

Woodbridge School District

Open Choice

Woodbridge Board of Education
October 21, 2025





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**, and Bridgeport to voluntarily attend school in other districts that have space in their schools. (*Danbury and Norwalk are pilot programs*)
- Supported by state funding and administered by Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES).

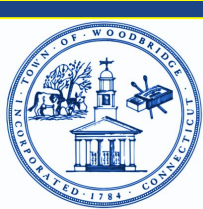


Background and Purpose

- 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

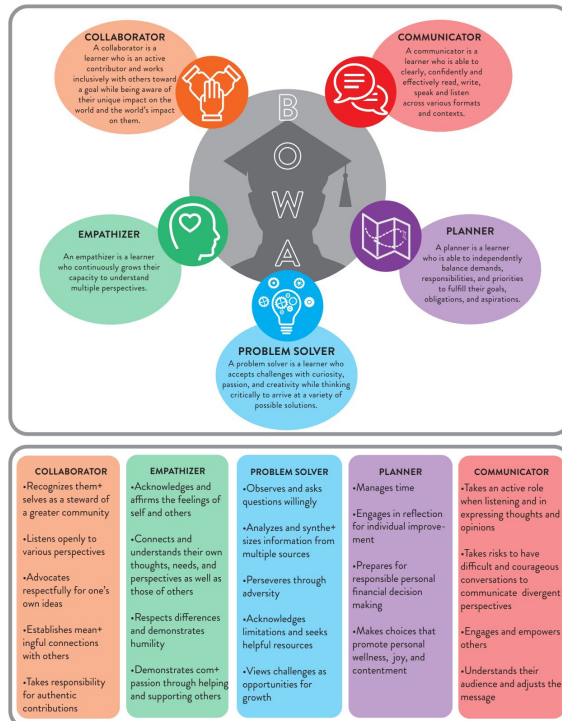


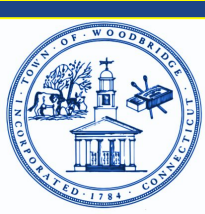
Program Goals and Alignment

- 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.

PORTRAIT OF THE GRADUATE

The BOWA Portrait of the Graduate illustrates a respectful, self aware citizen who, through a determined course of scholastic experiences, displays the following characteristics...



