



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Program Review and Investigation Committee Connecticut's Efforts at Maximizing Federal Revenues June 29, 2012

Good afternoon Chairman Fonfara, Chairman Rowe, and members of the Program Review and Investigation Committee. I am Brian Mahoney, Chief Financial Officer for the State Department of Education (SDE) representing Commissioner Pryor, who unfortunately could not attend today, but we appreciate the opportunity to testify on your study of Connecticut's efforts at maximizing federal revenues.

I have provided you with several attachments including a summary of all federal funds supporting elementary and secondary education, starting with FY 2008 and detailed listings of those grants administered by the Department for federal fiscal years 2010 and 2011. We note that the figures include a separate accounting of payments associated with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA.) These were one-time federal funds that do not reflect our typical federal payments.

The vast majority of federal funds (90%) are administered through our Department. However, approximately 10% of federal funds are administered by other state agencies or provided directly to the school district by the federal government. When looking at the funds that our agency administers, which over the last four years have ranged from \$416 million to \$854 million, funds mainly fall into three areas: Special Education State Grants, Title I and other programs for economically disadvantaged children, and Health and Child Nutrition.

Special Education and Title I Programs are federal grant entitlements, and the SDE does not believe that barriers exist in the acquisition of these funds. The funding is based primarily on poverty and enrollment.

Child Nutrition is made up of several programs: National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, and the at-risk meal program. For the National School Lunch Program, while it is not mandatory for the local boards of education to participate in the program, all but nine Connecticut communities choose to do so. However, not all of those participating communities participate in the School Breakfast Program due to perceived lack of need, concerns regarding custodial or others costs to run the program, and lack of participation due to transportation issues. The SDE has found that the most successful model for the school breakfast programs is the in-classroom program, and we are working to promote this model to districts.

There are many federal grant opportunities. We have been charged by the current administration with taking an aggressive approach to go after federal grant opportunities. The State Department of Education monitors these opportunities on an ongoing basis in order to maximize the federal funding to Connecticut.

Even though we are charged to aggressively apply for federal funding, SDE, like other state agencies, weighs the short-term and long-term benefits, and cost effectiveness, in applying for funding. It is also important to note that in many cases, including the recent Teacher Incentive Fund competition, the Department of Education competitive grants are open to individual districts rather than State Departments of Education.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify on this important matter. Please let me know if we can assist you by providing further information for your study.

Attachment 1
Connecticut State Department of Education

Summary of Federal Support for Elementary and Secondary Education
Including American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Stimulus Funds
for Fiscal Years 2007-08 through 2011-12

Revenue	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Five-Year Dollar Change	Five-Year Percent Change
SDE Administered	\$415,770,965	\$433,818,146	\$853,691,473	\$827,520,984	\$545,923,585	\$130,152,620	31.30%
Direct Aid to LEAs (not through SDE)	34,246,220	35,495,387	39,938,263	39,938,263	39,938,263	5,692,043	16.62%
Universal Service Fund (Direct)*	16,578,050	10,486,015	12,138,592	12,138,592	12,138,592	(4,439,458)	-26.78%
Other State Agencies**	12,457,237	9,487,381	6,443,244	4,651,587	6,443,244	(6,013,993)	-48.28%
Impact Aid (Direct)***	4,077,621	5,464,468	2,929,141	5,722,647	2,929,141	(1,148,480)	-28.17%
Total	\$483,130,093	\$494,751,397	\$915,140,713	\$889,972,073	\$607,372,825	\$124,242,732	25.72%
Annual Dollar Change		\$11,621,304	\$420,389,316	(\$25,168,640)	(\$282,599,248)		
Annual Percent Change		2.41%	84.97%	-2.75%	-31.75%		

* Universal Service Funds provide for lower telecommunication rates for public and nonpublic school districts.
 ** Other state agencies include: DCF, DSS, OPM, DDS, BEST and DOC.
 *** Impact Aid is provided to municipalities to support education in lieu of taxes for federally owned property.

