means the sum of (A) the product of a town's base aid ratio, the foundation and the town's total need students for the fiscal year prior to the year in which the grant is to be paid, and (B) the town's regional bonus.

(34) “Number of children below the level of poverty” means the number of children, ages five to seventeen, inclusive, in families in poverty, as determined under Part A of Title I of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110. The count for member towns of regional school districts shall be the sum of towns' initial determination under Title I and the proportionate share of the regional districts determination based member enrollment in the regional district.

(35) “Current program expenditures” means (A) total current educational expenditures less (B) expenditures for (i) land and capital building expenditures, and equipment otherwise supported by a state grant pursuant to chapter 173, including debt service, (ii) health services for nonpublic school children, and (iii) adult education, (C) expenditures directly attributable to (i) state grants received by or on behalf of

school districts except grants for the categories of expenditures listed in subparagraphs (B)(i) to (B)(iii), inclusive, of this subdivision and except grants received pursuant to section 10-262i and section 10-262c of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 1987, and except grants received pursuant to chapter 173, (ii) federal grants received by or on behalf of school districts except for adult education and federal impact aid, and (iii) receipts from the operation of child nutrition services and student activities services, (D) expenditures of funds from private and other sources, and (E) tuition received on account of nonresident students. The town of Woodstock may include as part of the current expenses of its public schools for each school year the amount expended for current expenses in that year by Woodstock Academy from income from its endowment funds upon receipt from said academy of a certified statement of such current expenses. The town of Winchester may include as part of the current expenses of its public school for each school year the amount expended for current expenses in that year by the Gilbert School from income from its endowment funds upon receipt from said school of a certified statement of such current expenses.

(36) “Current program expenditures per resident student” means, in any year, the current program expenditures of a town for such year divided by the number of resident students in the town for such school year.

(37) “Base aid” means the amount of the grant pursuant to section 10-262h of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, that a town was eligible to receive for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.

(38) “Local funding percentage” means that for the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year in which the grant is to be paid pursuant to section 10-262i, the number obtained by dividing (A) total current educational expenditures less (i) expenditures for (I) land and capital building expenditures, and equipment otherwise supported by a state grant pursuant to chapter 173, including debt service, (II) health services for nonpublic school children, and (III) adult education, (ii) expenditures directly attributable to (I) state grants received by or on behalf of school districts, except those grants for the categories of expenditures described in subparagraphs (A)(i)(I) to (A)(i)(III), inclusive, of this subdivision, and except grants received pursuant to chapter 173, (II) federal grants received by or on behalf of local or regional boards of education, except those grants for adult education and federal impact aid, and (III) receipts from the operation of child nutrition services and student activities services, (iii) expenditures of funds from private and other sources, and (iv) tuition received by the district for the education of nonresident students, by (B) total current educational expenditures less expenditures for (i) land and capital building expenditures, and equipment otherwise supported by a state grant pursuant to chapter 173, including debt service, (ii) health services for nonpublic school children, and (iii) adult education.

(39) “Minimum local funding percentage” means (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, twenty per cent, (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, twenty-one per cent, (C) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, twenty-two per cent, (D) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, twenty-three per cent, and (E) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, twenty-four per cent.

(40) “Number of children eligible for free or reduced price meals or free milk” means the number of pupils of the town enrolled in public schools at the expense of the town on October first or the full school day immediately preceding such date, in families that meet the income eligibility guidelines established by the federal Department of Agriculture for free or reduced price meals or free milk under the National School Lunch Program, established pursuant to P.L. 79-396.

(41) “Equalized net grand list per capita” means the equalized net grand list of a town divided by the population of such town.

(42) “Equalized net grand list adjustment factor” means (A) for the fiscal years prior to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the ratio of the town's equalized net grand list per capita to one and one-half times the town equalized net grand list per capita of the town with the median equalized net grand list per capita, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the ratio of the town's equalized net grand list per capita to one and thirty-five-one-hundredths times the town equalized net grand list per capita of the town with the median equalized net grand list per capita.

(43) “Median household income adjustment factor” means (A) for the fiscal years prior to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the ratio of the median household income of the town to one and one-half times the median household income of the town with the median household income when all towns are ranked according to median household income, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the ratio of the median household income of the town to one and thirty-five-one-hundredths times the median household income of the town with the median household income when all towns are ranked according to median household income.

(44) “Wealth adjustment factor” means (A) for the fiscal years prior to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, the sum of a town's equalized net grand list adjustment factor multiplied by ninety one-hundredths per cent and a town's median household income adjustment factor multiplied by ten one-hundredths per cent, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the sum of a town's equalized net grand list adjustment factor multiplied by seventy per cent and a town's median household income adjustment factor multiplied by thirty per cent.

(45) “Net current expenditures per resident student” means, in any school year, the net current expenditures, as defined in section 10-261, for such school year divided by the number of resident students in the town for such school year.

(46) “Base aid ratio adjustment factor” means (A) six percentage points for those towns ranked one, two, three, four or five in total eligibility index points, (B) five percentage points for those towns ranked six, seven, eight, nine or ten in total eligibility index points, (C) four percentage points for those towns ranked eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen or fifteen in total eligibility index points, and (D) three percentage points for those towns ranked sixteen, seventeen, eighteen or nineteen in total eligibility index points.

(47) “Eligibility index” has the same meaning as provided in section 7-545.

(48) “Base grant amount” means the equalization aid grant a town was entitled to receive for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, as enumerated in section 20 of public act 16-2 of the May special session*, minus any reductions to said equalization aid grant during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, resulting from lapses to the funds appropriated for said equalization aid grant attributable to the recommendation made by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, pursuant to section 12 of public act 15-244*.

(49) “Grant adjustment” means the absolute value of the difference between a town's base grant amount and its fully funded grant.

Sec. 10-264i. Transportation grants for interdistrict magnet school programs. (a)(1)(A) A local or regional board of education, (B) a regional educational service center, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers Community College, (D) a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a, or (E) to assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related

stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, (i) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (ii) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (iii) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (iv) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, and (v) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner which transports a child to an interdistrict magnet school program, as defined in section 10-264l, in a town other than the town in which the child resides shall be eligible pursuant to section 10-264e to receive a grant for the cost of transporting such child in accordance with this section.

(2) Except as provided in subdivisions (3) and (4) of this subsection, the amount of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the number of such children transported multiplied by one thousand three hundred dollars.

(3) For districts assisting the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, (A) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the amount of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the number of such children transported multiplied by one thousand four hundred dollars, and (B) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to the number of such children transported multiplied by two thousand dollars.

(4) In addition to the grants otherwise provided pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of Education may provide supplemental transportation grants to regional educational service centers for the purposes of transportation to interdistrict magnet schools. Any such grant shall be provided within available appropriations and after the commissioner has reviewed and approved the total interdistrict magnet school transportation budget for a regional educational service center, including all revenue and expenditure estimates. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2018, inclusive, in addition to the grants otherwise provided pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of Education may provide supplemental transportation to interdistrict magnet schools that assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner. Any such grant shall be provided within available appropriations and upon a comprehensive financial review, by an auditor selected by the Commissioner of Education, the costs of such review may be paid from funds that are part of the supplemental transportation grant. Any such grant shall be paid as follows: For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and each fiscal year thereafter, up to seventy per cent of the grant on or before June thirtieth of the fiscal year, and the balance on or before September first of the following fiscal year upon completion of the comprehensive financial review, provided any unpaid balance of eligible transportation costs incurred on or before December thirty-first of the fiscal year based on documentation, including, but not limited to, vendor bills dated on or before February first of the fiscal year, and any unpaid balance of eligible transportation costs incurred on or before March thirty-first of the fiscal year based on documentation, including, but not limited to, vendor bills on or before May first of the fiscal year, and the balance of the grant on or before September first of the following fiscal year upon completion of the comprehensive financial review.

(5) The Department of Education shall provide such grants within available appropriations. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent a local or regional board of education, regional educational service center or cooperative arrangement from receiving reimbursement under section 10-266m for reasonable transportation expenses for which such board, service center or cooperative arrangement is not reimbursed pursuant to this section.

(b) Grants under this section shall be contingent on documented costs of providing such transportation. Eligible entities identified in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section shall submit applications for grants under this section to the Commissioner of Education in such form and at such times as he prescribes. Grants pursuant to this section shall be paid as follows: In October one-half of the estimated eligible transportation costs and the balance of such costs in May.

(c) Each eligible entity identified in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section participating in the grant program shall prepare a financial statement of expenditures which shall be submitted to the Department of Education on or before September first of the fiscal year immediately following each fiscal year in which the school district, regional educational service center or cooperative arrangement participates in the grant program. Based on such statement, any underpayment or overpayment may be calculated and adjusted by the Department of Education in the grant for any subsequent year.

Sec. 10-264l. Grants for the operation of interdistrict magnet school programs. Transportation. Enrollment of students; notice. Special education; Section 504 plans. Financial audits. Tuition. (a) The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, establish a grant program (1) to assist (A) local and regional boards of education, (B) regional educational service centers, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of Quinebaug Valley Community College and Three Rivers Community College, and (D) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (2) in assisting the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, to assist (A) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (B) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (C) the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (D) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, and (E) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner with the operation of interdistrict magnet school programs. All interdistrict magnet schools shall be operated in conformance with the same laws and regulations applicable to public schools. For the purposes of this section “an interdistrict magnet school program” means a program which (i) supports racial, ethnic and economic diversity, (ii) offers a special and high quality curriculum, and (iii) requires students who are enrolled to attend at least half-time. An interdistrict magnet school program does not include a regional agricultural science and technology school, a technical education and career school or a regional special education center. For the school years commencing July 1, 2017, to July 1, 2023, inclusive, the governing authority for each interdistrict magnet school program shall (I) restrict the number of students that may enroll in the school from a participating district to seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment, and (II) maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-264r.

