

2014-2015

# CONNECTICUT SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT SURVEY

DATA BRIEF

Region 13 Nexus District

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## INTRODUCTION

The Connecticut Special Education Parent Survey is the continuation of an ongoing collaborative effort between the Bureau of Special Education and the Connecticut Parent Work Group to collect information on family satisfaction and parents' involvement in their child's special education program.<sup>1</sup> The 2014-15 survey was sent to 18,634 parents of children receiving special education services, ages 3 through 21, across 56 school districts.<sup>2</sup> A total of 3,965 surveys were returned, representing a response rate of 21.3%. The survey is in its tenth year, with the 2014-15 school year marking the first year of a new three-year survey cohort cycle. The survey continues to serve as the chief instrument for collecting parent involvement data for Indicator 8 of the state's IDEA Part B State Performance Plan (SPP).<sup>3</sup>

## PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide survey results for the Region 13 Nexus District in an easy-to-use format.<sup>4</sup> The intent is to highlight potential areas of strength for your district and areas that may need improvement. Your district's survey results, especially when used in conjunction with other data at your disposal, can provide insightful information for use in decision-making and improvement planning. A few tips for reviewing your survey data include the following:

- Use the survey delivery and response statistics to set the context of your data.
- Review the "total agreement" by survey item to get a general sense of how well your district is doing in each of the six topic areas of the survey.
- Contrast "total agreement" with "high-level agreement" in order to identify survey items where the total percentage may include a sizable lukewarm response (i.e., slightly agree).
- Examine parents' comments for areas of satisfaction, areas of concern, and suggested improvement steps.
- Consider how your district's results compare to the overall statewide results.

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<sup>1</sup> The Parent Work Group is a statewide stakeholder group that examines parent involvement data as an indicator of parent satisfaction for annual reporting to the Office of Special Education Programs.

<sup>2</sup> In the majority (n=45) of districts, surveys were sent to all parents of children receiving services. However, in 11 districts, a simple random sample of students was selected. (See Appendix B.1 for more information.)

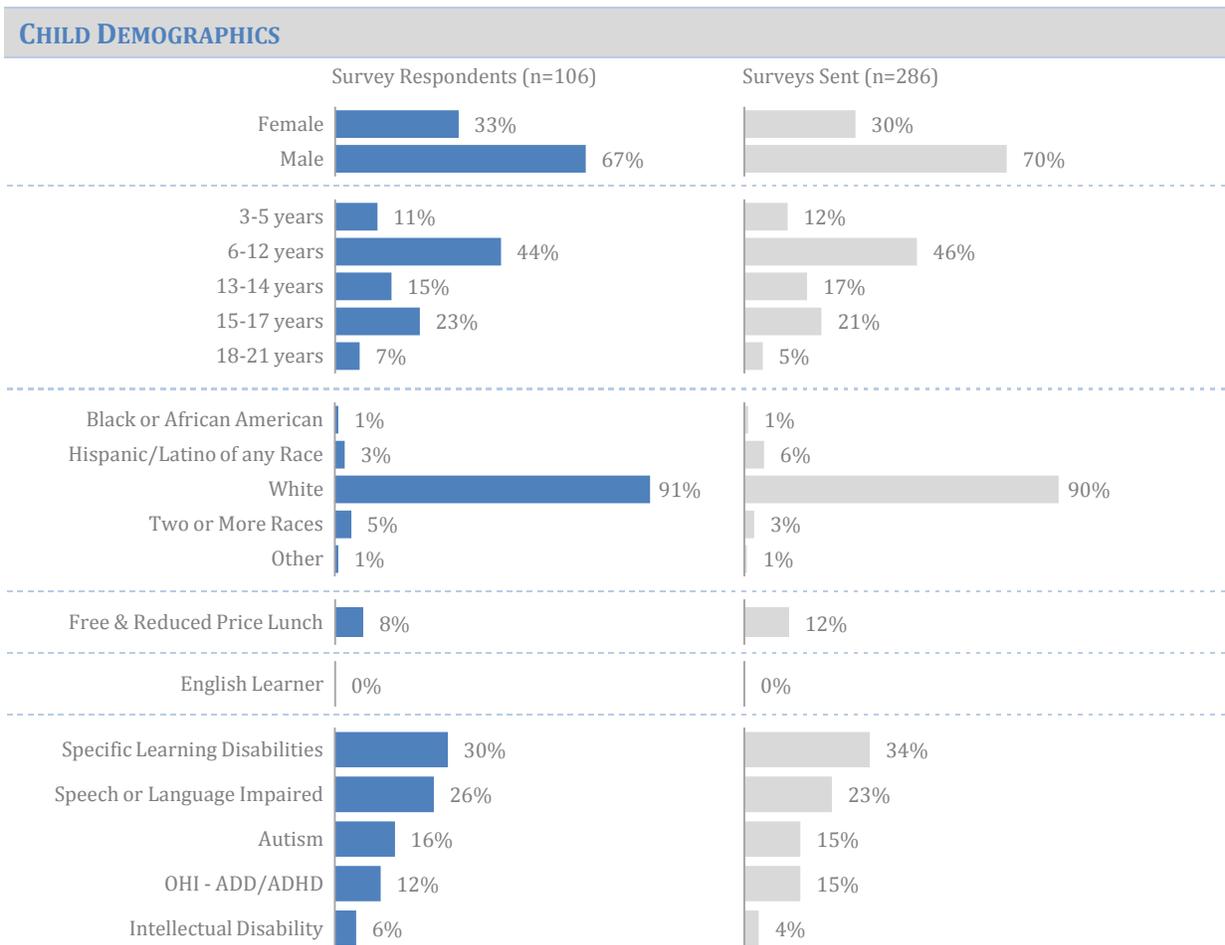
<sup>3</sup> SPP Indicator 8 measures the percent of parents with a child receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities. Survey item 10 is the primary measure for this indicator.

