Woodbridge School District

Open Choice

Woodbridge Board of Education
October 19, 2026

Background and Purpose

- Open Choice is an interdistrict public school program intended to:
  - **improve academic achievement;**
  - **reduce racial, ethnic, and economic isolation; and**
  - **provide a choice of educational programs for public school students.**
- The program allows children from Hartford, **New Haven**, Bridgeport, Danbury, and Norwalk to voluntarily attend school in other districts that have space in their schools.
- Supported by state funding and administered by Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES).

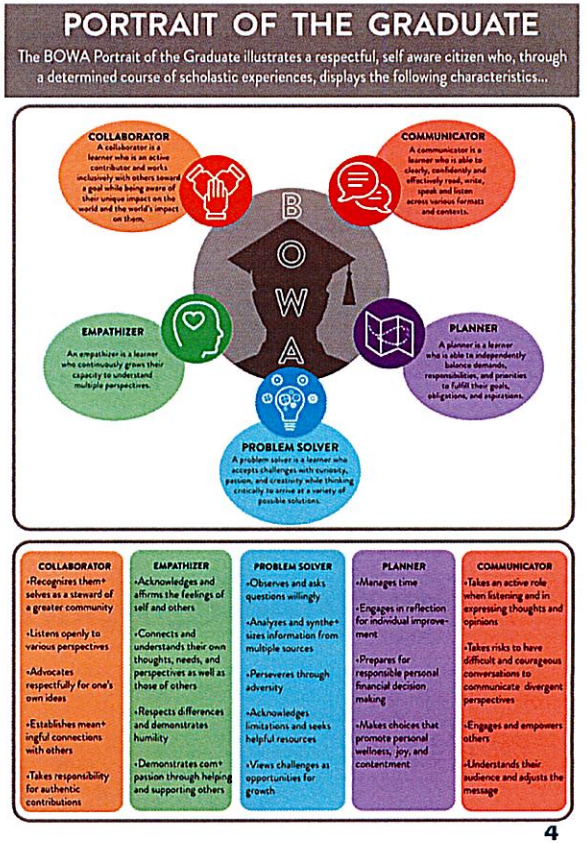
Background and Purpose

- Students living in New Haven have the opportunity to apply to attend public schools in the suburbs, where seats are available. Students must continue to reside in New Haven in order to be eligible for the program.
- Students living in the suburbs have the opportunity to apply to attend specific magnet schools in New Haven, where seats are available.
- A lottery is held to assign students who applied for available seats.