(b) (1) Applications for interdistrict magnet school program operating grants awarded pursuant to this section shall be submitted annually to the Commissioner of Education at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, except that on and after July 1, 2009, applications for such operating grants for new interdistrict magnet schools, other than those that the commissioner determines will assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, shall not be accepted until the commissioner develops a comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan. The commissioner

shall submit such comprehensive state-wide interdistrict magnet school plan on or before October 1, 2016, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations.

(2) In determining whether an application shall be approved and funds awarded pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to: (A) Whether the program offered by the school is likely to increase student achievement; (B) whether the program is likely to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation; (C) the percentage of the student enrollment in the program from each participating district; and (D) the proposed operating budget and the sources of funding for the interdistrict magnet school. For a magnet school not operated by a local or regional board of education, the commissioner shall only approve a proposed operating budget that, on a per pupil basis, does not exceed the maximum allowable threshold established in accordance with this subdivision. The maximum allowable threshold shall be an amount equal to one hundred twenty per cent of the state average of the quotient obtained by dividing net current expenditures, as defined in section 10-261, by average daily membership, as defined in said section, for the fiscal year two years prior to the fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. The Department of Education shall establish the maximum allowable threshold no later than December fifteenth of the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year for which the operating grant is requested. If requested by an applicant that is not a local or regional board of education, the commissioner may approve a proposed operating budget that exceeds the maximum allowable threshold if the commissioner determines that there are extraordinary programmatic needs. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, June 30, 2018, June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, in the case of an interdistrict magnet school that will assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, the commissioner shall also consider whether the school is meeting the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the commissioner pursuant to section 10-264r. If such school has not met such reduced-isolation setting standards, it shall not be entitled to receive a grant pursuant to this section unless the commissioner finds that it is appropriate to award a grant for an additional year or years and approves a plan to bring such school into compliance with such reduced-isolation setting standards. If requested by the commissioner, the applicant shall meet with the commissioner or the commissioner's designee to discuss the budget and sources of funding.

(3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, to June 30, 2023, inclusive, the commissioner shall not award a grant to an interdistrict magnet school program that (A) has more than seventy-five per cent of the total school enrollment from one school district, or (B) does not maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the Commissioner of Education pursuant to section 10-264r, except the commissioner may award a grant to such school for an additional year or years if the commissioner finds it is appropriate to do so and approves a plan to bring such school into compliance with such residency or reduced-isolation setting standards.

(4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, to June 30, 2021, inclusive, if an interdistrict magnet school program does not maintain a total school enrollment that is in accordance with the reduced-isolation setting standards for interdistrict magnet school programs, developed by the commissioner pursuant to section 10-264r, for two or more consecutive years, the commissioner may impose a financial penalty on the operator of such interdistrict magnet school program, or take any other measure, in consultation with such operator, as may be appropriate to assist such operator in complying with such reduced-isolation setting standards.

(c) (1) The maximum amount each interdistrict magnet school program, except those described in subparagraphs (A) to (G), inclusive, of subdivision (3) of this subsection, shall be eligible to receive per enrolled student who is not a resident of the town operating the magnet school shall be (A) six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (B) six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for

the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, (C) seven thousand eighty-five dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (D) seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter. The per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of the town operating the magnet school program shall be (i) three thousand dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (ii) three thousand sixty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, and each fiscal year thereafter, the commissioner may, within available appropriations, provide supplemental grants for the purposes of enhancing educational programs in such interdistrict magnet schools, as the commissioner determines. Such grants shall be made after the commissioner has conducted a comprehensive financial review and approved the total operating budget for such schools, including all revenue and expenditure estimates.

(3) (A) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (G), inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center that enrolls less than fifty-five per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of (i) six thousand two hundred fifty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, (ii) six thousand five hundred dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, (iii) seven thousand sixty dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (iv) seven thousand six hundred twenty dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, (v) seven thousand nine hundred dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (vi) eight thousand fifty-eight dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraphs (C) to (G), inclusive, of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students from a single town shall receive a per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students in the amount of (i) six thousand sixteen dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, (ii) six thousand seven hundred thirty dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2009, to June 30, 2012, inclusive, (iii) seven thousand eighty-five dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (iv) seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter. The per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent of the school's students shall be three thousand sixty dollars.

(C) (i) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center that began operations for the school year commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing July 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students from a single town, shall receive a per pupil grant (I) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars, (II) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of three thousand dollars, (III) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand one hundred eighty dollars, and (IV) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of seven thousand eighty-five dollars.

(ii) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, each interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center that began operations for the school year commencing July 1, 2001, and that for the school year commencing July 1, 2008, enrolled at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students from a single town, shall receive a per pupil grant (I) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand three hundred forty-four dollars, (II) for each enrolled student who is a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of three thousand sixty dollars, (III) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but no more than eighty per cent of the school's students, up to an amount equal to the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of eight thousand three hundred forty-four dollars, and (IV) for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district that enrolls at least fifty-five per cent, but not more than eighty per cent of the school's students, in an amount greater than the total number of such enrolled students as of October 1, 2013, using the data of record, in the amount of seven thousand two hundred twenty-seven dollars.

(D) (i) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (D)(ii) of this subdivision, each interdistrict magnet school operated by (I) a regional educational service center, (II) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (III) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (IV) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (V) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (E) of this subdivision, (VI) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, (VII) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner, and (VIII) the Hartford school district for the operation of Great Path Academy on behalf of Manchester Community College, that enrolls less than sixty per cent of its students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of nine thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, ten thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.

(ii) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, any interdistrict magnet school described in subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision that enrolls less than fifty per cent of its incoming students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of seven thousand nine hundred dollars for one-half of the total number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the school over fifty per cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of ten thousand four hundred forty-three dollars for the remainder of the total school enrollment. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school described in subparagraph (D)(i) of this subdivision that enrolls less than fifty per cent of its incoming students from Hartford shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of eight thousand fifty-eight dollars for one-half of the total number of non-Hartford students enrolled in the school over fifty per cent of the total school enrollment and shall receive a per pupil grant in the amount of ten thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars for the remainder of the total school enrollment, except the commissioner may, upon the written request of an operator of such school, waive such fifty per cent enrollment minimum for good cause.

(E) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, and each fiscal year thereafter, each interdistrict magnet school operated by the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, that (i) began operations for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, (ii) enrolls less

than sixty per cent of its students from Hartford pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, and (iii) enrolls students at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant (I) equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to subparagraph (D) of this subdivision for each student who is enrolled at such school for at least two semesters in each school year, and (II) equal to thirty-two and one-half per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to subparagraph (D) of this subdivision for each student who is enrolled at such school for one semester in each school year.

(F) Each interdistrict magnet school operated by a local or regional board of education, pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, shall receive a per pupil grant for each enrolled student who is not a resident of the district in the amount of (i) twelve thousand dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, (ii) thirteen thousand fifty-four dollars for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2011, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, and (iii) thirteen thousand three hundred fifteen dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter.

(G) In addition to the grants described in subparagraph (E) of this subdivision, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, the commissioner may, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and the Finance Advisory Committee, established pursuant to section 4-93, provide supplemental grants to the Hartford school district of up to one thousand fifty-four dollars for each student enrolled at an interdistrict magnet school operated by the Hartford school district who is not a resident of such district.

(H) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, the half-day Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts interdistrict magnet school operated by the Capital Region Education Council shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the per pupil grant specified in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

(I) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, to June 30, 2018, inclusive, the half-day Greater Hartford Academy of Mathematics and Science interdistrict magnet school operated by the Capitol Region Education Council shall be eligible to receive a per pupil grant equal to six thousand seven hundred eighty-seven dollars for (i) students enrolled in grades ten to twelve, inclusive, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, (ii) students enrolled in grades eleven and twelve for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, and (iii) students enrolled in grade twelve for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, the half-day Greater Hartford Academy of Mathematics and Science interdistrict magnet school shall not be eligible for any additional grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, and June 30, 2016, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department as follows: (A) Increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that is adding planned new grade levels for the school years commencing July 1, 2015, and July 1, 2016; (B) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015; (C) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that is moving into a permanent facility for the school years commencing July 1, 2014, to July 1, 2016, inclusive; (D) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program to ensure compliance with subsection (a) of this section; and (E) new enrollments for a new interdistrict magnet school program commencing operations on or after July 1, 2014, pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time,

but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013, or October 1, 2015, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department as follows: (A) Increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that is adding planned new grade levels for the school years commencing July 1, 2015, and July 1, 2016; (B) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015; (C) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program that added planned new grade levels for the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and was funded during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016; and (D) increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program to ensure compliance with subsection (a) of this section. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(6) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and within available appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013, October 1, 2015, or October 1, 2016, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and subject to the commissioner's approval, including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(7) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, and within available appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013, October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, or October 1, 2017, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and subject to the commissioner's approval, including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(8) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and within available appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school program on October 1, 2013, October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, October 1, 2017, or October 1, 2018, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and subject to the commissioner's approval, including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(9) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and within available appropriations, the department may limit payment to an interdistrict magnet school operator to an amount equal to the grant that such magnet school operator was eligible to receive based on the enrollment level of the interdistrict magnet school

program on October 1, 2013, October 1, 2015, October 1, 2016, October 1, 2017, October 1, 2018, or October 1, 2019, whichever is lower. Approval of funding for enrollment above such enrollment level shall be prioritized by the department and subject to the commissioner's approval, including increases in enrollment in an interdistrict magnet school program as a result of planned and approved new grade levels. Any interdistrict magnet school program operating less than full-time, but at least half-time, shall be eligible to receive a grant equal to sixty-five per cent of the grant amount determined pursuant to this subsection.

