

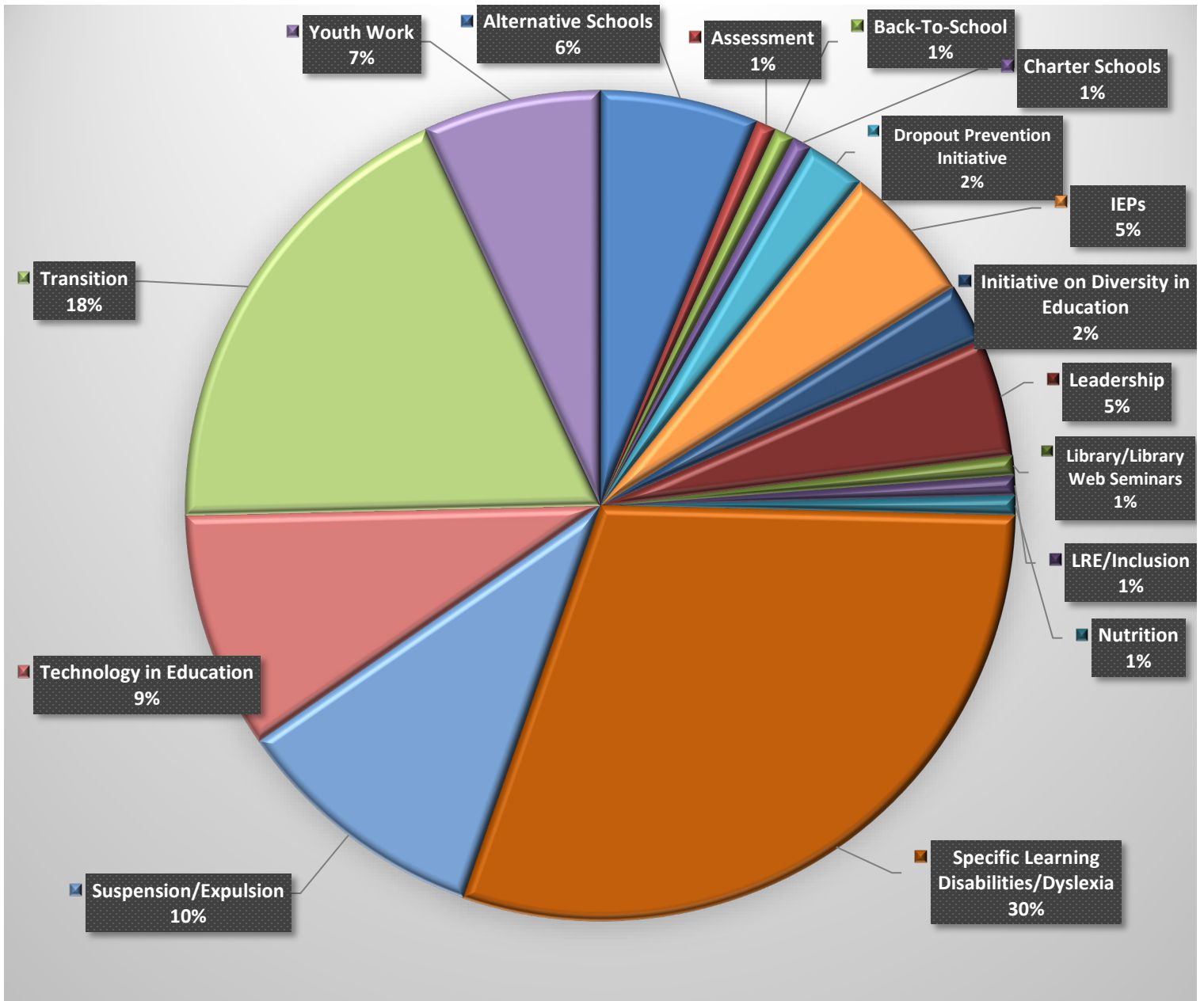
STATE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE AUGUST 29, 2023 SERC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

In collaboration with the CSDE Bureau of Special Education, SERC continues to design, coordinate, and implement all special education programming to support educators, leaders, youth, and families throughout the 2022-2023 year.