https://www.aces.org/schools-programs/aces-open-choice/about-open-choice
EdSight

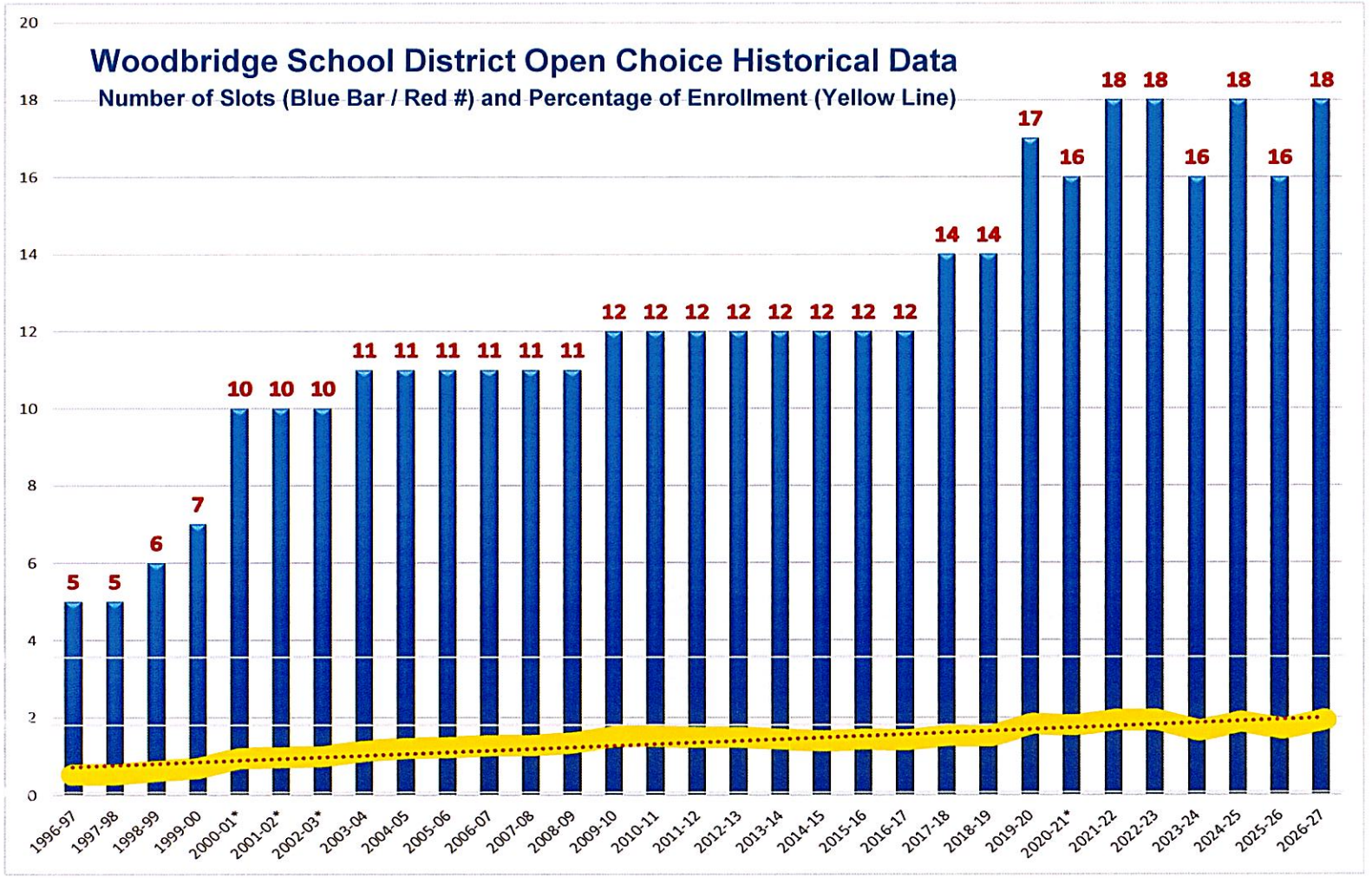
Program Goals and Alignment

- Promote educational equity and access.
- Foster relationships among diverse communities.
- Enhance academic and social outcomes for all students.
- Support regional collaboration and shared responsibility.
- Aligns with the WSD mission of equity, excellence, and belonging.
- Advances the district's vision of preparing flexible, lifelong learners and responsible global citizens.