(10) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make grants to the following entities that operate an interdistrict magnet school that assists the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner and that provide academic support programs and summer school educational programs approved by the commissioner to students participating in such interdistrict magnet school program: (A) Regional educational service centers, (B) local and regional boards of education, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (D) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (E) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (F) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, (G) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (H) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner.

(11) Within available appropriations, the Commissioner of Education may make grants, in an amount not to exceed seventy-five thousand dollars, for start-up costs associated with the development of new interdistrict magnet school programs that assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the commissioner, to the following entities that develop such a program: (A) Regional educational service centers, (B) local and regional boards of education, (C) the Board of Trustees of the Community-Technical Colleges on behalf of a regional community-technical college, (D) the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut State University System on behalf of a state university, (E) the Board of Trustees for The University of Connecticut on behalf of the university, (F) the board of governors for an independent institution of higher education, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10a-173, or the equivalent of such a board, on behalf of the independent institution of higher education, (G) cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a, and (H) any other third-party not-for-profit corporation approved by the commissioner.

(12) In no case shall the total grant paid to an interdistrict magnet school operator pursuant to this section exceed the aggregate total of the reasonable operating budgets of the interdistrict magnet school programs of such operator, less revenues from other sources.

(d) (1) Grants made pursuant to this section, except those made pursuant to subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of this section and subdivision (2) of this subsection, shall be paid as follows: Seventy per cent not later than September first and the balance not later than May first of each fiscal year. The May first payment shall be adjusted to reflect actual interdistrict magnet school program enrollment as of the preceding October first using the data of record as of the intervening January thirty-first, if the actual level of enrollment is lower than the projected enrollment stated in the approved grant application. The May first payment shall be further adjusted for the difference between the total grant received by the magnet school operator in the prior fiscal year and the revised total grant amount calculated for the prior fiscal year in cases where the aggregate financial audit submitted by the interdistrict magnet school operator pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of this section indicates an overpayment by the department. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the contrary, grants made pursuant to this section may be paid to each interdistrict magnet school operator as an aggregate total of the amount that the interdistrict magnet schools operated by each such operator are eligible to receive under this section. Each interdistrict

magnet school operator may distribute such aggregate grant among the interdistrict magnet school programs that such operator is operating pursuant to a distribution plan approved by the Commissioner of Education.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, grants made pursuant to subparagraph (E) of subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of this section shall be paid as follows: Fifty per cent of the amount not later than September first based on estimated student enrollment for the first semester on September first, and another fifty per cent not later than May first of each fiscal year based on actual student enrollment for the second semester on February first. The May first payment shall be adjusted to reflect actual interdistrict magnet school program enrollment for those students who have been enrolled at such school for at least two semesters of the school year, using the data of record, and actual student enrollment for those students who have been enrolled at such school for only one semester, using data of record. The May first payment shall be further adjusted for the difference between the total grant received by the magnet school operator in the prior fiscal year and the revised total grant amount calculated for the prior fiscal year where the financial audit submitted by the interdistrict magnet school operator pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of this section indicates an overpayment by the department.

(e) The Department of Education may retain up to one-half of one per cent of the amount appropriated, in an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars, for purposes of this section for program evaluation and administration.

(f) Each local or regional school district in which an interdistrict magnet school is located shall provide the same kind of transportation to its children enrolled in such interdistrict magnet school as it provides to its children enrolled in other public schools in such local or regional school district. The parent or guardian of a child denied the transportation services required to be provided pursuant to this subsection may appeal such denial in the manner provided in sections 10-186 and 10-187.

(g) On or before October fifteenth of each year, the Commissioner of Education shall determine if interdistrict magnet school enrollment is below the number of students for which funds were appropriated. If the commissioner determines that the enrollment is below such number, the additional funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the commissioner for grants for interdistrict cooperative programs pursuant to section 10-74d.

(h) (1) In the case of a student identified as requiring special education, the school district in which the student resides shall: (A) Hold the planning and placement team meeting for such student and shall invite representatives from the interdistrict magnet school to participate in such meeting; and (B) pay the interdistrict magnet school an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the interdistrict magnet school for such student pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and amounts received from other state, federal, local or private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. Such school district shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g. If a student requiring special education attends an interdistrict magnet school on a full-time basis, such interdistrict magnet school shall be responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services mandated by the student's individualized education program whether such services are provided by the interdistrict magnet school or by the school district in which the student resides.

(2) In the case of a student with a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, the school district in which the student resides shall pay the interdistrict magnet school an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of educating such student and the sum of the amount received by the interdistrict magnet school for such student pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and amounts received from other state, federal, local or private sources calculated on a per pupil basis. If a student with a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, attends an interdistrict magnet school on a full-time basis, such interdistrict magnet

school shall be responsible for ensuring that such student receives the services mandated by the student's plan, whether such services are provided by the interdistrict magnet school or by the school district in which the student resides.

(i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the enrollment of nonpublic school students in an interdistrict magnet school program that operates less than full-time, provided (1) such students constitute no more than five per cent of the full-time equivalent enrollment in such magnet school program, and (2) such students are not counted for purposes of determining the amount of grants pursuant to this section and section 10-264i.

(j) After accommodating students from participating districts in accordance with an approved enrollment agreement, an interdistrict magnet school operator that has unused student capacity may enroll directly into its program any interested student. A student from a district that is not participating in an interdistrict magnet school or the interdistrict student attendance program pursuant to section 10-266aa to an extent determined by the Commissioner of Education shall be given preference. The local or regional board of education otherwise responsible for educating such student shall contribute funds to support the operation of the interdistrict magnet school in an amount equal to the per student tuition, if any, charged to participating districts.

(k) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, and each fiscal year thereafter, any tuition charged to a local or regional board of education by a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school or any tuition charged by the Hartford school district operating the Great Path Academy on behalf of Manchester Community College for any student enrolled in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in such interdistrict magnet school shall be in an amount equal to the difference between (A) the average per pupil expenditure of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (B) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. If any such board of education fails to pay such tuition, the commissioner may withhold from such board's town or towns a sum payable under section 10-262i in an amount not to exceed the amount of the unpaid tuition to the magnet school and pay such money to the fiscal agent for the magnet school as a supplementary grant for the operation of the interdistrict magnet school program. In no case shall the sum of such tuitions exceed the difference between (i) the total expenditures of the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the total per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of a magnet school to verify such tuition rate.

(2) (A) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, and June 30, 2014, a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school offering a preschool program that is not located in the Sheff region may charge tuition to the Department of Education for a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount not to exceed an amount equal to the difference between (i) the average per pupil expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate. For purposes of this subdivision, "Sheff region" means the school districts for the towns of Avon, Bloomfield, Canton, East Granby, East Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington, Farmington, Glastonbury, Granby, Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South Windsor, Suffield, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor and Windsor Locks.

(B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school offering a preschool program that is not located in the Sheff region may charge tuition to the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount that is in

accordance with the sliding tuition scale adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-264p. The Department of Education shall be financially responsible for any unpaid portion of the tuition not charged to such parent or guardian under such sliding tuition scale. Such tuition shall not exceed an amount equal to the difference between (i) the average per pupil expenditure of the preschool program offered at the magnet school for the prior fiscal year, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy calculated under subsection (c) of this section plus any revenue from other sources calculated on a per pupil basis. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

(C) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, a regional educational service center operating an interdistrict magnet school offering a preschool program that is not located in the Sheff region shall charge tuition to the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in such preschool program in an amount up to four thousand fifty-three dollars, except such regional educational service center shall not charge tuition to such parent or guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median income. The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be financially responsible for any unpaid tuition charged to such parent or guardian with a family income at or below seventy-five per cent of the state median income. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of any such magnet school charging such tuition to verify such tuition rate.

(l) A participating district shall provide opportunities for its students to attend an interdistrict magnet school in a number that is at least equal to the number specified in any written agreement with an interdistrict magnet school operator or in a number that is at least equal to the average number of students that the participating district enrolled in such magnet school during the previous three school years.

(m) (1) On or before May 15, 2010, and annually thereafter, each interdistrict magnet school operator shall provide written notification to any school district that is otherwise responsible for educating a student who resides in such school district and will be enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school under the operator's control for the following school year. Such notification shall include (A) the number of any such students, by grade, who will be enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school under the control of such operator, (B) the name of the school in which such student has been placed, and (C) the amount of tuition to be charged to the local or regional board of education for such student. Such notification shall represent an estimate of the number of students expected to attend such interdistrict magnet schools in the following school year, but shall not be deemed to limit the number of students who may enroll in such interdistrict magnet schools for such year.