<sup>4</sup> The 2014-15 Connecticut Special Education Parent Survey Statewide Report will be available on the Department website in early 2016.

## SECTION I: SURVEY DELIVERY AND RESPONSE

In August 2015, the 2014-15 Connecticut Special Education Parent Survey was distributed to parents of children with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Services Plan. Parents were mailed a survey packet, with some parents also receiving an email about the survey. All materials were available in English and Spanish, and the survey could be completed on paper or online. The survey deadline was September 18, 2015. The following graphics provide survey delivery and response statistics for the Region 13 Nexus District.

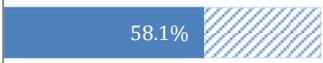
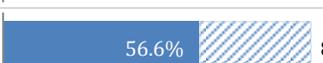
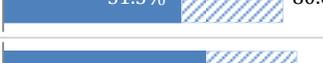
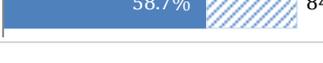
DELIVERY METHOD			
Mail	286	Mail Non-Deliverable Rate	1.0% (n=3)
Email	94.4% (n=270)	Email Non-Deliverable Rate	20.0% (n=54)



Note: The disabilities displayed are those that are 5% or greater in the survey respondent group or the survey sent group.

## SECTION II: SURVEY RESULTS

The 2014-15 survey included 38 items that asked parents to rate on a 6-point scale from “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree” their experiences with their child’s special education program over the past 12 months.<sup>5</sup> The following tables include bar charts that illustrate parents’ “high level of agreement” (i.e., strongly agree and moderately agree), as well as a column with the percentage to express “total agreement” (i.e., plus slightly agree). Only the agreement response options are included to allow for a quick visual comparison across survey items; however, all response options for the Region 13 Nexus District are included in Appendix A.1.

	HIGH LEVEL OF AGREEMENT	TOTAL AGREEMENT
<i>Satisfaction with My Child’s Program</i>		
1. I am satisfied with my child’s overall special education program. [n=105]	 58.1% 91.4%	94.3%
2. I have the opportunity to talk to my child’s teachers on a regular basis to discuss my questions and concerns. [n=105]	 75.2% 92.4%	96.2%
3. My child is accepted within the school community. [n=105]	 69.5% 91.4%	98.1%
4. My child’s Individualized Education Program (IEP) is meeting his or her educational needs. [n=106]	 56.6% 88.7%	91.5%
5. All special education services identified in my child’s IEP have been provided. [n=106]	 66.0% 90.6%	92.5%
6. Staff is appropriately trained and able to provide my child’s specific program and services. [n=104]	 64.4% 91.3%	93.3%
7. Special education teachers make accommodations and modifications as indicated on my child’s IEP. [n=103]	 64.1% 84.5%	87.4%
8. General education teachers make accommodations and modifications as indicated on my child’s IEP. [n=103]	 51.5% 80.6%	84.5%
9. General education and special education teachers work together to assure that my child’s IEP is being implemented. [n=104]	 58.7% 84.6%	88.5%
<i>Participation in My Child’s Program</i>		
10. In my child’s school, administrators and teachers encourage parent involvement in order to improve services and results for children with disabilities. [n=106]	 64.2% 85.8%	92.5%
11. At meetings to develop my child’s Individualized Education Program (IEP), I feel encouraged to give input and express my concerns. [n=106]	 83.0% 94.3%	97.2%
12. I understand what is discussed at meetings to develop my child’s IEP. [n=105]	 74.3% 92.4%	98.1%
13. My concerns and recommendations are documented in the development of my child’s IEP. [n=105]	 68.6% 88.6%	92.4%
KEY:  Strongly Agree  Moderately Agree		

<sup>5</sup> Parents were given the option of selecting “don’t know” on 11 survey items (4-9, 21, 25, 28, 29 and 34). This should be considered when comparing agreement levels across items.

	HIGH LEVEL OF AGREEMENT	TOTAL AGREEMENT
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*Participation in My Child's Program (Continued)*

14. My child's evaluation report is written in terms I understand. [n=105]	64.8% 91.4%	95.2%
15. Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meetings for my child have been scheduled at times and places that met my needs. [n=105]	75.2% 91.4%	97.1%
16. At my child's PPT, the school district proposed programs and services to meet my child's individual needs. [n=105]	61.9% 86.7%	94.3%
17. When we implement my child's IEP, I am encouraged to be an equal partner with my child's teachers and other service providers. [n=106]	62.3% 86.8%	92.5%
18. I have received a copy of my child's IEP within 10 school days after the PPT. [n=105]	91.4% 97.1%	99.0%
19. If necessary, a translator was provided at the PPT meetings. [n=53]	79.2% 86.8%	88.7%
20. The translation services provided at the PPT meetings were useful and accurate. [n=48]	72.9% 83.3%	87.5%
21. The school district proposed the regular classroom for my child as the first placement option. [n=100]	82.0% 90.0%	90.0%

*My Child's Participation*

22. My child has been sent home from school, but not suspended, due to behavioral difficulties. [n=84]	9.5%	9.5%
23. My child has the opportunity to participate in school-sponsored activities such as field trips, assemblies and social events (dances, sports events). [n=106]	89.6% 97.2%	97.2%
24. My child has the opportunity to participate in extracurricular school activities such as sports or clubs with children without disabilities. [n=103]	88.3% 94.2%	95.1%
25. My child's school provides supports, such as extra staff, that are necessary for my child to participate in extracurricular school activities (for example, clubs and sports). [n=93]	47.3% 55.9%	61.3%

*Parent Training and Support*

26. In the past year, I have attended parent training or information sessions (provided by my district, other districts or agencies) that addressed the needs of parents and of children with disabilities. [n=91]	19.8% 24.2%	29.7%
27. I am involved in a support network for parents of students with disabilities available through my school district or other sources. [n=90]	12.2%	15.6%
28. There are opportunities for parent training or information sessions regarding special education provided by my child's school district. [n=98]	17.3%	22.4%
29. A support network for parents of students with disabilities is available to me through my school district or other sources. [n=99]	19.2%	24.2%