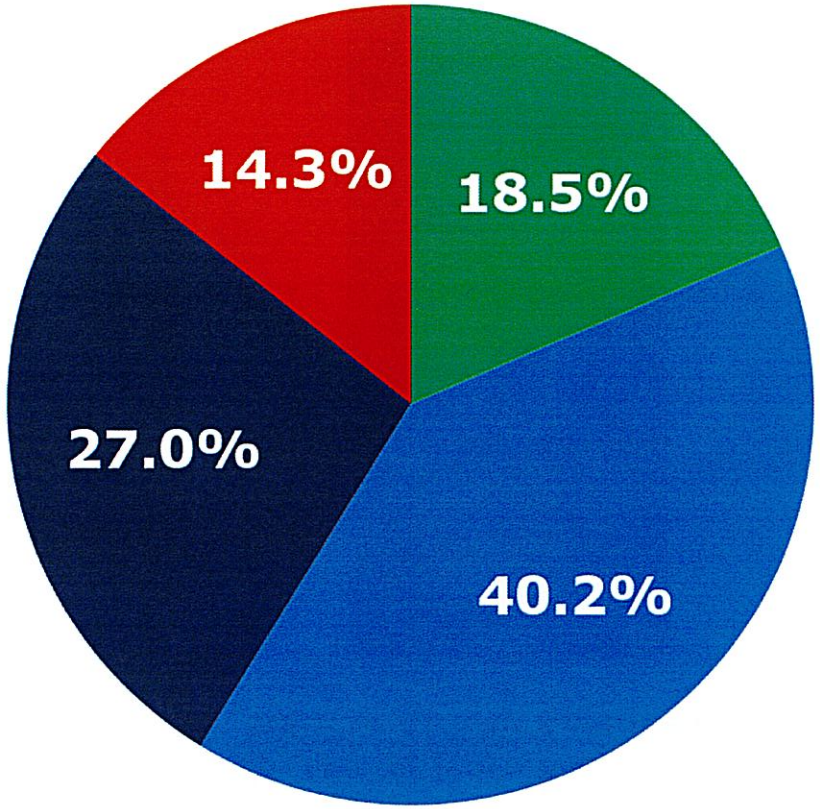


ACES Open Choice Participation by District 2026-2027

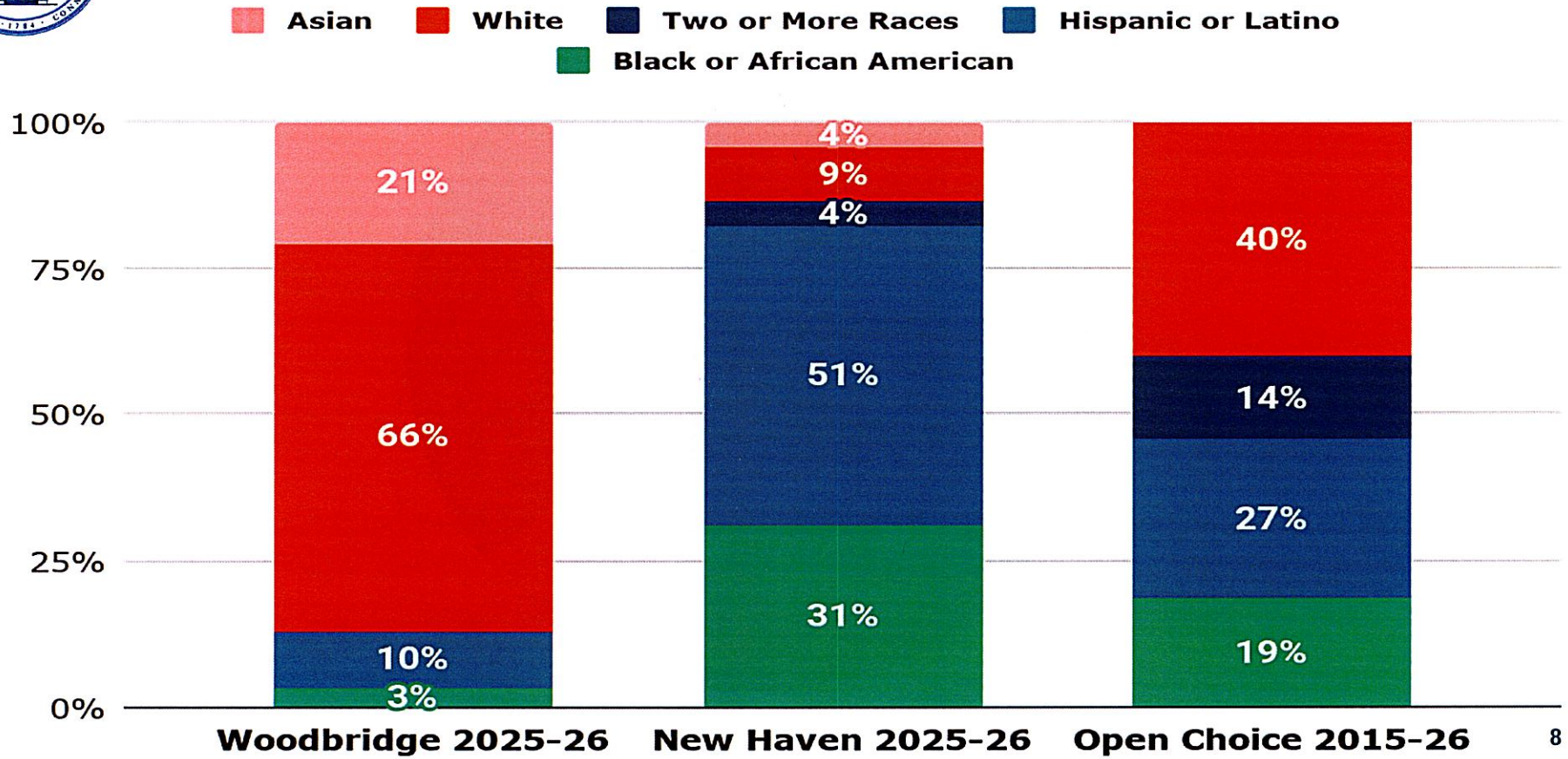
District	Total Slots	Enrollment* (2025-26)	% of Enrollment	District	Total Slots	Enrollment* (2025-26)	% of Enrollment
Ansonia	1	2390	0.04%	New Haven	69	17,837	0.39%
Bethany	5	433	1.15%	North Branford	22	1548	1.42%
Branford	58	2480	2.34%	North Haven	42	3135	1.34%
Cheshire	40	4348	0.92%	Orange	1	1274	0.08%
East Haven	2	2789	0.07%	Region 5	44	2136	2.06%
Guilford	21	3000	0.7%	Woodbridge	18	862	2.09%
Milford	11	5170	0.21%				