(2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year thereafter, any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a local or regional board of education and did not charge tuition to a local or regional board of education for the school year commencing July 1, 2014, may not charge tuition to such board unless (A) such operator receives authorization from the Commissioner of Education to charge the proposed tuition, and (B) if such authorization is granted, such operator provides written notification on or before September first of the school year prior to the school year in which such tuition is to be charged to such board of the tuition to be charged to such board for each student that such board is otherwise responsible for educating and is enrolled at the interdistrict magnet school under such operator's control. In deciding whether to authorize an interdistrict magnet school operator to charge tuition under this subdivision, the commissioner shall consider (i) the average per pupil expenditure of such operator for each interdistrict magnet school under the control of such operator, and (ii) the amount of any per pupil state subsidy and any revenue from other sources received by such operator. The commissioner may conduct a comprehensive financial review of the operating budget of the magnet school of such operator to verify that the tuition is appropriate. The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to any interdistrict magnet school operator that is a regional educational service center or assisting the state in meeting its obligations

pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

(3) Not later than two weeks following an enrollment lottery for an interdistrict magnet school conducted by a magnet school operator, the parent or guardian of a student (A) who will enroll in such interdistrict magnet school in the following school year, or (B) whose name has been placed on a waiting list for enrollment in such interdistrict magnet school for the following school year, shall provide written notification of such prospective enrollment or waiting list placement to the school district in which such student resides and is otherwise responsible for educating such student.

(n) (1) Each interdistrict magnet school operator shall annually file with the Commissioner of Education, at such time and in such manner as the commissioner prescribes, (A) a financial audit for each interdistrict magnet school operated by such operator, and (B) an aggregate financial audit for all of the interdistrict magnet schools operated by such operator.

(2) Annually, the commissioner shall randomly select one interdistrict magnet school operated by a regional educational service center to be subject to a comprehensive financial audit conducted by an auditor selected by the commissioner. The regional educational service center shall be responsible for all costs associated with the audit conducted pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision.

(o) For the school years commencing July 1, 2009, to July 1, 2018, inclusive, any local or regional board of education operating an interdistrict magnet school pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, shall not charge tuition for any student enrolled in a preschool program or in kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, in an interdistrict magnet school operated by such school district, except the Hartford school district may charge tuition for any student enrolled in the Great Path Academy.

(p) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, if the East Hartford school district has greater than seven per cent of its resident students, as defined in section 10-262f, enrolled in an interdistrict magnet school program, then the board of education for the town of East Hartford shall not be financially responsible for four thousand four hundred dollars of the portion of the per student tuition charged for each such student in excess of such seven per cent. The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, be financially responsible for such excess per student tuition. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grants payable to the board of education for the town of East Hartford in accordance with this subsection shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for purposes of this subsection.

Sec. 10-266m Transportation grants. (a) A local or regional board of education providing transportation in accordance with the provisions of [sections 10-54](#), [10-66ee](#), [10-97](#), [10-158a](#), [10-273a](#), [10-277](#) and [10-281](#) shall be reimbursed for a percentage of such transportation costs as follows:

(1) The percentage of pupil transportation costs reimbursed to a local board of education shall be determined by (A) ranking each town in the state in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine according to such town's adjusted equalized net grand list per capita, as defined in [section 10-261](#); (B) based upon such ranking, and notwithstanding the provisions of [section 2-32a, \(i\)](#) except as otherwise provided in this subparagraph, a percentage of zero shall be assigned to towns ranked from one to thirteen and a percentage of not less than zero nor more than sixty shall be determined for the towns ranked from fourteen to one hundred sixty-nine on a continuous scale, except that any such percentage shall be increased by twenty percentage points in accordance with [section 10-97](#), where applicable, and (ii) for the fiscal year

ending June 30, 1997, and for each fiscal year thereafter, a percentage of zero shall be assigned to towns ranked from one to seventeen and a percentage of not less than zero nor more than sixty shall be determined for the towns ranked from eighteen to one hundred sixty-nine on a continuous scale.

(2) The percentage of pupil transportation costs reimbursed to a regional board of education shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined by (A) multiplying the total population, as defined in [section 10-261](#), of each town in the district by such town's ranking, as determined in subdivision (1) of this subsection, (B) adding together the figures determined under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and (C) dividing the total computed under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision by the total population of all towns in the district. The ranking of each regional board of education shall be rounded to the next higher whole number and each such board shall receive the same reimbursement percentage as would a town with the same rank, provided such percentage shall be increased in the case of a secondary regional school district by an additional five percentage points and, in the case of any other regional school district by an additional ten percentage points.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1997, and for each fiscal year thereafter, no local or regional board of education shall receive a grant of less than one thousand dollars.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, the amount of transportation grants payable to local or regional boards of education shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for such grants for such year.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Commissioner of Education may provide grants, within available appropriations, in an amount not to exceed two thousand dollars per pupil, to local and regional boards of education and regional educational service centers that transport (A) out-of-district students to a technical education and career school located in Hartford, or (B) Hartford students attending a technical education and career school or a regional agricultural science and technology education center outside of the district, to assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in [Sheff v. O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 \(1996\)](#), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, for the costs associated with such transportation.

(6) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, in addition to the reimbursements and grants payable under subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of this subsection, the Commissioner of Education shall provide a grant when (A) two or more boards of education enter into a cooperative agreement in accordance with [section 10-158a](#) to transport students to schools operated by the boards of education during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and (B) such cooperative arrangement results in a savings, as determined by the commissioner, over the transportation costs incurred by the boards of education during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010. This grant, which shall be returned to the municipalities in which the participating boards of education are located in accordance with the terms of the written cooperative arrangement, shall be equal to half of the difference in the amount the boards of education would have been reimbursed in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, for pupil transportation costs but for the savings realized in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, pursuant to the cooperative arrangement.

(b) A cooperative arrangement established pursuant to [section 10-158a](#) which provides transportation in accordance with said section shall be reimbursed for a percentage of such transportation costs in accordance with its ranking pursuant to this subsection. The ranking shall be determined by (1) multiplying the total population, as defined in [section 10-261](#), of each town in the cooperative arrangement by such town's ranking as determined pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, (2) adding such products, and (3) dividing such sum by the total population of all towns in the cooperative arrangement. The ranking of each

cooperative arrangement shall be rounded to the next higher whole number and each cooperative arrangement shall receive the same reimbursement percentage as a town with the same rank.

Sec. 10-266aa State-wide interdistrict public school attendance program. (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Receiving district" means any school district that accepts students under the program established pursuant to this section;

(2) "Sending district" means any school district that sends students it would otherwise be legally responsible for educating to another school district under the program; and

(3) "Minority students" means students who are "pupils of racial minorities", as defined in section 10-226a.

(b) There is established, within available appropriations, an interdistrict public school attendance program. The purpose of the program shall be to: (1) Improve academic achievement; (2) reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation or preserve racial and ethnic balance; and (3) provide a choice of educational programs. The Department of Education shall provide oversight for the program, including the setting of reasonable limits for the transportation of students participating in the program, and may provide for the incremental expansion of the program for the school year commencing in 2000 for each town required to participate in the program pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(c) The program shall be phased in as provided in this subsection. (1) For the school year commencing in 1998, and for each school year thereafter, the program shall be in operation in the Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport regions. The Hartford program shall operate as a continuation of the program described in section 10-266j. Students who reside in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport may attend school in another school district in the region and students who reside in such other school districts may attend school in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport, provided, beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not minority students to the total number of students leaving Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of students who were not minority students in the prior school year to the total number of students enrolled in Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven in the prior school year. The regional educational service center operating the program shall make program participation decisions in accordance with the requirements of this subdivision. (2) For the school year commencing in 2000, and for each school year thereafter, the program shall be in operation in New London, provided beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not minority students to the total number of students leaving New London to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of students who were not minority students in the prior year to the total number of students enrolled in New London in the prior school year. The regional educational service center operating the program shall make program participation decisions in accordance with this subdivision. (3) The Department of Education may provide, within available appropriations, grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, to the remaining regional educational service centers to assist school districts in planning for a voluntary program of student enrollment in every priority school district, pursuant to section 10-266p, which is interested in participating in accordance with this subdivision. For the school year commencing in 2003, and for each school year thereafter, the voluntary enrollment program may be in operation in every priority school district in the state. Students from other school districts in the area of a priority school district, as determined by the regional educational service center pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, may attend school in the priority school district, provided such students bring racial, ethnic and economic diversity to the priority school district and do not increase the racial, ethnic and economic isolation in the priority school district. (4) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022, there shall be a pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk. The pilot program shall serve (A) up to fifty students who reside in

Danbury, and such students may attend school in the school districts for the towns of New Fairfield, Brookfield, Bethel, Ridgefield and Redding, and (B) up to fifty students who reside in Norwalk, and such students may attend school in the school districts for the towns of Darien, New Canaan, Wilton, Weston and Westport. School districts which receive students from Danbury and Norwalk under the pilot program during the school year commencing July 1, 2022, shall allow such students to attend school in the district until they graduate from high school.

(d) School districts which received students from New London under the program during the school year commencing July 1, 2000, shall allow such students to attend school in the district until they graduate from high school. The attendance of such students in such program shall not be supported by grants pursuant to subsections (f) and (g) of this section but shall be supported, in the same amounts as provided for in said subsections, by interdistrict cooperative grants pursuant to section 10-74d to the regional educational service centers operating such programs.

