

# CSDE Intervention in Hartford Public Schools

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

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

## June 5, 2024: Full State Board of Education Action

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

### CSDE Three-Pronged Approach Concerning HPS' Fiscal Operations Review

#### Improvement of Financial Systems

**Public Works**  
Contracted June 20, 2024

#### 46 Findings and Recommendations



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

Published March 5, 2025

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

#### Special Education Services Assessment and Enhancement

**New Solutions K12**  
Contracted September 6, 2024

#### 6 Findings and Recommendations



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

Published May 7, 2025

**Enhanced Monitoring Activities**  
initiated by CSDE April 9, 2025

#### Magnet School Assessment: Optimizing Funds Utilization

**CSDE Office of Internal Audit**  
Commenced July 2024

#### Findings and Recommendations

Ongoing

**Preliminary Presentation**  
State Board of Education meeting  
Fall 2025

### CSDE Strategic Action Plan

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