- The 2022-2023 listing of all Special Education trainings and technical assistance activities to support the work of the Bureau of Special Education continue to be posted to the SERC Professional Development calendar and the CSDE Events calendar regularly for educators/families to register for: <https://ctserc.org/events> and <https://nictrumba.com/>
- SERC continues to be a critical partner with CSDE to support the Attendance/Engagement/Chronic Absenteeism and School Discipline Collaborative work for the 2023- 2024 school year.
- SERC continues to be responsive to support the CSDE with any requests for project coordination/facilitation or technical assistance to support their efforts on behalf of educators, students, and families.
- To date, we have updated the special education assessments inventory across all domain areas in our new SERC library for educators to peruse and borrow to support their work with special education students: <https://ctserc.org/library> We continue to host sessions in the library to display and demonstrate our Assistive Technology resources and equipment.

2022-2023 Special Education Programming supporting the Bureau of Special Education as of June 30, 2023

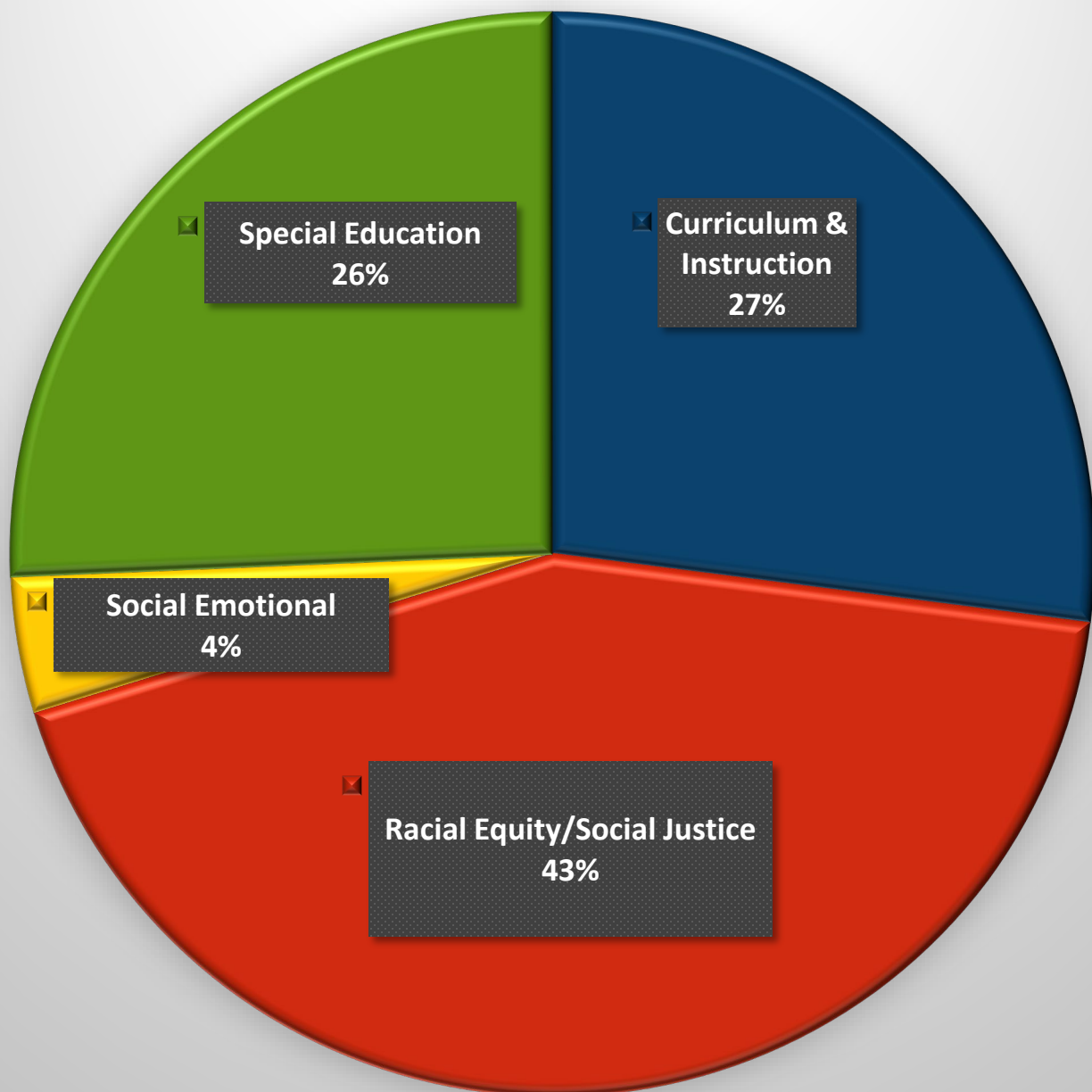
Snapshot of IDEA Activities by Project



2022-2023 Special Education Programming by Topic as of June 30, 2023

Project Name	# of Activities
Alternative Schools	8
Assessment	1
Charter Schools	1
Dropout Prevention Initiative	3
IEPs	7
Leadership	6
LRE/Inclusion	1
Nutrition	1
Specific Learning Disabilities/Dyslexia	39
Suspension/Expulsion	13
Technology in Education	12
Transition	24
Library/Library Web Seminars	1
Back-To-School	1
Youth Work	9
Initiative on Diversity in Education	3
Grand Total	130

SERC continues to accept many requests from districts for customized contracts to address their specific professional learning needs relative to school/district priorities, specifically around racial equity, special education, and curriculum and instruction topics. Below is a snapshot of in-district contracts by topic from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023.



**2022-2023 In-District Contracts by Topics and Category as of
June 30, 2023**

Curriculum & Instruction

Data Driven Decision Making	5
Differentiated Instruction	1
English Language Arts (ELA) - Curriculum Training	1
English Learners	1
