



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

**Raised Bill No. 1021**

LCO No. 5586



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:  
(ED)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS PILOT PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Community school" has the same meaning as provided in  
3 section 10-74i of the general statutes;
- 4 (2) "Lead partner agency" means a nonprofit organization that  
5 partners with school personnel to manage and lead the work of  
6 developing and sustaining a community school; and
- 7 (3) "Community partner" has the same meaning as provided in  
8 section 10-74i of the general statutes; and
- 9 (b) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, and June 30, 2021, the  
10 Department of Education shall administer a comprehensive  
11 community schools pilot program that awards grants for the planning  
12 and implementation of a new community school or the expansion of  
13 an existing community school. The department shall annually award  
14 (1) sustainable community school start-up grants in an amount not to

15 exceed fifty thousand dollars per grant awarded to not more than four  
16 applicants, and (2) sustainable community school implementation  
17 grants in an amount not to exceed one hundred twenty-five thousand  
18 dollars per grant awarded to not more than four applicants, provided  
19 no more than two such implementation grants are awarded to an  
20 applicant located in an educational reform district, as defined in  
21 section 10-262u of the general statutes.

22 (c) (1) Prior to submitting an application under this subsection, an  
23 applicant shall establish a community school planning and oversight  
24 team that is responsible for developing school-specific programming  
25 goals, assessing program needs and, if applicable, overseeing the  
26 process of implementing expanded programming. Such team shall be  
27 composed of at least twelve, but not more than eighteen, members as  
28 follows: (A) At least four of whom are parents or guardians of students  
29 who would be served by the proposed community school, (B) at least  
30 four of whom are teachers at the proposed community school, (C) the  
31 principal at the proposed community school, or the principal's  
32 designee, (D) representatives from community partners who would  
33 provide services at the proposed community school, and (E)  
34 representatives from civic or parent-teacher organizations selected by  
35 the local or regional board of education that such board believes  
36 represents the best interests of students and public education.

37 (2) Any local or regional board of education for a town designated  
38 as an alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u of the general  
39 statutes and a lead partner agency may submit an application for a  
40 sustainable community school start-up grant. An application  
41 submitted under this subsection shall include evidence of support  
42 from (A) the local or regional board of education, (B) a lead partner  
43 agency, and (C) the parents or guardians of students who would be  
44 served by the community school.

45 (d) (1) Prior to submitting an application under this subsection, an  
46 applicant shall establish a community school planning and oversight  
47 team, as described in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section,

48 and a school leadership team that is responsible for continually  
49 monitoring the development and implementation of a community  
50 school. The community school planning and oversight team and the  
51 school leadership team shall collaborate with the lead partner agency  
52 and school personnel at the community school to (A) conduct a  
53 baseline analysis of students' instructional and service needs within  
54 the school and the community, (B) provide for the coordinated  
55 delivery of instructional programming and services to students, and  
56 (C) address the ongoing responsiveness of the comprehensive  
57 community school pilot program. The school leadership team shall be  
58 composed of at least twelve, but not more than fifteen, members as  
59 follows: (i) The principal at the community school, or the principal's  
60 designee, (ii) parents or guardians of students who would be served by  
61 the community school, (iii) teachers and other school personnel  
62 providing direct services to students at the community school, (iv)  
63 representatives from community partners who would provide services  
64 at the community school, (v) in the case of a community school at a  
65 high school, at least one who is a student enrolled at such school, and  
66 (vi) at least two of whom are representatives from the neighborhoods  
67 served by such school.

68 (2) Any local or regional board of education for a town designated  
69 as an alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u of the general  
70 statutes and a lead partner agency may submit an application for a  
71 sustainable community school implementation grant. An application  
72 submitted under this subsection shall include (A) a community school  
73 plan, as described in section 10-74i of the general statutes, (B) evidence  
74 of support from the local or regional board of education and a lead  
75 partner agency, and that the support from such lead partner agency is  
76 for a period of at least five years, (C) the creation of a position, or  
77 designation of an existing employee, at the school to be the community  
78 schools coordinator that will be integrated with the office of the school  
79 principal, (D) strategies that coordinate and integrate services  
80 provided to students and their families by family resource centers,  
81 established pursuant to section 10-4o of the general statutes, (E) a

