



2021 POLICY PRIORITIES

The Right to Read

- Identify and approve K-5 reading programs for all districts based on the **Science of Reading**.
- Establish an independent **Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success** to collect data, provide professional development and coaching, collaborate with educator preparation programs, and expand the Connecticut Literacy Initiative (CK3LI) for intervention in high-need districts.
- Position Connecticut as a national leader, **securing state and federal dollars** to support implementation, professional development, and early literacy initiatives.

Equity and Access

- Incentivize municipalities to build **affordable housing** with a bonus in school construction reimbursements.
- Expand the **Open Choice Program** to districts state-wide to offer families more options and districts a chance to address racial isolation and declining enrollment.

Healthy Schools

- **Remove non-medical exemptions** to school immunization requirements —because all parents, teachers, and students have a right to know that their children are in safe and healthy classroom environments.
- Allocate **federal resources** towards safely and fully reopening schools.

Fair Funding for All

- Establish a **single funding formula** for all districts and all types of public schools, including magnets and charters.
- Secure seed funding in the 2021-22 Biennium Budget to **open the Danbury Prospect School**, which was approved by the State Board of Education in 2018. Advocate for a renewed RFP process to **open additional charter schools** in the state next year.

About ERN CT:

The state chapter of a national organization, Education Reform Now CT is a 501(c)(3) that operates as a think tank and policy advocate, promoting great educational opportunities and achievement for all by increasing equity, protecting civil rights, and strengthening the social safety net.

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