Summary of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
Stimulus Funds for Elementary and Secondary Education

Grant	Amount	Availability
State Fiscal Stabilization Funds	\$541,872,683	2010-2012
IDEA Part B State Grants	132,971,468	2010-2012
Title I Grants to LEAs	70,714,174	2010-2012
School Improvement	21,818,804	2010-2012
IDEA Part B Preschool	5,089,013	2010-2012
Educational Technology	4,614,065	2010-2012
NSLP Equipment Assistance	785,878	2010-2012
Homeless Children and Youth	336,688	2010-2012
2010-2012 Subtotal	\$778,202,773	
State Advisory Council (Early Childhood) Transition Counselors	\$747,251 233,809	2012-2014 2012-2014
2012-2014 Subtotal	\$981,060	
Total Stimulus Funds	\$779,183,833	

Attachment 2A

**Connecticut State Department of Education
Summary of Department Administered
Federal Funds for 2010-11**

DESCRIPTION / GRANT TITLE	Funds Received 2010-11	Percent of Total Federal Funds	Cumulative Subtotal Percentage
Special Education State Grants (IDEA)	\$132,046,538	23.70%	
Child Nutrition	118,137,245	21.21%	
Title I Programs for Local Education Agencies	114,520,094	20.56%	
Education Jobs Fund	110,486,654	19.83%	85%
Title II Part A - Improving Teacher Quality	26,016,214	4.67%	
Vocational Education Basic Grants to States	9,962,314	1.79%	
After School Learning Centers	8,215,229	1.47%	
English Language Acquisition	5,680,977	1.02%	
State Assessments and Related Activities	5,659,092	1.02%	
Adult Education	5,316,592	0.95%	
Special Education Preschool (IDEA)	4,827,207	0.87%	
School Improvement Grant	4,231,455	0.76%	98%
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	2,166,318	0.39%	
Pregnant and Parenting Teens	1,999,991	0.36%	
Title I - Neglected and Delinquent	1,336,723	0.24%	
Mathematics and Science Partnerships	1,157,780	0.21%	99%
Tech-Prep Education	868,931	0.16%	
Enhancing Education Through Technology	742,420	0.13%	
Advanced Placement Incentive - Access for All	729,515	0.13%	
Improve the Health, Ed., & Well Being of Young People	616,135	0.11%	
Education for Homeless Children and Youth	505,558	0.09%	
Refugee School Impact - DSS	343,750	0.06%	
Advanced Placement Application	219,778	0.04%	
Learn and Serve America K-12 School-Based Program	218,377	0.04%	
Child Nutrition School Food Equipment	191,184	0.03%	
DSS/SDE - Indicator 14 MOA	172,687	0.03%	
NAEP	163,608	0.03%	
Striving Readers	150,000	0.03%	
EDEN Task Order	79,699	0.01%	
Professional Development Early Childhood	75,000	0.01%	
Direct Certification Planning	71,462	0.01%	
Summer EBT Children Demo Program	41,546	0.01%	
Transition Service-Youth with Disabilities	27,557	0.00%	
Website Transition Training	26,195	0.00%	
CT NIOSH Curriculum Pilot	25,004	0.00%	
Assistive Technology	21,000	0.00%	
Parents with Cognitive Limited Training	5,400	0.00%	
Total Federal Grants	\$557,055,229	100.00%	100%
ARRA - State Advisory Council	\$747,251		
ARRA Transition Counselors	233,809		
Total ARRA	\$981,060		