KEY: ■ Strongly Agree ▨ Moderately Agree

	HIGH LEVEL OF AGREEMENT	TOTAL AGREEMENT
<i>My Child's Skills</i>		
30. My child is learning skills that will enable him/her to be as independent as possible. [n=104]	71.2% 91.3%	95.2%
31. My child is learning skills that will lead to a high school diploma, further education, or a job. [n=103]	75.7% 93.2%	98.1%
<i>Transition Planning</i>		
32. I am satisfied with the school district's transition activities that took place when my child left Birth to Three. [n=11]	63.6% 90.9%	90.9%
33. I am satisfied with the way secondary transition services were implemented for my child. [n=26]	65.4% 84.6%	92.3%
34. When appropriate, outside agencies have been invited to participate in secondary transition planning. [n=25]	36.0% 48.0%	48.0%
35. The PPT introduced planning for my child's transition to adulthood. [n=25]	68.0% 80.0%	88.0%
36. The school district actively encourages my child to attend and participate in PPT meetings. [n=27]	77.8% 96.3%	96.3%
37. The PPT discussed an appropriate course of study at the high school for my child. [n=27]	55.6% 85.2%	96.3%
38. The PPT developed individualized goals for my child related to employment/postsecondary education, independent living and community participation, if appropriate. [n=26]	53.8% 80.8%	84.6%

Note: Respondents were instructed only to answer item 32 if their child had transitioned from the Birth to Three System to Preschool within the past three years, and only to answer items 33-38 if their child was 15 years of age or older at their last PPT meeting.

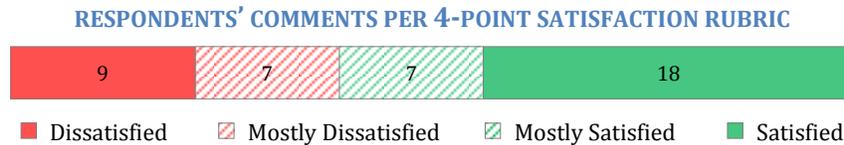
Due to limited space on the bar graphs, the data label for "strongly agree" is not included if it is less than 15%.

KEY: ■ Strongly Agree    ▨ Moderately Agree

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## SECTION III: PARENT COMMENTS

An open-ended section at the end of the survey asked parents to comment on their overall experience with their child’s special education program. Of the 106 surveys completed by parents in the Region 13 Nexus District, 38.7% (n=41) included written comments. The comments were classified according to a 4-point rubric: “1” if the comment conveyed complete dissatisfaction; “2” if mostly dissatisfied; “3” if mostly satisfied; and “4” if the comment conveyed complete satisfaction. The breakout along the 4-point rubric is provided below, followed by examples of parents’ feedback.<sup>6</sup>



### COMMENTS EXPRESSING SATISFACTION

- *I just want to take this opportunity to thank the District 13 for their love and dedication to every student that receives aid in special education. [Translation]*
- *We are very satisfied with our daughter's special education – our general education teachers, paraprofessionals, special education teachers, speech therapy (particularly in the last year), OT, and PT. We truly believe that our daughter is very much loved by her "team". She has had opportunities for socialization with typical and special education children, and cherished for who she is.*
- *I am pleased with the support services offered at RSD 13. Our daughter has learned strategies to help her become a better learner. Many thanks to all.*
- *Our Director of Pupil Services in RSD 13 is absolutely amazing and goes way above and beyond on behalf of her students.*
- *I have been very satisfied with the special education program in my son's school. He is currently in high school and doing well academically as well as socially. I feel early intervention is the reason why – also the outstanding program in this district.*
- *RSD 13 has been an excellent school district for my son to develop. The district is truly cutting edge with autism services and should be considered a model for other districts of success. They are willing to supplement on staff resources with experts for additional ideas to make IEP planning and execution even more robust, and therefore successful.*
- *Overall, I've been very happy with the teachers and staff regarding my son's education. They've always made good suggestions for how to help my son learn best. I've never had to fight for any services, as I've heard that others have had to. I feel as if everyone is helping him succeed!*
- *I believe that RSD 13 has gone above and beyond for my child to identify and service her disability.*
- *Our overall goal was for our son to have a successful junior year and really grow into the mature adult that he is today. Wow, they did a great job and our son successfully completed both his junior year and the program. Thanks to all his teachers and the school district.*
- *The school was always open to other resources available outside of the school district to help understand why my son, at times, struggled. By the time he transitioned into middle school, he had matured significantly due to the support and consistency the school gave him.*
- *Our district is exceptional in their special needs program, both in the services they offer and in their willingness to work with us as parents. The staff is approachable and, we feel, genuinely vested in providing a caring educational experience for our child. We could not ask for a more committed and talented group of educators.*

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<sup>6</sup> Comments are reported verbatim with the following exceptions: 1) comments received in Spanish were translated; 2) silent corrections were made to improve readability; and 3) all identifying information was removed to maintain respondent confidentiality. In some cases, multiple excerpts may have been taken from one or more respondents' comments.

