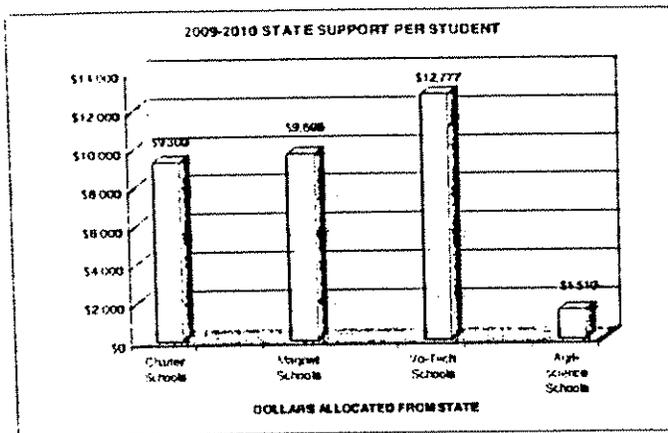


**Governor Malloy's Proposed Budget Increases Funding for Charter Schools, Open Choice Schools, and Magnet Schools, BUT REDUCES FUNDING for Regional Agriscience and Technology (vo-ag) Schools, which were the first and original magnet schools in Connecticut.**

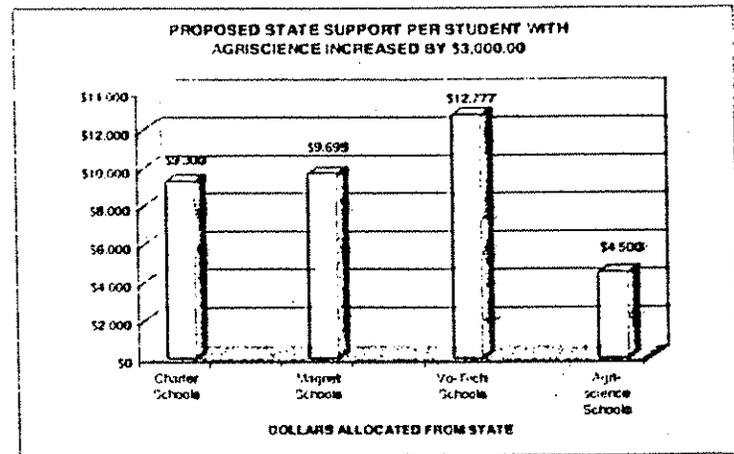
- "...this budget proposes sixty million additional dollars for magnet schools, to provide for more than 3,000 additional seats, 6.5 million dollars for 747 additional charter school seats, 7.2 million dollars for more than 1,300 new seats in the OPEN Choice program."
- PLEASE JOIN HIM IN SUPPORTING SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAMS IN CONNECTICUT,

**BUT DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE AGRISCIENCE PROGRAMS**

- PLEASE INCREASE FUNDING FOR THE STATE'S "ORIGINAL MAGNET SCHOOLS", THE 19 REGIONAL AGRISCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS (FORMERLY KNOWN AS VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS) LOCATED ACROSS THE STATE FROM STAMFORD TO KILLINGLY AND FROM FALLS VILLAGE TO LEDYARD, SERVING MORE THAN 3,000 STUDENTS FROM ALL 169 MUNICIPALITIES



**INSTEAD OF THIS,**



**WHY NOT THIS?**

- THESE PROGRAMS NEED 9 MILLION DOLLARS IN ORDER TO EXPAND TO ACCEPT MORE STUDENTS AS THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF QUALIFIED, INTERESTED STUDENTS ON WAITING LISTS EACH YEAR FOR THESE POPULAR AGRISCIENCE PROGRAMS.

- 9 MILLION DOLLARS WOULD ONLY BRING THE STATE SUPPORT PER PUPIL UP FROM \$1,510.00 TO \$4,500.00, WHICH IS STILL FAR BELOW ALL OTHER SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAMS.

HOWEVER, THAT IS ALL WE NEED.

- THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF JOB GROWTH IN CONNECTICUT'S 3.5 BILLION DOLLAR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY, WITH OVER 50,000 CITIZENS EMPLOYED IN IT.
- THANK YOU FOR ACKNOWLEDGING THE 5,300 CURRENT JOB OPENINGS IN THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY

**THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR THE AGRISCIENCE PROGRAMS IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET TO "PROVIDE EXTRA SEATS FOR SCHOOL CHOICE" SO THOSE 5,300 JOB OPENINGS CAN BE FILLED.**