

# Sheff Movement



## Quality Integrated Education for All Children

In December, the State Department of Education recommended a budget that would allow it to meet its goals to expand the Sheff two-way voluntary integration programs. Three months later, the Governor eliminated these crucial budget items in the “Governor's Budget.” After many weeks of hearings, the Legislature's Appropriations Committee has approved a budget that restores the funds needed to expand Sheff Programs and meet the 2008 Settlement goals.

It is important to contact your Legislator and ask them to support the Appropriations Committee Budget and fully fund Sheff Programs—including:

- An improved magnet funding formula that supports both the new Hartford host magnet schools and the regional magnets run by CREC.
- A phased-in increase in transportation funds that will shorten bus rides for magnet school students
- A more realistic per pupil reimbursement system that supports Hartford students attending suburban schools and provides incentives to take more students in the Project Choice Program

ALSO, please ask your legislators to HOLD ECS FUNDING HARMLESS as they pursue the State's plan. ECS, or the Education Cost Sharing grant, is a key vehicle for state funding of local schools that takes into account poverty and student need. In the past ECS has been adjusted and weakened to achieve other goals. Until overall state funding of education is more equitable, further tampering with ECS seriously jeopardizes the goal of quality integrated education.

Connecticut's voluntary two-way integration system is a national model. It is extremely important that in this difficult session our lawmakers hear from their constituents that integrated education matters to them.

Take action to protect quality, integrated education for ALL children.

1. Click [here](#) to find your state Representative and Senator.
2. Write and call them both today to ask that ECS be held harmless and to express your support for the Appropriations Committee Budget, which fully funds Sheff programs.

Sheff programs use the very best educational practices in pursuit of quality, integrated education for all children. We need to make sure our public education system fulfills its Constitutional obligations, and creates a workforce that can compete in the emerging global economy.