82 sustainable funding plan for the community school, including the costs  
83 and benefits of service coordination, sources of charitable revenue and  
84 in-kind services and the feasibility of using funding received pursuant  
85 to Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 USC 6301  
86 et seq., as an on-going funding source, (F) evidence of sustained  
87 parental engagement in the planning, implementation and planned  
88 operation of the community school, (G) strategies for ensuring a  
89 continuum of early childhood education opportunities, if the school  
90 offers kindergarten, (H) evidence of support and commitment from the  
91 exclusive bargaining unit for certified employees chosen pursuant to  
92 section 10-153b of the general statutes, (I) a description of the structure  
93 and composition of the community school planning and oversight  
94 team, established pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, and (J)  
95 a description of the school leadership team, established pursuant to  
96 subdivision (1) of this section.

97 (e) On or before August 15, 2020, and August 15, 2021, the  
98 Department of Education shall conduct an evaluation of the  
99 comprehensive community school pilot program. Such evaluation  
100 shall address (1) the overall effectiveness of the pilot program at each  
101 community school based on measures of student engagement, student  
102 academic achievement, parental engagement and noninstructional  
103 services provided to students and their families, (2) any changes in the  
104 number or percentage of students and nonstudents receiving services  
105 at the community school, and the nature of such change, (3) any local  
106 budget savings resulting from implementation of the community  
107 school, (4) the nature and breadth of revenue sources utilized in the  
108 provision of services through the community school, (5) the degree of  
109 community stakeholder and institutional partner engagement, (6) any  
110 increases in access to community services for students and their  
111 families as a result of the community school, (7) any increased  
112 collaboration between participating agencies and private partners, and  
113 (8) any lessons learned regarding strategies to improve the future  
114 delivery of community school services to students and their families.  
115 The department shall submit such evaluation and any

116 recommendations for legislation to the joint standing committee of the  
117 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education,  
118 children and human services, in accordance with the provisions of  
119 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

120       Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) There is established the  
121 Connecticut Community Schools Consortium. The consortium shall  
122 serve as a network of local and regional boards of education and  
123 community partners participating in the operation of a community  
124 school, pursuant to section 10-74i of the general statutes or section 1 of  
125 this act, to share best practices, address common issues or problems,  
126 coordinate services and resources and seek collaboration across school  
127 districts. The consortium shall meet at least quarterly.

128       (b) The consortium shall be administered by a steering committee.  
129 The steering committee shall determine the operations and  
130 participants of the consortium. The steering committee shall consist of:

131       (1) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

132       (2) Two representatives from the American Federation of Teachers-  
133 Connecticut, one of whom is an active community school participant  
134 or a certified educator;

135       (3) Two representatives from the Connecticut Education  
136 Association, one of whom is an active community school participant or  
137 a certified educator;

138       (4) An administrator from a community school or a school in which  
139 a community school is being planned, selected by the Connecticut  
140 Association of School Administrators;

141       (5) An administrator from a community school or a school in which  
142 a community school is being planned, selected by the Connecticut  
143 Federation of School Administrators; and

144       (6) A superintendent from a school district in which a community

145 school is located or a community school is being planned, selected by  
146 the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents.

147 (c) The steering committee shall be convened by the Commissioner  
148 of Education, or the commissioner's designee, not later than September  
149 15, 2019. The commissioner, or the commissioner's designee, shall  
150 select two chairpersons from among the membership of the steering  
151 committee. The steering committee may invite additional participants  
152 to join the consortium, including, but not limited to, state and national  
153 experts, representatives from charitable organizations, local or regional  
154 service providers, mental health providers and regional chambers of  
155 commerce or business entities with an interest in a local community  
156 school initiative.

157 (d) On or before January 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, the  
158 steering committee shall submit a report concerning the consortium's  
159 activities for the previous year to the joint standing committee of the  
160 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education,  
161 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
162 statutes.

163 (e) The Connecticut Community Schools Consortium shall be within  
164 the Department of Education for administrative purposes only.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section

**ED**

*Joint Favorable C/R*

APP