- *Throughout his years in the district, he received excellent care and support from all of his special education support staff and most of his teachers. The PPTs were well planned and benefited our son. He also received excellent supports from the school to participate in class field trips. A special program was developed with the school district to provide social opportunities for our kids on a regular basis. This program was well received by both students and parents.*

#### COMMENTS EXPRESSING DISSATISFACTION

- *I believe there is a need for increased technology/ IT training for special education students. It is one area that I feel our district is lacking and it has a significant impact on our students' progress.*
- *More information needs to be given to parents on how to read an IEP. Each of the pages should be gone over with parents so they understand what they're looking at.*
- *Terrible experience! A constant fight with the district. No transitional planning. I am so unhappy with their unprofessionalism and general uncaring for my daughter.*
- *As her parents we have had to fight every inch of the way to get what she needs. We have been given wrong information and have never been told up front what we can and cannot ask for help with. We are made to feel like we are entitled to nothing and have to find our own resources. I understand special education is costly. However, what is out there should be put on the table, so as a parent you do not have to fight for what your child needs.*
- *Getting appropriate services for my son so he can graduate and go to college has been my job for 10 years. It should not be this difficult.*
- *Our biggest complaint is that our district is fractured. The contemporary program requires that our children change schools five times before they graduate. This means that their special education team changes 5 times over the course of their education. Each of these changes basically makes us all start over, which is difficult for our kids and for us as parents. For kids who have anxiety and difficulty transitioning to new surroundings and staff, it can take months for them to feel like their feet are on level ground. As parents of these children, we have felt that it has taken us the majority of the first year (of each new school) to establish a firm working relationship with our child's new team – we all want what is best for the kids, but let's face it new relationships take time to develop for adults and children alike.*
- *I feel that for kids who are highly functional and bright in some areas, the special education program does not promote growth. I find that teachers are generally happy with an average grade even for kids in special education who could do better. One area that I think my school district could help with is to actively seek out the talents of my child and enroll him in classes or before and after school programs which could allow him to strengthen his talents and bring out the most in him.*

**APPENDIX A | REGION 13 SURVEY FINDINGS**

**A.1 | SURVEY RESPONSE TABLE**

**A.2 | BOX-AND-WHISKER CHARTS**

## APPENDIX A.1: REGION 13 SURVEY RESPONSE TABLE

	n	DISAGREE			AGREE			Don't Know	TOTALS		HIGH LEVEL AGREE
		Strongly	Moderately	Slightly	Slightly	Moderately	Strongly		DISAGREE	AGREE	
1. I am satisfied with my child's overall special education program.	105	1.9%	2.9%	1.0%	2.9%	33.3%	58.1%	±	5.7%	94.3%	91.4%
2. I have the opportunity to talk to my child's teachers on a regular basis to discuss my questions and concerns.	105	1.0%	1.9%	1.0%	3.8%	17.1%	75.2%	±	3.8%	96.2%	92.4%
3. My child is accepted within the school community.	105	1.0%	0.0%	1.0%	6.7%	21.9%	69.5%	±	1.9%	98.1%	91.4%
4. My child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) is meeting his or her educational needs.	106	0.9%	4.7%	1.9%	2.8%	32.1%	56.6%	0.9%	7.5%	91.5%	88.7%
5. All special education services identified in my child's IEP have been provided.	106	1.9%	2.8%	0.9%	1.9%	24.5%	66.0%	1.9%	5.7%	92.5%	90.6%
6. Staff is appropriately trained and able to provide my child's specific program and services.	104	1.0%	3.8%	0.0%	1.9%	26.9%	64.4%	1.9%	4.8%	93.3%	91.3%
7. Special education teachers make accommodations and modifications as indicated on my child's IEP.	103	1.0%	0.0%	3.9%	2.9%	20.4%	64.1%	7.8%	4.9%	87.4%	84.5%
8. General education teachers make accommodations and modifications as indicated on my child's IEP.	103	1.0%	1.9%	3.9%	3.9%	29.1%	51.5%	8.7%	6.8%	84.5%	80.6%
9. General education and special education teachers work together to assure that my child's IEP is being implemented.	104	1.0%	1.0%	2.9%	3.8%	26.0%	58.7%	6.7%	4.8%	88.5%	84.6%
10. In my child's school, administrators and teachers encourage parent involvement in order to improve services and results for children with disabilities.	106	2.8%	1.9%	2.8%	6.6%	21.7%	64.2%	±	7.5%	92.5%	85.8%
11. At meetings to develop my child's Individualized Education Program (IEP), I feel encouraged to give input and express my concerns.	106	0.9%	1.9%	0.0%	2.8%	11.3%	83.0%	±	2.8%	97.2%	94.3%
12. I understand what is discussed at meetings to develop my child's IEP.	105	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	5.7%	18.1%	74.3%	±	1.9%	98.1%	92.4%
13. My concerns and recommendations are documented in the development of my child's IEP.	105	1.0%	2.9%	3.8%	3.8%	20.0%	68.6%	±	7.6%	92.4%	88.6%
14. My child's evaluation report is written in terms I understand.	105	1.0%	1.0%	2.9%	3.8%	26.7%	64.8%	±	4.8%	95.2%	91.4%
15. Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meetings for my child have been scheduled at times and places that met my needs.	105	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%	5.7%	16.2%	75.2%	±	2.9%	97.1%	91.4%
16. At my child's PPT, the school district proposed programs and services to meet my child's individual needs.	105	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%	7.6%	24.8%	61.9%	±	5.7%	94.3%	86.7%
17. When we implement my child's IEP, I am encouraged to be an equal partner with my child's teachers and other service providers.	106	2.8%	1.9%	2.8%	5.7%	24.5%	62.3%	±	7.5%	92.5%	86.8%
18. I have received a copy of my child's IEP within 10 school days after the PPT.	105	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	5.7%	91.4%	±	1.0%	99.0%	97.1%
19. If necessary, a translator was provided at the PPT meetings.	53	9.4%	1.9%	0.0%	1.9%	7.5%	79.2%	±	11.3%	88.7%	86.8%
20. The translation services provided at the PPT meetings were useful and accurate.	48	10.4%	2.1%	0.0%	4.2%	10.4%	72.9%	±	12.5%	87.5%	83.3%
21. The school district proposed the regular classroom for my child as the first placement option.	100	4.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	8.0%	82.0%	5.0%	5.0%	90.0%	90.0%

Table is continued on the next page.