(e) Once the program is in operation in the region served by a regional educational service center pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the Department of Education shall provide an annual grant to such regional educational service center to assist school districts in its area in administering the program and to provide staff to assist students participating in the program to make the transition to a new school and to act as a liaison between the parents of such students and the new school district. Each regional educational service center shall determine which school districts in its area are located close enough to a priority school district to make participation in the program feasible in terms of student transportation pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, provided any student participating in the program prior to July 1, 1999, shall be allowed to continue to attend the same school such student attended prior to said date in the receiving district until the student completes the highest grade in such school. If there are more students who seek to attend school in a receiving district than there are spaces available, the regional educational service center shall assist the school district in determining attendance by the use of a lottery or lotteries designed to preserve or increase racial, ethnic and economic diversity, except that the regional educational service center shall give preference to siblings and to students who would otherwise attend a school that has lost its accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges or has been identified as in need of improvement pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110. The admission policies shall be consistent with section 10-15c and this section. No receiving district shall recruit students under the program for athletic or extracurricular purposes. Each receiving district shall allow out-of-district students it accepts to attend school in the district until they graduate from high school.

(f) The Department of Education shall provide grants to regional educational service centers or local or regional boards of education for the reasonable cost of transportation for students participating in the program. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall provide such grants within available appropriations, provided the state-wide average of such grants does not exceed an amount equal to three thousand two hundred fifty dollars for each student transported, except that the Commissioner of Education may grant to regional educational service centers or local or regional boards of education additional sums from funds remaining in the appropriation for such transportation services if needed to offset transportation costs that exceed such maximum amount. The regional educational service centers shall provide reasonable transportation services to high school students who wish to participate in supervised extracurricular activities. For purposes of this section, the number of students transported shall be determined on October first of each fiscal year.

(g) (1) Except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, the Department of Education shall provide, within available appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district in an amount not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall provide, within available appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district if one of the following conditions are met as follows: (A) Three thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is less than two per cent of the total student population of such receiving district, (B) four thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to two per cent but less than three per cent of the total student population of such receiving district, (C) six thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to three per cent but less than four per cent of the total student population of such receiving district, (D) six thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the Commissioner of Education determines that the receiving district has an enrollment of greater than four thousand students and has increased the number of students in the program by at least fifty per cent from the previous fiscal year, or (E) eight thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to four per cent of the total student population of such receiving district.

(3) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the department shall provide a grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district described in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section in an amount of four thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the receiving district under the pilot program.

(B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall provide an annual grant to the local or regional board of education for each receiving district described in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section for each out-of-district student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the receiving district under the pilot program in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.

(C) Not later than January 1, 2025, the department shall submit a report on the pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk, pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, the total number of students participating in the pilot program, the number of students from each town participating in the pilot program, the total amount of the grant paid under the pilot program and the amount of the grant paid to each town participating in the pilot program.

(4) Each town which receives funds pursuant to this subsection shall make such funds available to its local or regional board of education in supplement to any other local appropriation, other state or federal grant or other revenue to which the local or regional board of education is entitled.

(h) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, each sending district and each receiving district shall divide the number of children participating in the program who reside in such district or attend school in such district by two for purposes of the counts for subdivision (22) of section 10-262f and subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-261.

(i) In the case of an out-of-district student who requires special education and related services, the sending district shall pay the receiving district an amount equal to the difference between the reasonable cost of providing such special education and related services to such student and the amount received by the receiving district pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and in the case of students participating

pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, the per pupil amount received pursuant to section 10-74d. The sending district shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g.

(j) Nothing in this section shall prohibit school districts from charging tuition to other school districts that do not have a high school pursuant to section 10-33.

(k) On or before March first of each year, the Commissioner of Education shall determine if the enrollment in the program pursuant to subsection (c) of this section for the fiscal year is below the number of students for which funds were appropriated. If the commissioner determines that the enrollment is below such number, the additional funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the commissioner in accordance with this subsection.

(1) Any amount up to five hundred thousand dollars of such nonlapsing funds shall be used for supplemental grants to receiving districts on a pro rata basis for each out-of-district student in the program pursuant to subsection (c) of this section who attends the same school in the receiving district as at least nine other such out-of-district students, not to exceed one thousand dollars per student.

(2) Any amount of such nonlapsing funds equal to or greater than five hundred thousand dollars, but less than one million dollars, shall be used for supplemental grants, in an amount determined by the commissioner, on a pro rata basis to receiving districts that report to the commissioner on or before March first of the current school year that the number of out-of-district students enrolled in such receiving district is greater than the number of out-of-district students enrolled in such receiving district from the previous school year.

(3) Any remaining nonlapsing funds shall be used by the commissioner to increase enrollment in the interdistrict public school attendance program described in this section.

(l) For purposes of the state-wide mastery examinations under section 10-14n, students participating in the program established pursuant to this section shall be considered residents of the school district in which they attend school.

(m) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make grants to regional education service centers which provide summer school educational programs approved by the commissioner to students participating in the program.

(n) The Commissioner of Education may provide grants for children in the Hartford program described in this section to participate in preschool and all day kindergarten programs. In addition to the subsidy provided to the receiving district for educational services, such grants may be used for the provision of before and after-school care and remedial services for the preschool and kindergarten students participating in the program.

(o) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make grants for academic student support for programs pursuant to this section that assist the state in meeting its obligations pursuant to the decision in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect, as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

Sec. 10-273a. Reimbursement for transportation to and from elementary and secondary schools. Any town transporting children to and from any public elementary school, including kindergartens, or to and from any public secondary school within said town shall be reimbursed for 105 the cost of such pupil transportation annually in accordance with the provisions of sections 10-97 and 10-266m.

Sec. 10-277. Reimbursement for transportation of high school pupils from towns or regional school districts not maintaining high schools. Transportation to nonpublic schools. (a) For the purposes of this section, “high school” means any public high school or public junior high school approved by the State Board of Education.

(b) Any town or regional school district which does not maintain a high school shall pay the reasonable and necessary cost of transportation of any pupil under twenty-one years of age who resides with such pupil's parents or guardian in such school district and who, with the written consent of the board of education, attends any high school approved by the State Board of Education. The town or regional board of education may, upon request, enter into a written agreement with the parents of any high school pupil permitting such pupil to attend an approved public high school other than that to which transportation is furnished by the school district and each may pay such costs of transportation as may be agreed upon. Such necessary and reasonable cost of transportation shall be paid by the town treasurer or the regional school district treasurer upon order of the superintendent of schools, as authorized by the board of education. The board of education may also, at its discretion, provide additional transportation for any pupil attending such high school to and from the point of embarkation in the town in which the pupil resides. Annually, on or before September first, the superintendent of schools of each school district so transporting pupils to high school shall certify under oath to the State Board of Education the names of the towns to which such pupils were transported together with the total cost to the town of such transportation. Upon application to the State Board of Education, any town or regional school district which so provides transportation for high school pupils enrolled in a school not maintained by such district pursuant to this section shall, annually, be reimbursed by the state for such transportation in accordance with the provisions of [sections 10-97](#) and [10-266m](#).

(c) Any town or regional school district which is transporting students to a high school, shall have the authority, at its discretion, to furnish similar transportation to nonpublic high schools or junior high schools located within the same town to which the town or regional school district is transporting students in accordance with subsection (b) of this section, or to nonpublic high schools or junior high schools located in a town adjacent to the transporting town or regional school district, or to a town adjacent to the town in which is located the public high school or junior high school to which the students are transported. If such town or regional school district does provide such transportation, it shall be reimbursed in the same manner and amounts as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) Any town or regional school district which provides transportation services pursuant to the provisions of this section may suspend such services in accordance with the provisions of [section 10-233c](#).

Sec. 10-280a. Transportation for pupils in nonprofit private schools outside school district. Any local or regional board of education may provide transportation to a student attending an elementary or secondary nonpublic school, not conducted for profit and approved by the State Board of Education, outside the school district wherein such student resides with a parent or guardian, provided such elementary or secondary nonpublic school is located within the state of Connecticut. Any local or regional board of education which provides transportation services pursuant to this section may suspend such services in accordance with the provisions of [section 10-233c](#).

Sec. 10-281 Transportation for pupils in nonprofit private schools within school district. (a) Any municipality or school district shall provide, for its children enrolled in any grade, from kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, attending nonpublic nonprofit schools therein, the same kind of transportation services provided for its children in such grades attending public schools when a majority of the children attending such a nonpublic school are residents of the state of Connecticut. Such determination shall be based on the

ratio of pupils who are residents to all pupils enrolled in each such school on October first or the full school day immediately preceding such date, during the school year next preceding that in which the transportation services are to be provided. For purposes of this section, residency means continuous and permanent physical presence within the state, except that temporary absences for short periods of time shall not affect the establishment of residency. In no case shall a municipality or school district be required to expend for transportation to any nonpublic school, in any one school year, a per pupil transportation expenditure greater than an amount double the local per pupil expenditure for public school transportation during the last completed school year. In the event that such per pupil expenditure for transportation to a nonprofit nonpublic school may exceed double the local per pupil expenditure, the municipality or school district may allocate its share of said transportation on a per pupil, per school basis and may pay, at its option, its share of said transportation directly to the provider of the transportation services on a monthly basis over the period such service is provided or provide such service for a period of time which constitutes less than the entire school year. Any such municipality or school district providing transportation services under this section may suspend such services in accordance with the provisions of [section 10-233c](#). Any such municipality or school district providing transportation under this section shall be reimbursed only for the cost of such transportation as is required by this section upon the same basis and in the same manner as such municipality or school district is reimbursed for transporting children attending its public schools. The parent or guardian of any student who is denied the kind of transportation services required to be provided by this section may seek a remedy in the same manner as is provided for parents of public school children in [section 10-186](#) and [section 10-187](#).