Attachment 2B

**Connecticut State Department of Education
Summary of Department Administered
Federal Funds for 2011-12**

DESCRIPTION / GRANT TITLE	Funds Received 2011-12	Percent of Total Federal Funds	Cumulative Subtotal Percentage
Special Education State Grants (IDEA)	131,612,076	30.27%	
Title I Programs for Local Education Agencies	106,878,860	24.58%	
Child Nutrition	108,234,000	24.89%	80%
Title II Part A - Improving Teacher Quality	22,600,000	5.20%	
Vocational Education Basic Grants to States	9,673,769	2.22%	
After School Learning Centers	8,674,872	1.99%	
DSS Child Day Care Program	7,848,964	1.80%	
English Language Acquisition	5,760,399	1.32%	
State Assessments and Related Activities	5,476,919	1.26%	
Adult Education	5,441,748	1.25%	
Special Education Preschool (IDEA)	4,818,610	1.11%	96%
School Improvement Grant	3,865,927	0.89%	
Title I - Neglected and Delinquent	2,006,069	0.46%	
Pregnant and Parenting Teens	1,999,991	0.46%	
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	1,938,856	0.45%	
Education Jobs Fund	1,632,345	0.38%	
Mathematics and Science Partnerships	1,036,350	0.24%	99%
Direct Certification Planning	960,122	0.22%	
Transition Counselors - DSS	870,593	0.20%	
State Improvement Grant	798,885	0.18%	
Improve the Health, Ed., & Well Being of Young People	537,918	0.12%	
Education for Homeless Children and Youth	465,012	0.11%	
Refugee School Impact - DSS	343,750	0.08%	
Advanced Placement Application	269,951	0.06%	
Summer EBT Children Demo Program	222,641	0.05%	
Learn and Serve America K-12 School-Based Program	218,377	0.05%	
NAEP	199,145	0.05%	
DSS/SDE - Indicator 14 MOA	129,515	0.03%	
Professional Development Early Childhood	75,000	0.02%	
Personal Responsibility Education Program	73,890	0.02%	
Rural and Low Income	70,165	0.02%	
Website Transition Training	54,780	0.01%	
Transition Service-Youth with Disabilities	30,826	0.01%	
Assistive Technology	30,000	0.01%	
EDEN Task Order	11,750	0.00%	
Total Federal Grants	\$434,862,075	100.00%	100%

Attachment 3
Connecticut State Department of Education

Percentages of State, Local, Federal and Other Revenues
for Public Elementary and Secondary Education Expenditures in Connecticut
for Selected Years

Year	LOCAL \$\$\$	%	STATE * \$\$\$	%	FEDERAL \$\$\$	%	OTHER ** \$\$\$	%	TOTAL \$\$\$	%
1979-80	894,394,487	60.7%	466,930,376	31.7%	104,781,975	7.1%	7,492,224	0.5%	1,473,599,062	100.0%
1989-90	1,825,545,264	50.3%	1,654,048,788	45.5%	145,829,040	4.0%	8,258,938	0.2%	3,633,682,030	100.0%
1999-2000	3,241,550,799	52.5%	2,611,216,407	42.3%	304,496,854	4.9%	19,439,007	0.3%	6,176,703,067	100.0%
2005-06	4,652,873,221	52.9%	3,643,412,412	41.4%	478,742,751	5.4%	27,683,453	0.3%	8,802,711,837	100.0%
2006-07	5,106,006,361	54.7%	3,713,838,930	39.8%	474,377,879	5.1%	34,951,365	0.4%	9,329,174,535	100.0%
2007-08	5,027,237,839	52.3%	4,065,819,333	42.3%	483,130,093	5.0%	39,162,366	0.4%	9,615,349,631	100.0%
2008-09	5,220,097,913	52.5%	4,173,559,868	42.0%	494,751,397	5.0%	45,954,968	0.5%	9,934,364,146	100.0%
2009-10	5,234,742,479	52.9%	3,704,378,901	37.4% #	921,012,439	9.3% #	42,053,627	0.4%	9,902,187,446	100.0%
2010-11	5,252,700,961	53.5%	3,626,538,522	37.0% #	889,972,073	9.1% #	42,911,944	0.4%	9,812,123,500	100.0%
2011-12 Projected	5,092,041,436	51.2%	4,212,740,886	42.3%	607,372,825	6.1%	42,487,023	0.4%	9,954,642,170	100.0%

* Reflects all state revenues on behalf of public elementary and secondary education, including state grants, bond funds and department expenditures-- including the Connecticut Technical High School System, teachers' retirement costs and unified (state) school district expenditures.

** Includes revenues from other than government agencies, e.g., private contributions and other miscellaneous receipts.

For each fiscal year of the 2009-2011 biennium, there was an infusion of federal stimulus funding which (1) increased the federal contribution and (2) allowed the state to reduce its contribution to the major education funding formula by \$270 million.