**APPENDIX A.1: REGION 13 SURVEY RESPONSE TABLE (CONTINUED)**

	n	DISAGREE			AGREE			Don't Know	TOTALS		HIGH LEVEL AGREE
		Strongly	Moderately	Slightly	Slightly	Moderately	Strongly		DISAGREE	AGREE	
22. My child has been sent home from school, but not suspended, due to behavioral difficulties.	84	89.3%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	2.4%	7.1%	±	90.5%	9.5%	9.5%
23. My child has the opportunity to participate in school-sponsored activities such as field trips, assemblies and social events (dances, sports events).	106	1.9%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	7.5%	89.6%	±	2.8%	97.2%	97.2%
24. My child has the opportunity to participate in extracurricular school activities such as sports or clubs with children without disabilities.	103	2.9%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	5.8%	88.3%	±	4.9%	95.1%	94.2%
25. My child's school provides supports, such as extra staff, that are necessary for my child to participate in extracurricular school activities (for example, clubs and sports).	93	6.5%	1.1%	2.2%	5.4%	8.6%	47.3%	29.0%	9.7%	61.3%	55.9%
26. In the past year, I have attended parent training or information sessions (provided by my district, other districts, or agencies) that addressed the needs of parents and of children with disabilities.	91	64.8%	1.1%	4.4%	5.5%	4.4%	19.8%	±	70.3%	29.7%	24.2%
27. I am involved in a support network for parents of students with disabilities available through my school district or other sources.	90	74.4%	6.7%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	8.9%	±	84.4%	15.6%	12.2%
28. There are opportunities for parent training or information sessions regarding special education provided by my child's school district.	98	26.5%	4.1%	3.1%	5.1%	6.1%	11.2%	43.9%	33.7%	22.4%	17.3%
29. A support network for parents of students with disabilities is available to me through my school district or other sources.	99	22.2%	6.1%	1.0%	5.1%	6.1%	13.1%	46.5%	29.3%	24.2%	19.2%
30. My child is learning skills that will enable him/her to be as independent as possible.	104	1.9%	1.9%	1.0%	3.8%	20.2%	71.2%	±	4.8%	95.2%	91.3%
31. My child is learning skills that will lead to a high school diploma, further education, or a job.	103	1.0%	1.0%	0.0%	4.9%	17.5%	75.7%	±	1.9%	98.1%	93.2%
Only complete the following question if your child has transitioned from the early intervention Birth to Three System to Preschool in the past 3 years.											
32. I am satisfied with the school district's transition activities that took place when my child left Birth to Three.	11	9.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	27.3%	63.6%	±	9.1%	90.9%	90.9%
Only complete the following questions if your child was 15 years of age or older at his/her last PPT meeting.											
33. I am satisfied with the way secondary transition services were implemented for my child.	26	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%	7.7%	19.2%	65.4%	±	7.7%	92.3%	84.6%
34. When appropriate, outside agencies have been invited to participate in secondary transition planning.	25	16.0%	0.0%	4.0%	0.0%	12.0%	36.0%	32.0%	20.0%	48.0%	48.0%
35. The PPT introduced planning for my child's transition to adulthood.	25	12.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.0%	12.0%	68.0%	±	12.0%	88.0%	80.0%
36. The school district actively encourages my child to attend and participate in PPT meetings.	27	3.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	18.5%	77.8%	±	3.7%	96.3%	96.3%
37. The PPT discussed an appropriate course of study at the high school for my child.	27	3.7%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	29.6%	55.6%	±	3.7%	96.3%	85.2%
38. The PPT developed individualized goals for my child related to employment/postsecondary education, independent living and community participation, if appropriate.	26	15.4%	0.0%	0.0%	3.8%	26.9%	53.8%	±	15.4%	84.6%	80.8%

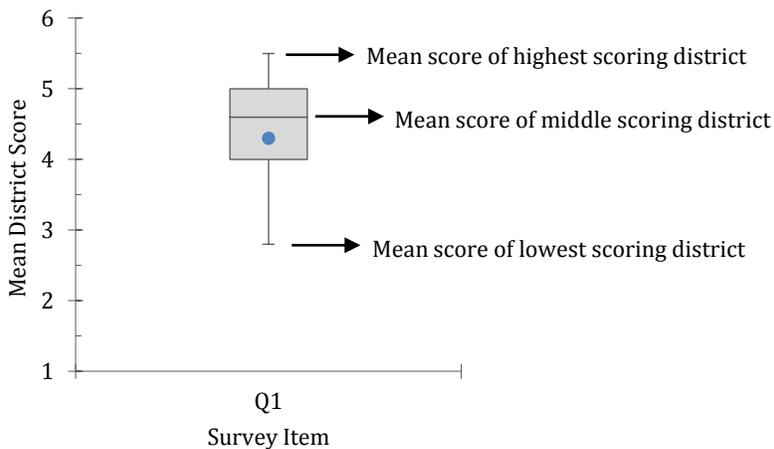
Note: High level agree = "moderately agree" + "strongly agree."

± Not a response option for this survey item.

## APPENDIX A.2: REGION 13 BOX-AND-WHISKER CHARTS

The following box-and-whisker charts provide a visual snapshot (by survey item) of your district's mean score relative to the mean score of all other districts participating in the survey.<sup>7</sup> The mean district score represents the average parent response scaled from 1="strongly disagree" to 6="strongly agree."<sup>8</sup> An illustration of how to interpret your box-and-whisker charts is provided in the following diagram. A box for each survey item contains the middle 50% of districts and the median (middle) district score is represented by a black line within the box.<sup>9</sup> The "whiskers" on the box represent the minimum and maximum mean scores across all districts and your individual district is represented by a round dot (●). Thus, if your mean district score was inside the box, it would be considered an average rating; if your mean district score was in the lower "whisker," it would be considered a below average rating; and if your mean district score was in the upper "whisker," it would be considered an above average rating. Mean district scores were not calculated when five or fewer respondents in the district answered an item. If this was true of your district, a round dot (●) will be missing for those items.<sup>10</sup>

### How to Interpret Your Box-and-Whisker Chart



□ Contains the middle 50% of mean district scores on Question 1.

● Represents the mean score for your district on Question 1.

**Result:** The mean score for your district is below the mean score of the "middle" scoring district but is within the middle 50% of all mean district scores for this question.