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2004, to June 30, 2019, inclusive, the amount of the grants payable to local or regional boards of education in accordance with this section shall be reduced proportionately if the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for purposes of this section.

Sec. 14-275a. Use of standard school bus required, when. Use of mass transportation permitted, when. Use of certain motor vehicles prohibited. (a) No town or regional school district shall transport or enter into a contract for the transportation of students under the age of twenty-one years to and from school in any motor vehicle accommodating more than fifteen students other than a school bus conforming to the provisions of [section 14-275](#).

(b) On and after July 1, 1990, no motor vehicle with a seating capacity of more than ten passengers other than a school bus conforming to the provisions of [section 14-275](#) may be initially registered for use in this state for the transportation of students under the age of twenty-one years to and from school. On and after July 1, 1994, no motor vehicle with a seating capacity of more than ten passengers other than a school bus conforming to the provisions of [section 14-275](#) may be used for the transportation of such students to and from school.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, a town, regional school district, public, private or religious school may use the services of any mass transportation system to transport such students to and from school.

(d) No motor vehicle having (1) on and after July 1, 1992, a wheel base of less than one hundred and one inches, or (2) on and after July 1, 1991, a convertible top or an open body may be used by a carrier for the transportation of students under the age of twenty-one years to and from school.

Sec. 14-275b. Transportation of mobility impaired students. The provisions of section 14-275 and subsection (b) of [section 14-275a](#) shall not apply to any motor vehicle when used exclusively for the

transportation of students under the age of twenty-one who have mobility impairments, provided such motor vehicle has been approved for such purpose by the commissioner.

Sec. 14-275c. Regulations re school buses and motor vehicles used to transport special education students. Operators age seventy or older. (a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54,1 make, alter or repeal regulations governing the inspection, registration, operation and maintenance of school buses and the licensing of the operators of such vehicles. Such regulations shall incorporate the requirements of [49 CFR 383.123](#) regarding the qualifications of each applicant for an endorsement to operate a school bus, issued in accordance with the provisions of [section 14-44](#).

(b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, governing (1) the inspection, registration, operation and maintenance of motor vehicles used by any carrier to transport students, and (2) the licensing of operators of such vehicles. A person who has attained the age of seventy shall be allowed to hold a license endorsement to operate a student transportation vehicle provided such person meets the minimum physical requirements set by the commissioner and agrees to submit to a physical examination by a medical examiner, certified in accordance with [49 CFR 390.109](#), at least annually or more frequently if directed to do so by such medical examiner or the superintendent of the school system in which such person intends to operate such vehicle.

(c) Any person who violates a provision of any regulation adopted pursuant to this section shall, for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction, and for each subsequent offense shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars.

(d) Any carrier that violates a provision of any regulation adopted pursuant to this section with respect to the following shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than twenty-five hundred dollars for each violation or each occurrence: (1) Failure to inspect, maintain or repair a school bus or motor vehicle used to transport students, on a schedule established by the commissioner; (2) failure to make, retain or make available for inspection by the department any record required by such regulations to be made, retained or made available for inspection; (3) refusal to allow the department to inspect any school bus or motor vehicle used to transport students; (4) removal of an out-of-service sticker placed on any such school bus or motor vehicle before repairs to such vehicle have been satisfactorily completed; (5) failure to inspect or repair a vehicle defect reported by a driver on a driver's vehicle inspection report; and (6) failure to require a driver to prepare and submit a driver's vehicle inspection report for each such school bus or motor vehicle operated by such driver.

Sec. 14-275d. Program for funding to offset sales tax on purchase of school buses equipped with seat safety belts. (a) The Department of Motor Vehicles shall administer a program to provide funding to offset a portion of sales tax on the purchase of school buses equipped with 3-point lap/shoulder seat safety belts installed during the manufacture of such buses. From July 1, 2011, to December 31, 2017, inclusive, a local or regional school district may submit an application to the department, on a form provided by said department, which shall include a proposed agreement between such district and a private carrier under contract with such district for the provision of transportation of school children. Such agreement shall require such carrier to provide the district with at least one but not more than fifty school buses, each of which shall be equipped with such seat belts, and shall include a request by such carrier for funds in an amount equal to fifty per cent of the sales tax paid by the carrier for the purchase of any such bus purchased on or after July 1, 2011. Such agreement shall be contingent upon approval of the application and the

payment of such amount by the department. The department shall make any such payments with funds available from the school bus seat belt account established pursuant to subsection (a) of section 14-50b.

(b) A school district participating in the program shall provide written notice concerning the availability and proper use of such seat belts to a parent or legal guardian of each student who will be transported on such school bus. A school district shall instruct such students on the proper use, fastening and unfastening of such seat belts.

(c) No local or regional school district, carrier with whom a local or regional school district has contracted for the transportation of students, or operator of a school bus shall be liable for damages for injury resulting solely from a student's use, misuse or failure to use a seat safety belt installed on a school bus used in the program established under this section.

(d) During the 2018 regular session of the General Assembly, the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation and education shall conduct a joint public hearing on the level of participation in such program and its effectiveness with respect to the use of seat belts. Not later than March 1, 2018, the joint standing committees shall make a recommendation to the General Assembly concerning the continuation of such program.

Sec. 14-276. School bus operators to hold a valid passenger and school endorsement. Duties of carrier re registration and withdrawal, suspension or revocation of employee's operator's license or endorsement to operate a school bus or student transportation vehicles. Civil penalties. (a) Registered school buses while transporting school children shall be operated by holders of a valid passenger and school endorsement issued in accordance with section 14-44. Such endorsement shall be held in addition to the commercial driver's license required for the operation of such motor vehicles. A person who has attained the age of seventy shall be allowed to hold a passenger and school endorsement for the purpose of operating a school bus, provided such person meets the minimum physical requirements set by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and agrees to submit to a physical examination at least twice a year or when requested to do so by the superintendent of the school system in which such person intends to operate a school bus. Any person to whom a town has awarded a contract for the transportation of school children who permits the operation of a registered school bus while transporting school children by any person who does not hold a passenger and school endorsement shall be fined not less than two thousand five hundred dollars or more than five thousand dollars.

(b) On and after October 1, 2019, each carrier engaged in the transportation of students shall register with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. Registration shall include the carrier's name, address and the name of the employee or agent assigned to perform the carrier's responsibilities under subsection (c) of this section. A carrier shall file amendments to the registration to report to the commissioner any material change in any information contained in the registration not later than thirty calendar days after the carrier knows or reasonably should know of the material change.

(c) Not less than once during the first and third week of each month, a carrier shall review the report made by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (h) of section 14-44, with reference to the name and motor vehicle operator's license number of each person such carrier employs to operate a school bus, as defined in section 14-275, or a student transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212. If, according to such report, any such employee's motor vehicle operator's license or endorsement to operate a school bus or student transportation vehicle has been withdrawn, suspended or revoked, such carrier shall immediately prohibit such employee from operating a school bus or student transportation vehicle.

(d) Any carrier who fails to register with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, or review the report made by the commissioner, pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, shall be subject to a civil penalty of one thousand dollars for the first violation, and two thousand five hundred dollars for each subsequent violation. Any carrier who fails to take immediate action to prohibit the operation of a school bus or student transportation vehicle by an operator who appears on a report, pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, shall be subject to a civil penalty of two thousand five hundred dollars for the first violation, and five thousand dollars for each subsequent violation. Upon appropriate justification presented to the commissioner by any carrier, the commissioner may make a determination to reduce any such penalty.

Sec. 14-276a. School bus operators and operators of student transportation vehicles: Regulations; qualifications; training; drug testing. (a) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, establishing a procedure for the safety training of school bus operators and operators of student transportation vehicles. Such regulations shall provide for minimum proficiency requirements for school bus operators. The safety training administered by the commissioner shall conform to the minimum requirements of number 17 of the National Highway Safety Standards. Such safety training shall include instruction relative to the location, contents and use of the first aid kit in the motor vehicle.

(b) No person shall operate a school bus, as defined in section 14-275, or a student transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212, for the purpose of transporting school children unless such person has prior to the issuance or renewal of such person's license endorsement: (1) Furnished evidence to the satisfaction of the commissioner that such person meets the physical qualification standards established in 49 CFR 391, as amended from time to time; and (2) successfully completed a course in safety training and, in the case of school bus operators, passed an examination in proficiency in school bus operation given by the commissioner. Such proficiency examination shall include a road test administered in either a type I school bus having a gross vehicle weight exceeding ten thousand pounds or a type II school bus having a gross vehicle weight of ten thousand pounds or less. Any operator administered a road test in a type II school bus shall not be eligible for a license to operate a type I school bus. Any person who violates any provision of this subsection shall be deemed to have committed an infraction.

(c) Any town or regional school district may require its school bus operators to have completed a safety training course in the operation of school buses, consisting of a minimum of ten hours of behind-the-wheel instruction and three hours of classroom instruction.