Woodbridge School District Open Choice Historical Data
Number of Slots (Blue Bar / Red #) and Percentage of Enrollment (Yellow Line)
0.5%
2.1%
5 5 6 7 10 10 10 11 11 11 11 11 11 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 14 14 17 16 18 18 16 18 16 18
1996-97 1997-98 1998-99 1999-00 2000-01* 2001-02* 2002-03* 2003-04 2004-05 2005-06 2006-07 2007-08 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12 2012-13 2013-14 2014-15 2015-16 2016-17 2017-18 2018-19 2019-20 2020-21* 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24 2024-25 2025-26 2026-27

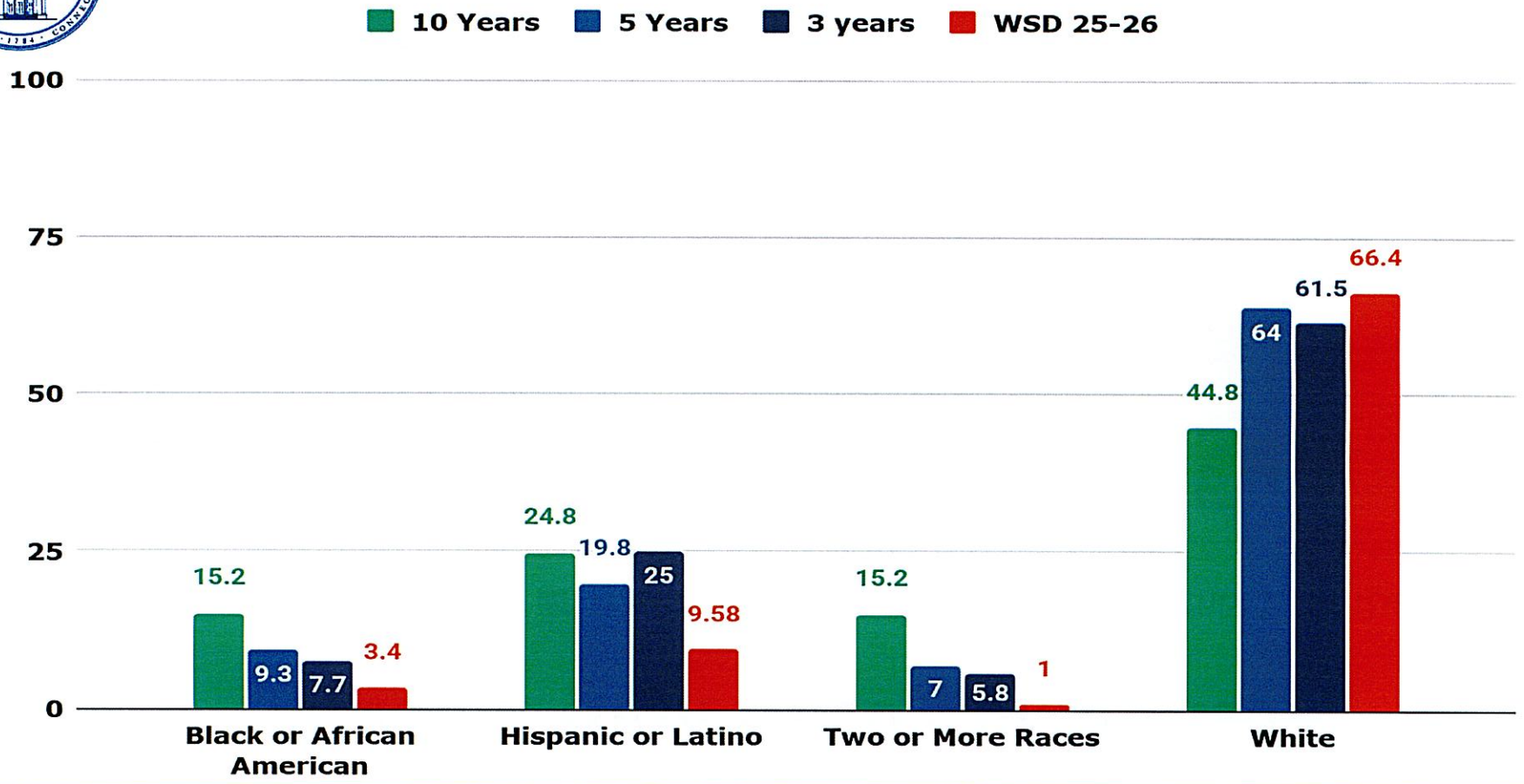
Open Choice Student Race and Ethnicity History since 2015