Note: The mean district score represents the average response scaled from 1="strongly disagree" to 6="strongly agree."

<sup>7</sup> Survey responses from 11 districts were excluded due to the CSDE standard (n=20) for confidential reporting of district-level data.

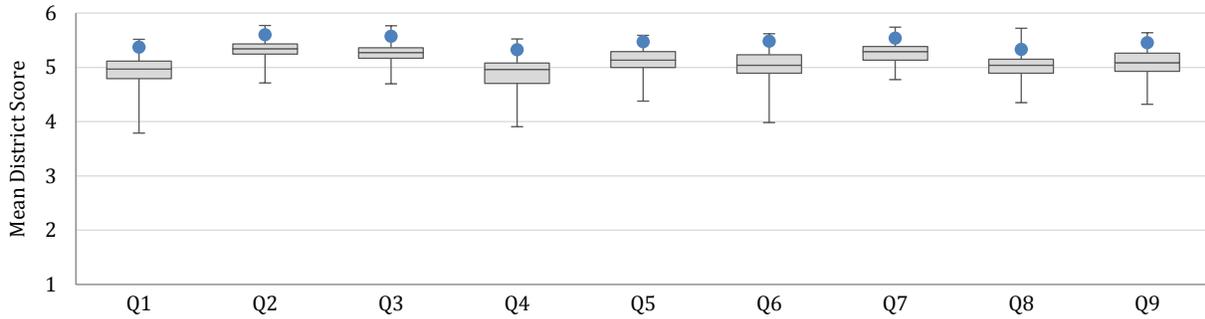
<sup>8</sup> The response option of "don't know" was not included in the calculation of the mean score, as there is no intuitive ordering for this response.

<sup>9</sup> Survey item 22 is negatively keyed (i.e., strongly agree is equivalent to a high level of dissatisfaction); therefore, this item was excluded from the analysis to maintain a consistent interpretation of mean scores.

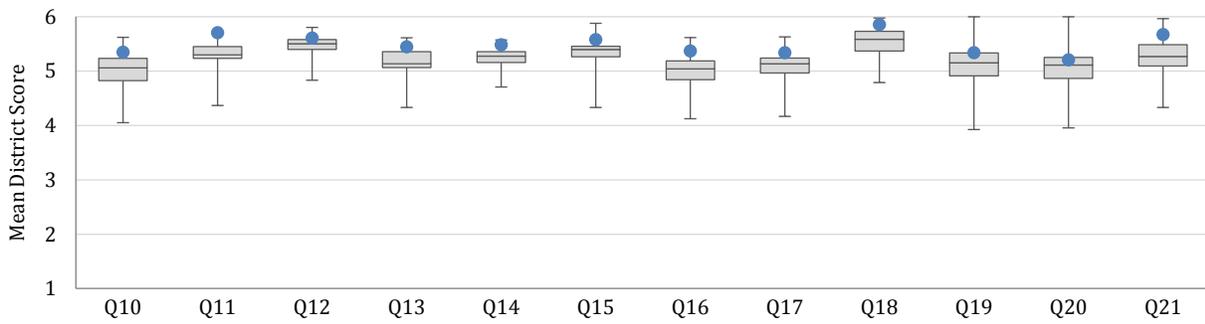
<sup>10</sup> A substantial number of districts had five or fewer respondents on the transition planning items. As a result, 15 districts were excluded from calculations for survey item 32 and seven districts were excluded from calculations for survey items 33-38.

## APPENDIX A.2: REGION 13 BOX-AND-WHISKER CHARTS (CONTINUED)

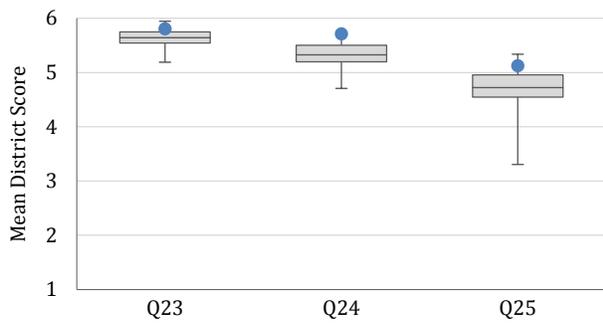
SATISFACTION WITH MY CHILD'S PROGRAM



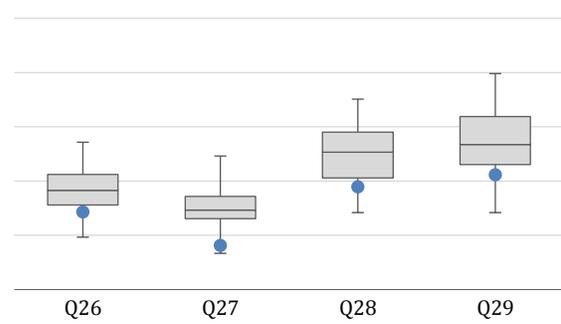
PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING MY CHILD'S PROGRAM



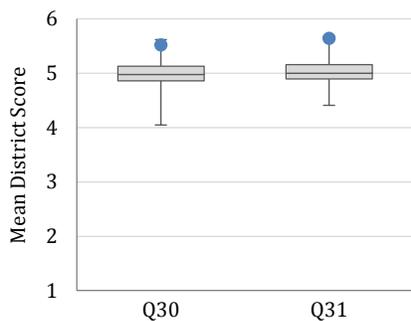
MY CHILD'S PARTICIPATION



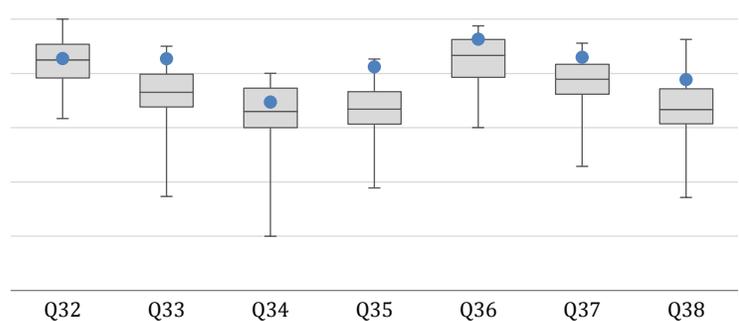
PARENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT



