

Hampton Board of Education

Working Together for Hampton's Schools: Three Advocacy Areas for Our Community

The Hampton Board of Education is actively working to ensure the best possible educational opportunities for all our students. We believe that the support and voice of our community are essential to achieving these goals. We urge all citizens of Hampton to join us in advocating for the following critical areas:

1. Protecting Funding for Our Small Schools

- **The Issue:** The Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant is vital for funding our schools. Any reduction in this funding would directly impact the resources available for our students' education.
- **Our Action:** The Board of Education is requesting our state representatives to **maintain the current ECS funding levels from 2024-2025** to protect Hampton from potential funding losses.

2. Ensuring Fair Funding for Special Education

- **The Issue:** Providing high-quality special education services can be particularly challenging and costly for smaller districts like Hampton, especially when there are high per-pupil costs. The current reimbursement system doesn't always adequately address these challenges.
- **Our Action:** The Board of Education is urging our state representatives to **reform the excess cost sharing grant for special education** to provide more equitable reimbursement to small districts facing high per-pupil costs.

3. Strengthening Educational Services through Regional Collaboration

- **The Issue:** Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs) like EASTCONN can play a crucial role in providing cost-effective and high-quality shared services and supporting innovative educational programs for local schools. However, it's important to ensure their funding and responsibilities are aligned with the needs of the communities they serve.
- **Our Action:** The Board of Education is calling on our state representatives to **assess EASTCONN's funding and responsibilities** to optimize its support for the consolidation of educational services for local town schools and to provide seed funding for new educational initiatives.

How You Can Help:

Your voice is a powerful tool! Please consider contacting our state representatives to express your support for these critical advocacy areas. You can find more information about these issues and the contact information for your representatives on the Connecticut General Assembly website: <https://www.cga.ct.gov>. Let them know that the Hampton community values strong public education and urges them to take action on these important issues.

Your voice matters! By working together, we can make a real difference in supporting our schools and ensuring a bright future for the students of Hampton.