PBIS Implementation	1
Reading	1
SLD/Dyslexia	4
SRBI Implementation	4
Strategies - Behavior Support Structures	1
Universal Design for Learning (UDL)	1
<i>Curriculum & Instruction Total</i>	20

Racial Equity/Social Justice

Culturally Relevant Practice	4
Facilitation	1
Racial Equity	27
<i>Racial Equity Total</i>	32

Social-Emotional

Challenging Behaviors	2
Restorative Practices	1
<i>Social Emotional Total</i>	3

Special Education	
Co-Teaching	8
Secondary Transition	1
Early Childhood Education	1
IEP Rubric	1
Inclusive Services Delivery	2
Paraprofessionals	1
PPT Chair	1
Standards Based IEP introduction	1
Youth Leadership	3
<i>Special Education Total</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>74</i>

**2022-2023
Full Executed LEA Contracts by District and Other
Agencies/Organizations/Schools**

District	Agencies/Organizations/Schools
Enfield	Southern Connecticut State University
Wethersfield	Human Resource Agency of New Britain
East Haddam	Albertus Magnus College
Newington	CREC Office of School Choice
New Haven	Project Genesis
RSD #18	Middlesex County CYSA
Middletown	Solterra Academy
Suffield	Hill for Literacy
East Lyme	Intensive Education Academy
Greenwich	The Winston Schools
New Milford	Adelbrook
Stafford	National Alliance on Mental Illness
Branford	Positive Directions
Southington	
Cromwell	
RSD #15	
Danbury	
Derby	
Stamford	
East Hartford	
RSD #13	
Torrington	
Cheshire	
Windham	
Granby	
Rocky Hill	
Norwalk	
Hamden	
Ridgefield	
Montville	
Trumbull	
Hartford	
Norwich	
Wallingford	

2022-2023 Contract Total:	\$495,965.00
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Update on African American, Black, Latino, and Puerto Rican Course of Studies **August 2023**

Showcase - June 2, 2023

Educators, students, families, and invited stakeholders attended a virtual showcase of course implementation, which highlighted student voice, artifacts, and input on the impact of learning over the year. Presentation recordings and materials are posted on the curriculum webpage at <https://ctserc.org/pa1912>. Fifteen schools presented, including: Wooster School, Danbury; New London Multi-Magnet High School; Wolcott High School; Bridge Academy, Bridgeport; Fairfield Ludlow High School; Suffield High School; Ledyard High School; Abbott Tech High School; Portland High School; East Lyme High School; Norwich Free Academy; and Masuk High School, Monroe.