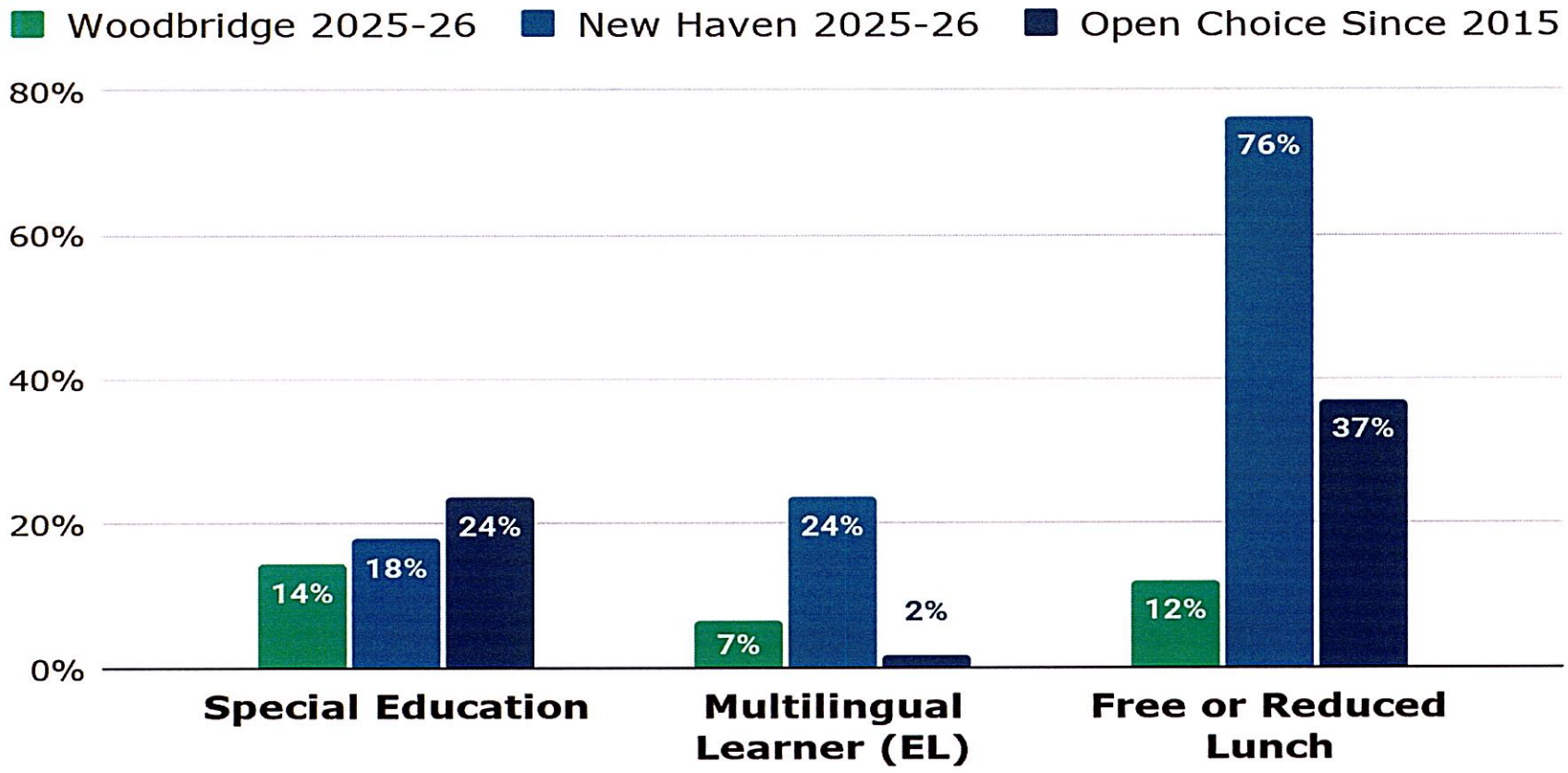
Student Race and Ethnicity