(d) A carrier shall require each person whom it intends to employ to operate a school bus, as defined in section 14-275, or a student transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212, to submit to a urinalysis drug test in accordance with the provisions of sections 31-51v and 31-51w and shall require each person it employs to operate such vehicles to submit to a urinalysis drug test on a random basis in accordance with the provisions of section 31-51x and the standards set forth in 49 CFR Parts 382 and 391. No carrier may employ any person who has received a positive test result for such test which was confirmed as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 31-51u. No carrier may continue to employ as a driver, for two years, any person who has received a positive test result for such test which was confirmed as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 31-51u. No carrier may continue to employ as a driver, permanently, any person who has received a second positive test result for such test which was confirmed as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 31-51u. The commissioner may, after notice and hearing, impose a civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars for the first offense and two thousand five hundred dollars for each subsequent offense on any carrier which violates any provision of this subsection.

Sec. 14-276b. School bus driver training re life-threatening allergic reactions and administration of medication. (a) As used in this section:

(1) “Carrier” has the same meaning as provided in section 14-212;

(2) “School bus driver” means any person who holds a commercial driver's license with a public passenger endorsement to operate a school bus pursuant to subsection (a) of section 14-44;

(3) “School bus” has the same meaning as provided in section 14-1; and

(4) “Cartridge injector” means an automatic prefilled cartridge injector or similar automatic injectable equipment used to deliver epinephrine in a standard dose for emergency first aid response to allergic reactions.

(b) (1) Not later than June 30, 2019, each carrier shall provide the training described in subsection (c) of this section to all of its school bus drivers.

(2) On and after July 1, 2019, each carrier shall provide the training described in subsection (c) of this section to a school bus driver as follows:

(A) In the case of a school bus driver who is employed by such carrier, such training shall be provided to such school bus driver following the issuance or renewal of a public passenger endorsement to operate a school bus pursuant to subsection (a) of section 14-44, to such school bus driver; and

(B) In the case of a school bus driver who is not employed by such carrier at the time when such endorsement is issued or renewed to such school bus driver, upon the hiring of such school bus driver by such carrier, except such carrier shall not be required to provide such training to any school bus driver who has previously received such training following the most recent issuance or renewal of such endorsement to such school bus driver.

(c) The training required under this section shall include, but need not be limited to, instruction on (1) the identification of the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis, (2) the administration of epinephrine by a cartridge injector, (3) the notification of emergency personnel, and (4) the reporting of an incident involving a student and a life-threatening allergic reaction. Such training may be completed using an online module, provided such online module meets the requirements of this section.

Sec. 14-277. Operator's duties on stopping bus. Prohibition on idling of bus. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of section 14-242, the operator of any school bus, when about to bring his bus to a stop to receive or discharge passengers, shall signal his intention to do so by causing the flashing signal lights to be displayed for not less than fifty feet before he brings the bus to a stop so as to be clearly visible to the operator of any oncoming or overtaking vehicle or motor vehicle, except that the operator of any school bus equipped with amber flashing signal lights shall signal such intention by causing the amber flashing signal lights to be displayed for not less than one hundred feet before he brings the bus to a stop. The operator of any school bus, having brought his vehicle to a stop, shall not open the door to receive or discharge passengers until all vehicles approaching from the front and overtaking from the rear have stopped in compliance with the indicated signal to stop. The operator of any school bus equipped with amber flashing signal lights and a stop semaphore, having brought his vehicle to a stop, shall cause the red flashing signal lights to be displayed and the stop semaphore to be extended and shall not open the door until all vehicles approaching from the front and overtaking from the rear have stopped in compliance with the indicated signal to stop. After all passengers are safely aboard or discharged and safely off the highway,

the operator shall extinguish the stop lights and the operator of any school bus equipped with a stop semaphore shall withdraw the stop semaphore. He may then permit all standing traffic to pass before resuming forward progress. While such school bus is in motion the doors shall remain closed at all times and all passengers shall be required to remain seated. No operator of any school bus shall stop his vehicle on the main traveled portion of the highway to receive or discharge passengers when existing highway shoulders or adequate highway width is available or where curbs, bus stops or special facilities exist. No such operator may receive or discharge any passenger on a highway with separate roadways unless (1) a boarding passenger may reach the bus stop and a discharged passenger may reach his residence or other destination without crossing such highway, or (2) he stops the bus at a location having a traffic control signal or crossing guard.

(b) The operator of any school bus shall not operate the engine of any school bus for more than three consecutive minutes when the school bus is not in motion except (1) when the school bus is forced to remain motionless because of traffic conditions or mechanical difficulties over which the operator has no control, (2) when it is necessary to operate heating, cooling or auxiliary equipment installed on the school bus when such equipment is necessary to accomplish the intended use of the school bus, including, but not limited to, the operation of safety equipment, (3) when the outdoor temperature is below twenty degrees Fahrenheit, (4) when it is necessary to maintain a safe temperature for students with special needs, (5) when the school bus is being repaired, or (6) when the operator is in the process of receiving or discharging passengers on a public highway or public road.

(c) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall, for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction and for each subsequent offense shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars.

Sec. 14-278. Hours of operation. Placement of seats. No extra exemption or authority for operators. The provisions of section 14-274 as to hours of operation of such motor vehicles and of section 14-257 as to placement of seats in such motor vehicles shall apply to the operation of school buses. Nothing in sections 14-275 to 14-281, inclusive, shall exempt the operator of any school bus from compliance with all laws governing the operation of motor vehicles upon the public highway, including the passing of other school buses similarly engaged. Nothing in said sections shall be construed as giving the operator of any school bus the authority to control traffic manually or by any other means than those specifically stated herein.

Sec. 14-279. Vehicles to stop for school bus. Penalties. Written warning or summons. (a) The operator of any vehicle or motor vehicle, including an authorized emergency vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, shall immediately bring such vehicle to a stop not less than ten feet from the front when approaching and not less than ten feet from the rear when overtaking or following any registered school bus on any highway or private road or in any parking area or on any school property when such bus is displaying flashing red signal lights, except at the specific direction of a traffic officer. Vehicles so stopped for a school bus shall not proceed until such school bus no longer displays flashing red signal lights, except that a stopped authorized emergency vehicle may proceed as long as such authorized emergency vehicle is operated pursuant to section 14-283. At the intersection of two or more highways vehicular turns toward a school bus receiving or discharging passengers are prohibited. The operator of a vehicle upon a highway with separate roadways need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus which is on a different roadway.

(b) Any person who violates any provision of subsection (a) of this section shall be fined four hundred fifty dollars for the first offense and for each subsequent offense, not less than five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or both.

(c) Upon receipt of a written report from any school bus operator specifying the license plate number, color and type of any vehicle observed by such operator violating any provision of subsection (a) of this section and the date, approximate time and location of such violation, a police officer shall issue a written warning or a summons to the owner of any such vehicle.

Sec. 14-279a. Operation of school bus monitoring system by board of education or municipality.

Vendor agreement. Report. (a) As used in this section and section 14-279b, “live digital video school bus violation detection monitoring system” or “monitoring system” means a system with one or more camera sensors and computers that produce live digital and recorded video images of motor vehicles being operated in violation of section 14-279. A monitoring system shall produce a live visual image that is viewable remotely and a recorded image of the license plate number of a motor vehicle violating section 14-279. Such recorded image shall indicate the date, time and location of the violation.

(b) A municipality or local or regional board of education may install, operate and maintain live digital video school bus violation detection monitoring systems, or may enter into an agreement with a private vendor for the installation, operation and maintenance of such monitoring systems. Such agreement shall provide for the compensation to the vendor for the expense of the monitoring services and cost of equipment provided by the vendor and for the reimbursement of the vendor for the expenses of installing, operating and maintaining the monitoring system. Such agreement shall provide that the vendor shall, on an annual basis, submit a report to such municipality or local or regional board of education that includes, but is not limited to: (1) The total number of citations issued as a result of a violation detected and recorded by the monitoring system, and (2) the total amount of funds collected. The municipality or local or regional board of education shall, within thirty days, submit such report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to transportation. A municipality or local or regional board of education serving a municipality that has entered into an agreement with a private vendor for the installation, operation and maintenance of a live digital video school bus violation detection monitoring system shall use amounts remitted to such municipality in accordance with subsection (e) of section 51-56a, in respect to the violation of section 14-279, to reimburse the private vendor for the expenses for installing, operating and maintaining the monitoring system.

(c) A warning sign shall be posted on all school buses in which a monitoring system is installed and operational indicating the use of such system.

(d) A monitoring system shall be installed so as to record images of the license plate number of a motor vehicle only, and shall not record images of the occupants of such motor vehicle or of any other persons or vehicles in the vicinity at the time the images are recorded.

Sec. 14-280. Display of signs and signals by school bus and student transportation vehicle. Portable signs. Penalty.

(a)(1) When a school bus is used for any purpose other than the transportation of children to and from schools or school activities, private or public camps or any other activities for which groups of children are transported, the special signals normally used when so engaged shall be left unused or disconnected.

(2) Any student transportation vehicle when engaged in the transportation of children to and from private or public camps or the transportation exclusively of children to activities, except school activities, may display a sign or signs, as described in subsection (b) of this section. Any motor vehicle, other than a registered school bus, not owned by a public, private or religious school, or under contract to such school, when engaged in the transportation of school children to and from school or school activities, may display a sign or signs, as described in subsection (b) of this section.