An evening in-person reception was held at SERC's new location in Waterbury for stakeholders and community members to observe and reflect on students' culminating projects from various high schools across the state. This networking opportunity highlighted the value of the course, its impact on students, and the dedication and growth of the teachers who taught it.

Leadership Launch - June 7, 2023

The Leadership Launch provided district and school leaders who will implement the course in the coming year with an overview of the curriculum, including sample units, lessons, materials, and best practices and protocols for supporting staff and students. Techniques for marketing the course were shared to ensure course availability for all students.

Summer Institute - July 31- August 4, 2023

22 participants attended a 5-day training, with 2-days in-person/3-days virtual. Content focused on curriculum overview, GoOpenCT platform, pacing plan, curriculum pedagogy, creating safe and accountable learning spaces, cultural humility, using universal design for learning, and translanguaging to support access for all learners.

Presentations by Content Experts and Implementing Teachers were provided for Semester 1, Unit 1: African Origins, Unit 2: How African Americans Persisted: Slavery and Freedom Stories of Resistance and Agency (1619-1819), Unit 3: Black Literacy, Organizations, and Liberation (1820-1865). Guest Speakers included: Dr. Benjamin Foster, Jr., CCSU; Carmita Hodge, Asst. Principal, Fitch High School, Groton; Dennis Culliton, Executive Director, Witness Stones Project; Dr. dann j. Broyld, Professor, University of Massachusetts, Lowell; Jeremy Timperanza, Social Discovering Amistad, and Chris Menapace, Education Director, Discovering Amistad.

Next Steps:

- VIP Teacher Days at Discovering Amistad will continue through October.
- Planning started for a Student Summit in December 2023.
- Based on Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 feedback, Advanced Topic and Coaching sessions are currently being planned to provide continued support for lesson development.
- Quarterly Training and Coaching will resume for Cohort 3 in September.

Other Programming Updates

- **DMHAS School-Based Center for Prevention, Education and Advocacy (“The Center”)**
 - SERC, in collaboration with DMHAS, surveyed all school districts to gather and share information regarding the prevention programs that Connecticut school districts are implementing around mental health, suicide prevention, substance use prevention, and social-emotional learning. The survey covered which programs are being used, the impacts of the programs, and prevention priorities for districts.
 - 50 districts completed the survey, and outreach to these districts began to coordinate services and programming, including the development of an online Canvas course called *Universal Opioid and Other Substance Use Prevention Planning*
 - Outreach to school districts is continuing with the start of the new school year. Bilingual brochures and posters are being sent to school districts this week.
 - Prevention Summit took place on May 18 to connect schools to celebrate the new center and foster collaboration and partnerships between schools and community partners.
 - The SERC Library serves as a central repository for substance use prevention curricula and school-centered, evidence-based programs, resources and tools for K-12 educators
 - The new website can be accessed at www.ctserc.org/prevention
- **English/Multilingual Learner Programming**
 - New Podcast series titled *Learning with Multilingual Students* - where we hear from immigrant-origin students in Connecticut about their experiences and perspectives. Educators who are working to recognize, engage, and extend the linguistic resources of English Learner classified students will also be featured.
 - The first episode is scheduled to launch on September 1 and will feature newly-arrived immigrant students at a New Haven high school sharing about their schooling experiences in Connecticut and their future goals. Bilingual school leaders provide context about successes and challenges.
- **SERC Quarterly Newsletter**
 - With support from Graustein and The Narrative Project, SERC will launch the first of its quarterly newsletters in early September highlighting resources, events, activities, and opportunities.
- **National Summit for Courageous Conversation®**
 - SERC will be represented at the 13th Annual National Summit for Courageous Conversation® taking place in Austin, Texas, from November 5-8, 2023. The Summit is an excellent opportunity for racial equity leaders from across the nation to convene and engage in deep conversation about race and its impact on opportunity and achievement for all.