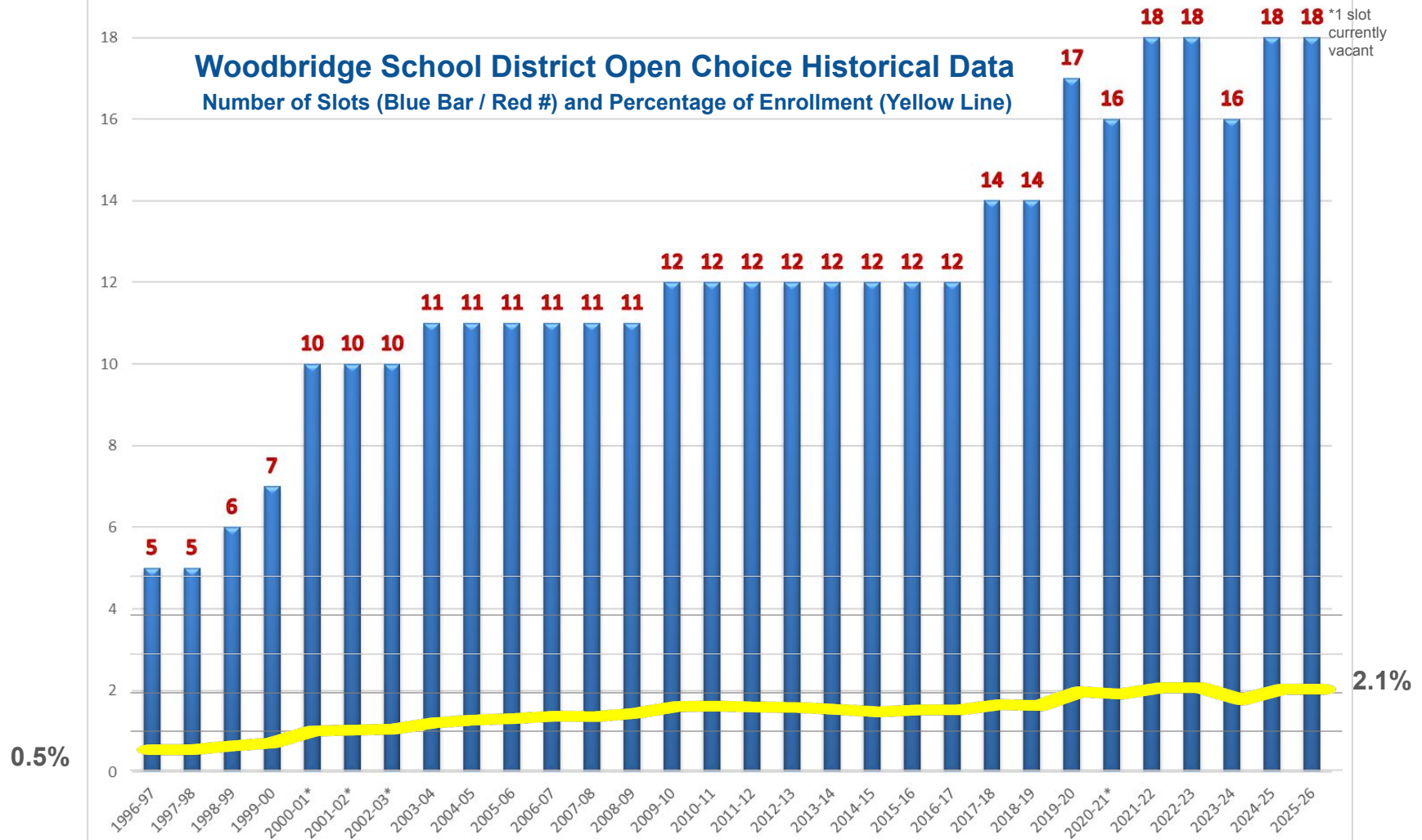


ACES Open Choice Participation by District 2025-2026

District	Total Slots	Enrollment	% of Enrollment	District	Total Slots	Enrollment	% of Enrollment
Ansonia	1	2404	0.04%	New Haven	77	18817	0.41%
Bethany	4	430	0.93%	North Branford	22	1546	1.42%
Branford	57	2567	2.22%	North Haven	50	3214	1.56%
Cheshire	39	4317	0.90%	Orange	1	1254	0.08%
East Haven	2	2857	0.07%	Region 5	45	2138	2.10%
Guilford	5	3080	0.16%	Woodbridge	18	862	2.09%
Milford	9	5218	0.17%				

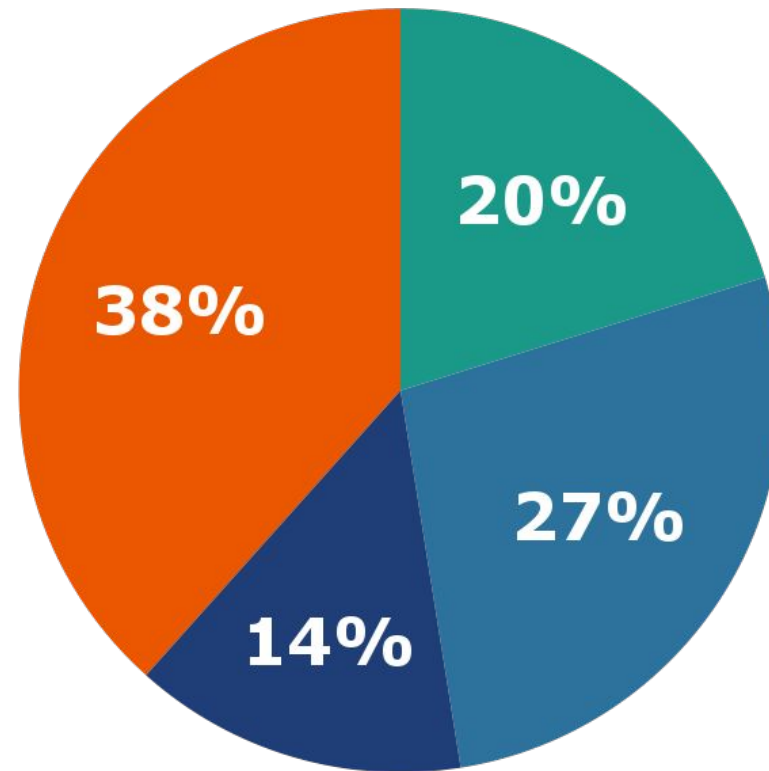
Woodbridge School District Open Choice Historical Data

