



STATE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

EQUITY | EXCELLENCE | EDUCATION



Customized Professional Learning & Program Services





State Education Resource Center (SERC)

SERC is a quasi-public agency established under statute to serve the CT State Board of Education in supporting educational equity and excellence. We do this by providing professional development and information dissemination in the latest research and best practices to educators, service providers, and families throughout the state, as well as job-embedded technical assistance and training within schools, programs, and districts.

Formerly known as the Special Education Resource Center, SERC became the State Education Resource Center according to a change in state statutes. The agency continues to maintain the Special Education Resource Center and SERC Library in addition to its broader responsibilities, including the support to programs and activities regarding early childhood education and school improvement.

Over the years, SERC has offered initiatives that support the achievement of all learners, with the belief that programs are most effective when general education and special education do not function as separate systems, but are united. The change in name appropriately reflects the broad services and programs that SERC has been offering for many years in areas important to both general and special education.

The SERC Library offers a comprehensive collection of resources for educators, families, and other stakeholders, including tests, instructional materials, online journals, and reference and research materials. Browse circulating materials online using the Library's searchable catalog at www.ctserc.org/library.

SERC hosts a variety of annual conferences and professional development covering a wide range of topics of interest to Connecticut's educators and the students and families they serve.





Vision & Mission

OUR VISION: EQUITY. EXCELLENCE. EDUCATION.

SERC believes that all students have the right to access opportunities and experiences that reflect and respect their differences and abilities. We are concerned that in Connecticut, educational outcomes for students of color, students who are English learners, and students with disabilities continue to lag behind outcomes for other students. To help eliminate these opportunity gaps, SERC addresses institutionalized racism and promotes social justice in schools and districts and both models and facilitates equity in education.

OUR MISSION:

SERC provides resources, professional development, and a centralized library to educators, families, and community members in collaboration with the Connecticut State Department of Education and other partners.

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Culturally Responsive Practice



Educational equity demands access to high-quality educational opportunities that support the success of all students. SERC has developed a comprehensive series of programmatic offerings to ensure that education reflects culturally responsive practices and affirms all identities, advancing family and student engagement in the educational process. These efforts fulfill SERC’s statutory obligation to support educational equity and excellence.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- ▶ EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE IN OUR SCHOOLS
- ▶ EQUITY WALKTHROUGHS
- ▶ PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES FOR EQUITY
- ▶ SCHOOL-FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS
- ▶ STUDENT VOICE
 - ▶ Youth Equity for Leadership
- ▶ SUPPORT FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS



Supporting All Abilities



SERC works collaboratively with school districts, state agencies, and other partners to help build systems of support for individuals with a range of needs and abilities, birth to adult. SERC uses a variety of professional learning models to enhance the capacity of service providers, educators, and families to use strategies and techniques that meet the unique learning goals of every individual. These efforts support Connecticut's goals under the State Systemic Improvement Plans (SSIP) to meet requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- ▶ **ADA & 504**
- ▶ **ADDRESSING PROCEDURAL COMPLIANCE**
- ▶ **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY/ ACCESSIBLE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS (AEM)**
- ▶ **INCLUSION**
 - ▶ **Access to General Education Curriculum**
 - ▶ **Technology in Education**
 - ▶ **Least Restrictive Environment (LRE), Inclusive Systems and Settings**
 - ▶ **Co-Teaching**
- ▶ **INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM (IEP) DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, AND FACILITATION**
 - ▶ **Ed Benefit Review Process**
- ▶ **PARAEDUCATORS**
- ▶ **PERSON-CENTERED PLANNING**
- ▶ **SECONDARY TRANSITION**
- ▶ **SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITIES (SLD)/DYSLEXIA**
- ▶ **SPEECH AND LANGUAGE**