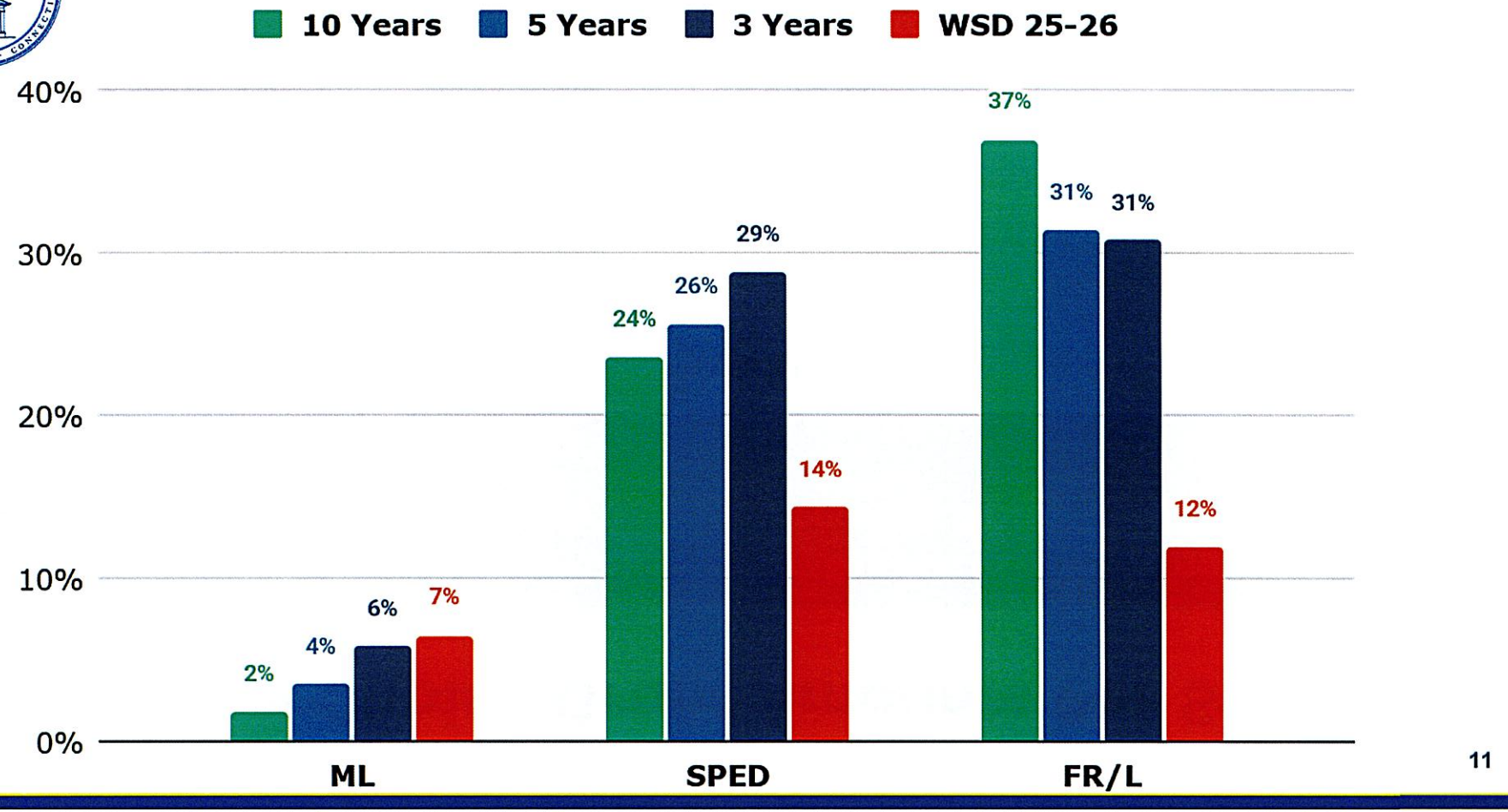
Open Choice Student Race and Ethnicity - 10, 5, and 3 Years



