

WORKING AS ONE = IMPACT FOR ALL

2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



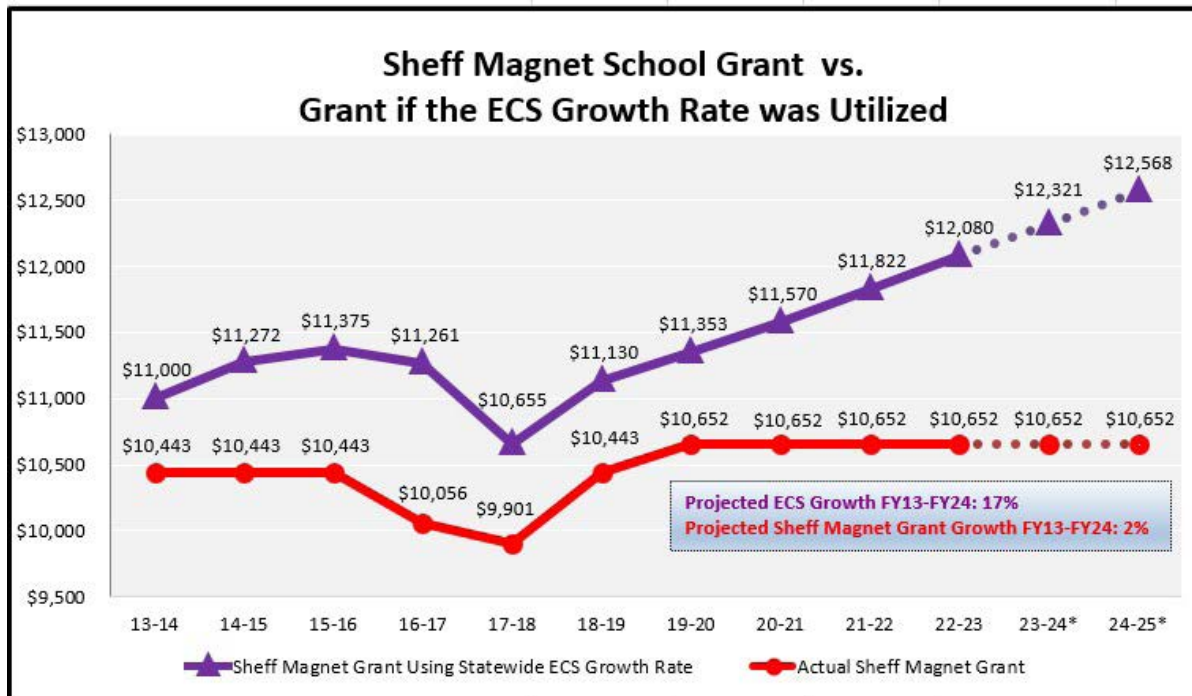
MAGNET SCHOOL FUNDING:

Short-Term:

- Enact an 8% increase in the Sheff magnet school grant to prevent major tuition increases to school districts AND
- Extend provisions of sec 256 in FY 23 budget providing districts with relief for disproportionate tuition charges.

Long-Term:

- Pass an equitable educational funding system for all students as outlined in [SB 1: AAC Transparency in Education](#) and [HB 5003: AAC Education Funding in Connecticut](#).



Facts

- Sheff magnet schools DO NOT receive funding through the state Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant.
- Sheff Magnet School grant is \$10,652, which only covers approximately 56% of the per pupil costs forcing districts to cover the balance. Ten+ years ago, the grant covered 67% of these costs.
- **Sect 256 of FY 23 budget lowers the enrollment threshold that triggers the cap on magnet school tuition** to East Hartford and Manchester beginning in FY 23; it also applies the same enrollment threshold and tuition cap to all other Sheff region towns, New Britain, and New London for FY 23 only; and requires SDE to be responsible for magnet tuition losses from these caps within available appropriations.
- In 2022-23, CREC increased tuition to districts by \$900 per student even with Federal ESSR and ARPA funds. **Without an additional investment in the Sheff Magnet School Grant, CREC will be forced to continue increasing tuition rates to sending districts by an additional \$800 per student in 2023-24 and \$600 in 2024-25 for a total \$2,300 per student in three years.**
- The 8% increase with the hold harmless for districts will mitigate tuition rate increase and cover escalating costs.
- Sheff magnets cannot continue to provide high quality, integrated education without implementation of a short and long term plan. The state's financing of education remains inequitable, disjointed, and inadequate for addressing the systemic racial and economic disparities found in Connecticut education funding. The prolonged lack of an equitable funding resolution affects every district, school, and student.