Multi-Tiered Systems of Support



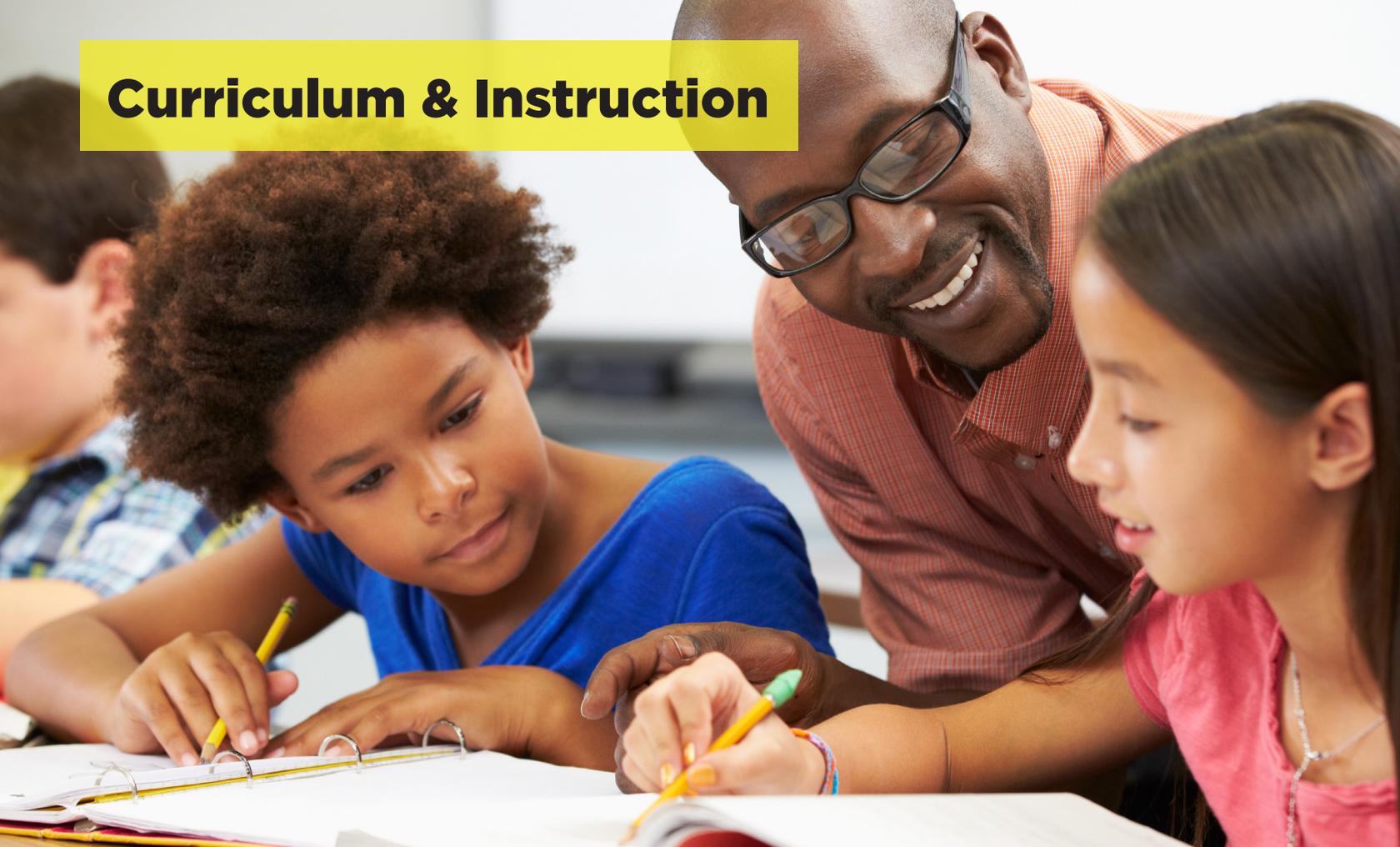
SERC works closely with schools and districts implementing Scientific Research-Based Interventions (SRBI). This includes technical assistance to local education agencies (LEAs) and schools implementing an evidence-based, multi-tiered behavioral framework (MTBF) [e.g., Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)] for improving behavioral outcomes and learning conditions for all students.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- ▶ **COMPREHENSIVE BEHAVIOR/MENTAL HEALTH**
- ▶ **EARLY INTERVENTION PROJECT (EIP)**
- ▶ **NONVIOLENT CRISIS INTERVENTION**
- ▶ **POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS (PBIS)**
- ▶ **REFLECTIVE TEAM PROCESS**
- ▶ **RESTORATIVE JUSTICE/RESTORATIVE PRACTICES**
- ▶ **SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH-BASED INTERVENTIONS (SRBI)**



Curriculum & Instruction



SERC, in collaboration with the CT State Department of Education, supports district efforts to align CT Core Standards and curriculum to instructional practices and subsequent performance tasks that demonstrate student achievement. SERC works within schools to ensure access to all of these practices for every child. SERC provides professional learning experiences — from conferences to book groups — as well as resources that support schools and districts regarding curriculum and instruction.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- ▶ ASSESSMENT
- ▶ CO-TEACHING
- ▶ CT CORE STANDARDS
- ▶ DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION (DI)
- ▶ LITERACY/READING
- ▶ MATH LITERACY
- ▶ SCIENCE LITERACY
- ▶ TECHNOLOGY/UNIVERSAL DESIGN

Early Childhood Care & Education



SERC assists state agencies and early childhood programs in building effective learning environments and programs to support the development of young children. SERC's professional learning in this area has a strong focus on developmentally appropriate practice, evidence-based practices in early childhood and early childhood special education, and linguistic and cultural diversity. Our customized program is aligned to the CT Office of Early Childhood 2020 Strategic Plan and collaborates and supports Connecticut's goals under the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) to meet requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- ▶ **DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE PRACTICE**
- ▶ **EARLY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS**
- ▶ **EQUITY AND CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PEDAGOGY**
- ▶ **INCLUSIVE PRACTICE**
- ▶ **SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**



Library Resources & Services



SERC Library collections and services are developed to meet the diverse needs and interests of a broad-based community of patrons: educators, university/college students, families, and other stakeholders. These resources, in formats such as books, inquiry kits, assessment materials, assistive technology tools, curriculum support materials, and Web resources, represent current topics across the fields of education and social services.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

▶ **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS**

Explore and borrow assistive technology tools and devices.

▶ **ELECTRONIC JOURNAL DATABASES**

Access a robust discovery service and full-text journal articles.

▶ **INTERLIBRARY SERVICES**

Request professional books from other libraries.

▶ **RESEARCH SUPPORT**

Search content-specific LibGuides and receive help with reference questions.

▶ **USER ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCE CIRCULATION**

Learn about specialized collections and customized support services.

The SERC Library is open to the public and membership is free.
For information, go to: www.ctserc/library

Program Services



SERC supports the needs of schools, school districts, and community providers and organizations seeking to inform and build capacity in areas related to education. Our program services team assists in resource development and provides expert planning, facilitation, and communications and media services for events large and small. Our Library team provides access to resources and services, as well as online databases and research guides.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- ▶ **EVENT PLANNING & FACILITATION**
- ▶ **MEDIA, RECORDING & TAPING**
- ▶ **MENTORING AND COACHING FOR EDUCATORS**
- ▶ **WRITING & EDITING**





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