Student High Need Comparison



Open Choice Student High Need Comparison - 10, 5, and 3 Years

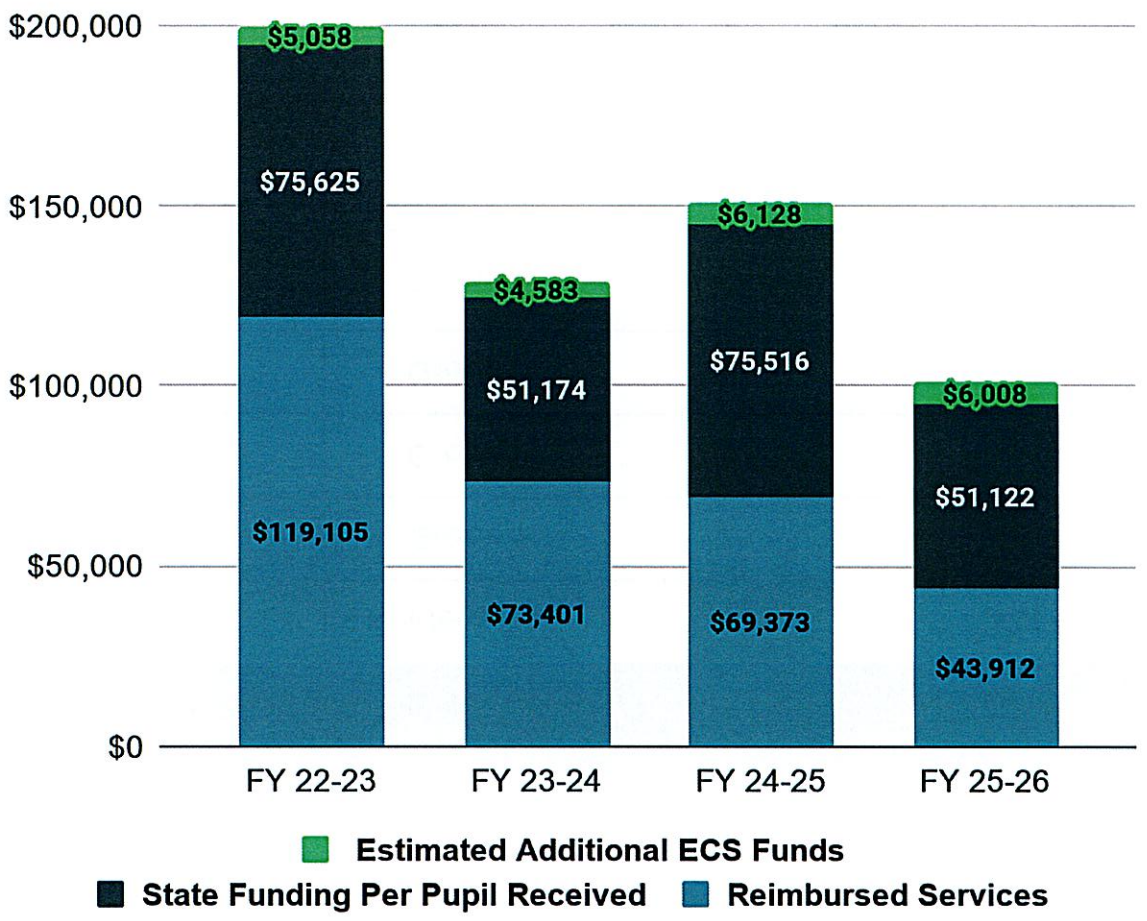


Open Choice Grant Amounts Per Student

Percentage of Receiving District's Total Enrollment Who are Open Choice Participants	Per-Student Grant Amount District Receiving Open-Choice Students
Less than 2%	$3,000
2% to less than 3%	$4,000
3% to less than 4%	$6,000
Greater than 4%	$8,000

**In addition, sending and receiving districts split the ECS allocation for each participating student. (18 participants equals 9 more students for the ECS allocation)*

Open Choice Receipts



ACES Open Choice At BRS

2026-2027			2027-2028		
Grade Level	**Total Slots**	**Average Class Size**	**Grade Level**	**Total Slots**	**Average Class Size**
Kindergarten	2	15.7	Kindergarten	**1**	17.17
Grade 1	3	15.0	Grade 1	2	15.7
Grade 2	3	18.8	Grade 2	3	15.0
Grade 3	1	18.0	Grade 3	3	18.8
Grade 4	3	20.0	Grade 4	1	18.0
Grade 5	5	20.1	Grade 5	3	20.0
Grade 6	**1**	**21.2**	Grade 6	5	20.1
Total	18		Total	18	