MY CHILD'S SKILLS



TRANSITION PLANNING



**APPENDIX B | STATEWIDE RESULTS**

**B.1 | RESPONSE RATE BY DISTRICT**

**B.2 | STATEWIDE SURVEY RESPONSE TABLE**

## APPENDIX B.1: RESPONSE RATE BY DISTRICT

Nexus District	Surveys Sent	Surveys Received	Response Rate
Eastford	27	16	59.3%
Rocky Hill	272	103	37.9%
Region 15	538	203	37.7%
Region 13	286	106	37.1%
Marlborough	56	19	33.9%
New Hartford	59	20	33.9%
Sherman	74	24	32.4%
Litchfield	123	39	31.7%
New Canaan	417	127	30.5%
Region 8	222	67	30.2%
Southington*	627	189	30.1%
Sterling	80	24	30.0%
Newtown	471	140	29.7%
Barkhamsted	45	13	28.9%
Simsbury	612	175	28.6%
Bolton	95	27	28.4%
West Hartford*	821	231	28.1%
Region 14	180	50	27.8%
Hebron	126	34	27.0%
Bozrah	38	10	26.3%
East Haddam	179	47	26.3%
Wallingford*	568	146	25.7%
Glastonbury*	508	130	25.6%
New Fairfield	261	66	25.3%
Region 16	340	86	25.3%
Granby	218	55	25.2%
Region 18	184	46	25.0%
Thomaston	157	39	24.8%
Wethersfield	568	138	24.3%

Nexus District	Surveys Sent	Surveys Received	Response Rate
Region 17	340	80	23.5%
East Lyme	366	85	23.2%
Bethel	338	78	23.1%
East Windsor	231	48	20.8%
Region 7	116	23	19.8%
Madison	384	74	19.3%
Andover	21	4	19.0%
Naugatuck*	530	96	18.1%
Stamford*	1,044	189	18.1%
Windsor	633	113	17.9%
Preston	113	18	15.9%
Plymouth	253	40	15.8%
Meriden*	950	143	15.1%
East Hampton	178	26	14.6%
Norfolk	21	3	14.3%
Montville	336	46	13.7%
Cromwell	242	33	13.6%
Enfield*	613	79	12.9%
West Haven*	736	95	12.9%
Putnam	196	25	12.8%
Colebrook	24	3	12.5%
Plainfield	308	37	12.0%
Norwich*	694	78	11.2%
Voluntown	65	7	10.8%
Hartford*	1,481	152	10.3%
USD 1	184	18	9.8%
USD 2	85	2	2.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,634</b>	<b>3,965</b>	<b>21.3%</b>

Note: Districts are sorted in descending order based on their response rate.

A (\*) indicates that in this district, a simple random sample of parents of children with an IEP or Services Plan were selected to receive the survey. A confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of 2% were used to determine the sample size.

## APPENDIX B.2: STATEWIDE SURVEY RESPONSE TABLE

	n	DISAGREE			AGREE			Don't Know	TOTALS		HIGH LEVEL AGREE
		Strongly	Moderately	Slightly	Slightly	Moderately	Strongly		DISAGREE	AGREE	
1. I am satisfied with my child's overall special education program.	3,928	5.8%	3.6%	3.1%	9.3%	32.6%	45.6%	±	12.5%	87.5%	78.2%
2. I have the opportunity to talk to my child's teachers on a regular basis to discuss my questions and concerns.	3,921	2.2%	1.9%	2.7%	8.9%	24.6%	59.8%	±	6.7%	93.3%	84.4%
3. My child is accepted within the school community.	3,908	2.5%	2.5%	3.3%	8.0%	23.8%	60.0%	±	8.3%	91.7%	83.8%
4. My child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) is meeting his or her educational needs.	3,948	5.9%	4.0%	4.1%	10.4%	30.3%	44.8%	0.6%	13.9%	85.5%	75.1%
5. All special education services identified in my child's IEP have been provided.	3,904	4.1%	3.4%	3.6%	8.0%	26.2%	53.2%	1.5%	11.1%	87.4%	79.4%
6. Staff is appropriately trained and able to provide my child's specific program and services.	3,902	4.9%	3.6%	3.6%	8.6%	25.1%	52.1%	2.1%	12.1%	85.8%	77.2%
7. Special education teachers make accommodations and modifications as indicated on my child's IEP.	3,895	2.5%	2.4%	2.6%	8.1%	23.3%	58.5%	2.5%	7.6%	89.9%	81.8%
8. General education teachers make accommodations and modifications as indicated on my child's IEP.	3,865	4.0%	3.3%	4.2%	11.8%	24.6%	46.8%	5.2%	11.6%	83.2%	71.4%
9. General education and special education teachers work together to assure that my child's IEP is being implemented.	3,864	3.6%	3.2%	3.8%	10.9%	23.5%	50.1%	4.9%	10.6%	84.5%	73.6%
10. In my child's school, administrators and teachers encourage parent involvement in order to improve services and results for children with disabilities.	3,940	4.5%	2.9%	4.5%	13.3%	23.5%	51.3%	±	11.9%	88.1%	74.8%
11. At meetings to develop my child's Individualized Education Program (IEP), I feel encouraged to give input and express my concerns.	3,920	3.1%	2.7%	2.8%	7.4%	19.3%	64.8%	±	8.5%	91.5%	84.1%
12. I understand what is discussed at meetings to develop my child's IEP.	3,914	1.3%	1.1%	2.3%	5.7%	22.8%	66.8%	±	4.6%	95.4%	89.6%
13. My concerns and recommendations are documented in the development of my child's IEP.	3,892	3.7%	2.7%	3.6%	8.5%	24.0%	57.5%	±	10.0%	90.0%	81.5%
14. My child's evaluation report is written in terms I understand.	3,892	2.2%	2.4%	3.3%	9.6%	25.8%	56.7%	±	7.9%	92.1%	82.5%
15. Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meetings for my child have been scheduled at times and places that met my needs.	3,913	2.4%	2.0%	3.3%	6.6%	20.8%	64.9%	±	7.8%	92.2%	85.7%
16. At my child's PPT, the school district proposed programs and services to meet my child's individual needs.	3,935	4.3%	4.1%	4.3%	11.4%	25.8%	50.2%	±	12.6%	87.4%	76.0%
17. When we implement my child's IEP, I am encouraged to be an equal partner with my child's teachers and other service providers.	3,901	3.5%	3.0%	4.6%	10.9%	23.4%	54.6%	±	11.2%	88.8%	77.9%
18. I have received a copy of my child's IEP within 10 school days after the PPT.	3,897	2.3%	1.5%	1.8%	4.1%	14.0%	76.3%	±	5.6%	94.4%	90.3%
19. If necessary, a translator was provided at the PPT meetings.	2,339	10.2%	0.8%	2.0%	7.8%	12.6%	66.6%	±	13.0%	87.0%	79.2%
20. The translation services provided at the PPT meetings were useful and accurate.	2,192	10.8%	0.8%	2.3%	8.9%	14.6%	62.6%	±	13.8%	86.2%	77.2%
21. The school district proposed the regular classroom for my child as the first placement option.	3,830	5.6%	2.0%	2.0%	4.3%	15.0%	63.1%	8.1%	9.5%	82.3%	78.1%