(3) Any student transportation vehicle, when engaged in the transportation of school children to and from school or school activities, shall display a sign or signs, as described in subsection (b) of this section, except a student transportation vehicle, when engaged in the transportation of students aged eighteen to twenty-one, inclusive, who, as part of an individualized education program, are participating in community-based transition services, may display a sign or signs, as described in subsection (b) of this section.

(4) Any portable signs, as described in subsection (b) of this section, that are permitted or required under this section may be removed or covered when the vehicle is not being used for the purposes requiring or allowing the use of such signs as specified in this section.

(b) The sign or signs permitted or required under subsection (a) of this section may be portable signs securely mounted on the roof or decal or painted signs, either of which shall be placed at a height of at least four feet and shall display the wording "CARRYING SCHOOL CHILDREN" in black lettering at least three inches high on yellow background visible to operators of vehicles approaching from front and rear. The words "Stop" or "Stop on signal" shall not be used. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 establishing standards for the construction and attachment of such portable signs.

(c) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall, for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction, and for each subsequent offense shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars

Sec. 14-281a. Speed of school buses. Display of head lamps. (a) Every school bus shall be operated at a safe rate of speed, consistent with the volume of traffic, intersections, curves, railway crossings and any other condition requiring special caution. The maximum speed shall not exceed fifty miles per hour on divided limited access highways and forty miles per hour on all other highways or, where highway signs indicate lower speeds, shall not exceed such posted speed limits.

(b) Each school bus and student transportation vehicle shall display lighted head lamps while transporting school children.

(c) Violation of any provision of this section shall be an infraction.

Sec. 14-281b. Summons issued to holder of license endorsement while operating school bus or student transportation vehicles; copy to be sent to employer and local board of education; notification of disposition of case. (a) Within two days after a summons is issued to a holder of a license endorsement while the holder is operating a school bus or student transportation vehicle, a copy of the summons shall be transmitted to the employer of the license endorsement holder and the board of education for which such school bus or student transportation vehicle is performing contract services.

(b) Within five days of the conviction, forfeiture, nolle or other disposition of a holder of a license endorsement for any violation while operating a school bus or student transportation vehicle, a report of the conviction, forfeiture, nolle or other disposition shall be transmitted by the court to the employer of the license endorsement holder and the board of education for which such school bus or student transportation vehicle is performing contract services.

Sec. 14-281c. Report of serious accidents involving school buses or student transportation vehicles. In each serious accident involving a school bus or a student transportation vehicle as defined in section 14-

212, the police officer who, in the regular course of duty, investigates such accident, shall immediately report such accident by telephone or otherwise to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. In the event of any accident in which an occupant of a school bus or student transportation vehicle is injured resulting in admission of such occupant to a hospital overnight, the police officer investigating the accident shall report such accident to the commissioner within twenty-four hours thereafter. For the purposes of this section, the term “serious accident” means any accident in which (1) any occupant of the school bus or student transportation vehicle is killed, or (2) a fire occurs in, or there is a roll-over of, the school bus or student transportation vehicle.

Sec. 14-281d. Duties of operators of student transportation vehicles re receipt or discharge of school children. No operator of a student transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212, while engaged in the transportation of school children to and from school or school activities may receive or discharge any child in a location where such child may cross any highway to board the vehicle or to reach his residence or other destination, except as approved by the Commissioner of Education

Sec. 14-296aa. Use of hand-held mobile telephones and mobile electronic devices by motor vehicle operators and school bus drivers, prohibited or restricted, when. Penalties. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) “Mobile telephone” means a cellular, analog, wireless or digital telephone capable of sending or receiving telephone communications without an access line for service.

(2) “Using” or “use” means holding a hand-held mobile telephone to, or in the immediate proximity of, the user’s ear.

(3) “Hand-held mobile telephone” means a mobile telephone with which a user engages in a call using at least one hand.

(4) “Hands-free accessory” means an attachment, add-on, built-in feature, or addition to a mobile telephone, whether or not permanently installed in a motor vehicle, that, when used, allows the vehicle operator to maintain both hands on the steering wheel.

(5) “Hands-free mobile telephone” means a hand-held mobile telephone that has an internal feature or function, or that is equipped with an attachment or addition, whether or not permanently part of such hand-held mobile telephone, by which a user engages in a call without the use of either hand, whether or not the use of either hand is necessary to activate, deactivate or initiate a function of such telephone.

(6) “Engage in a call” means talking into or listening on a hand-held mobile telephone, but does not include holding a hand-held mobile telephone to activate, deactivate or initiate a function of such telephone.

(7) “Immediate proximity” means the distance that permits the operator of a hand-held mobile telephone to hear telecommunications transmitted over such hand-held mobile telephone, but does not require physical contact with such operator’s ear.

(8) “Mobile electronic device” means any hand-held or other portable electronic equipment capable of providing data communication between two or more persons, including a text messaging device, a paging device, a personal digital assistant, a laptop computer, equipment that is capable of playing a video game or a digital video disk, or equipment on which digital photographs are taken or transmitted, or any combination thereof, but does not include any audio equipment or any equipment installed in a motor

vehicle for the purpose of providing navigation, emergency assistance to the operator of such motor vehicle or video entertainment to the passengers in the rear seats of such motor vehicle.

(9) "Operating a motor vehicle" means operating a motor vehicle on any highway, as defined in [section 14-1](#), including being temporarily stationary due to traffic, road conditions or a traffic control sign or signal, but not including being parked on the side or shoulder of any highway where such vehicle is safely able to remain stationary.

(b) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and subsections (c) and (d) of this section, no person shall operate a motor vehicle upon a highway, as defined in [section 14-1](#), while using a hand-held mobile telephone to engage in a call or while using a mobile electronic device. An operator of a motor vehicle who types, sends or reads a text message with a hand-held mobile telephone or mobile electronic device while operating a motor vehicle shall be in violation of this section, except that if such operator is driving a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in [section 14-1](#), such operator shall be charged with a violation of subsection (e) of this section.

(2) An operator of a motor vehicle who holds a hand-held mobile telephone to, or in the immediate proximity of, his or her ear while operating a motor vehicle is presumed to be engaging in a call within the meaning of this section. The presumption established by this subdivision is rebuttable by evidence tending to show that the operator was not engaged in a call.

(3) The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed as authorizing the seizure or forfeiture of a hand-held mobile telephone or a mobile electronic device, unless otherwise provided by law.

(4) Subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply to: (A) The use of a hand-held mobile telephone for the sole purpose of communicating with any of the following regarding an emergency situation: An emergency response operator; a hospital, physician's office or health clinic; an ambulance company; a fire department; or a police department, or (B) any of the following persons while in the performance of their official duties and within the scope of their employment: A peace officer, as defined in [subdivision \(9\) of section 53a-3](#), a firefighter or an operator of an ambulance or authorized emergency vehicle, as defined in [section 14-1](#), or a member of the armed forces of the United States, as defined in [section 27-103](#), while operating a military vehicle, or (C) the use of a hand-held radio by a person with an amateur radio station license issued by the Federal Communications Commission in emergency situations for emergency purposes only, or (D) the use of a hands-free mobile telephone.

(c) No person shall use a hand-held mobile telephone or other electronic device, including those with hands-free accessories, or a mobile electronic device while operating a school bus that is carrying passengers, except that this subsection shall not apply when such person (1) places an emergency call to school officials, (2) uses a hand-held mobile telephone as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this section, or (3) uses a hand-held mobile telephone or mobile electronic device in a manner similar to a two-way radio to allow real-time communication with a school official, an emergency response operator, a hospital, physician's office or health clinic, an ambulance company, a fire department or a police department.

(d) No person under eighteen years of age shall use any hand-held mobile telephone, including one with a hands-free accessory, or a mobile electronic device while operating a motor vehicle on a public highway, except as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this section.

(e) No person shall use a hand-held mobile telephone or other electronic device or type, read or send text or a text message with or from a mobile telephone or mobile electronic device while operating a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in [section 14-1](#), except for the purpose of communicating with any of the

following regarding an emergency situation: An emergency response operator; a hospital; physician's office or health clinic; an ambulance company; a fire department or a police department.

(f) Except as provided in subsections (b) to (e), inclusive, of this section, no person shall engage in any activity not related to the actual operation of a motor vehicle in a manner that interferes with the safe operation of such vehicle on any highway, as defined in [section 14-1](#).

(g) Any law enforcement officer who issues a summons for a violation of this section shall record on such summons the specific nature of any distracted driving behavior observed by such officer.

(h) Any person who violates this section shall be fined two hundred dollars for a first violation, three hundred seventy-five dollars for a second violation and six hundred twenty-five dollars for a third or subsequent violation.

(i) An operator of a motor vehicle who commits a moving violation, as defined in subsection (a) of [section 14-111g](#), while engaged in any activity prohibited by this section shall be fined in accordance with subsection (h) of this section, in addition to any penalty or fine imposed for the moving violation.

(j) The state shall remit to a municipality twenty-five per cent of the fine amount received for a violation of this section with respect to each summons issued by such municipality. Each clerk of the Superior Court or the Chief Court Administrator, or any other official of the Superior Court designated by the Chief Court Administrator, shall, on or before the thirtieth day of January, April, July and October in each year, certify to the Comptroller the amount due for the previous quarter under this subsection to each municipality served by the office of the clerk or official.

(k) A record of any violation of this section shall appear on the driving history record or motor vehicle record, as defined in [section 14-10](#), of any person who commits such violation, and the record of such violation shall be available to any motor vehicle insurer in accordance with the provisions of [section 14-10](#).