Table is continued on the next page.

## APPENDIX B.2: STATEWIDE SURVEY RESPONSE TABLE (CONTINUED)

	n	DISAGREE			AGREE			Don't Know	TOTALS		HIGH LEVEL AGREE
		Strongly	Moderately	Slightly	Slightly	Moderately	Strongly		DISAGREE	AGREE	
22. My child has been sent home from school, but not suspended, due to behavioral difficulties.	3,312	75.2%	5.0%	1.8%	3.2%	4.5%	10.3%	±	81.9%	18.1%	14.9%
23. My child has the opportunity to participate in school-sponsored activities such as field trips, assemblies and social events (dances, sports events).	3,882	2.4%	1.1%	1.2%	3.5%	10.3%	81.5%	±	4.7%	95.3%	91.8%
24. My child has the opportunity to participate in extracurricular school activities such as sports or clubs with children without disabilities.	3,780	6.0%	1.7%	2.7%	5.0%	11.0%	73.6%	±	10.4%	89.6%	84.6%
25. My child's school provides supports, such as extra staff, that are necessary for my child to participate in extracurricular school activities (for example, clubs and sports).	3,609	9.5%	2.5%	3.5%	6.8%	12.6%	40.1%	25.0%	15.5%	59.5%	52.7%
26. In the past year, I have attended parent training or information sessions (provided by my district, other districts, or agencies) that addressed the needs of parents and of children with disabilities.	3,502	46.1%	6.9%	7.3%	9.4%	10.3%	20.1%	±	60.3%	39.7%	30.3%
27. I am involved in a support network for parents of students with disabilities available through my school district or other sources.	3,421	52.6%	7.3%	7.9%	9.2%	8.7%	14.2%	±	67.8%	32.2%	23.0%
28. There are opportunities for parent training or information sessions regarding special education provided by my child's school district.	3,753	17.6%	4.6%	5.8%	9.5%	11.9%	18.4%	32.2%	28.0%	39.8%	30.3%
29. A support network for parents of students with disabilities is available to me through my school district or other sources.	3,700	14.7%	4.4%	5.2%	8.7%	10.5%	20.2%	36.2%	24.4%	39.4%	30.7%
30. My child is learning skills that will enable him/her to be as independent as possible.	3,834	4.8%	4.2%	4.4%	10.4%	25.2%	51.0%	±	13.4%	86.6%	76.2%
31. My child is learning skills that will lead to a high school diploma, further education, or a job.	3,735	5.7%	3.2%	4.0%	10.7%	22.5%	53.8%	±	12.9%	87.1%	76.4%
Only complete the following question if your child has transitioned from the early intervention Birth to Three System to Preschool in the past 3 years.											
32. I am satisfied with the school district's transition activities that took place when my child left Birth to Three.	543	8.3%	1.8%	2.4%	6.8%	15.3%	65.4%	±	12.5%	87.5%	80.7%
Only complete the following questions if your child was 15 years of age or older at his/her last PPT meeting.											
33. I am satisfied with the way secondary transition services were implemented for my child.	917	10.3%	5.3%	6.4%	12.0%	26.8%	39.1%	±	22.0%	78.0%	66.0%
34. When appropriate, outside agencies have been invited to participate in secondary transition planning.	848	13.0%	4.1%	5.5%	9.3%	13.1%	28.1%	26.9%	22.6%	50.5%	41.2%
35. The PPT introduced planning for my child's transition to adulthood.	893	13.5%	6.6%	7.1%	11.8%	25.3%	35.7%	±	27.2%	72.8%	61.0%
36. The school district actively encourages my child to attend and participate in PPT meetings.	911	5.9%	1.4%	2.6%	7.5%	18.4%	64.1%	±	10.0%	90.0%	82.5%
37. The PPT discussed an appropriate course of study at the high school for my child.	907	7.8%	4.3%	4.6%	9.7%	25.0%	48.5%	±	16.8%	83.2%	73.5%
38. The PPT developed individualized goals for my child related to employment/postsecondary education, independent living and community participation, if appropriate.	887	15.2%	5.2%	6.1%	14.1%	23.3%	36.1%	±	26.5%	73.5%	59.4%

Note: High level agree = "moderately agree" + "strongly agree."

± Not a response option for this survey item.