Number of Slots (Blue Bar / Red #) and Percentage of Enrollment (Yellow Line)





Open Choice Student Race and Ethnicity 10 Year History

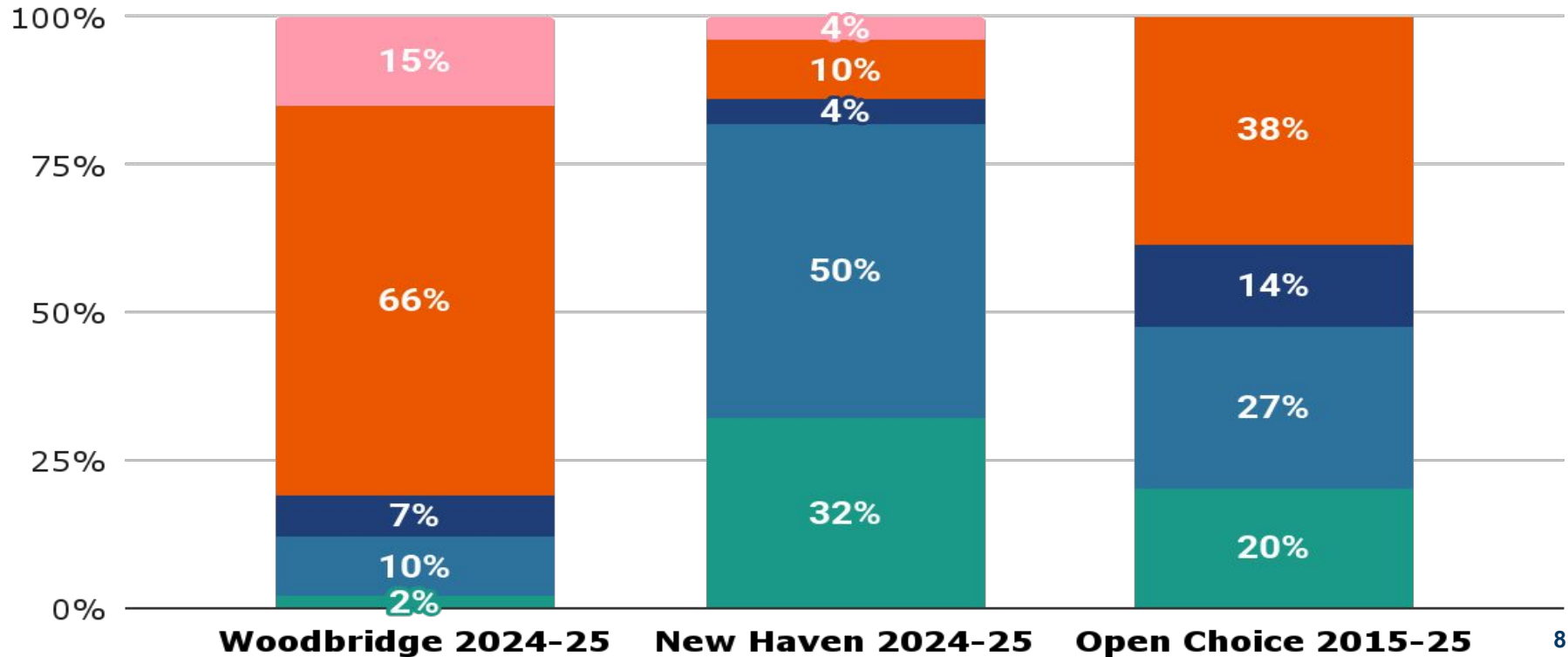


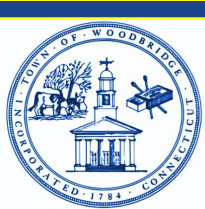
● Black or African American ● Hispanic or Latino
● Two or More Races ● White



Student Race and Ethnicity

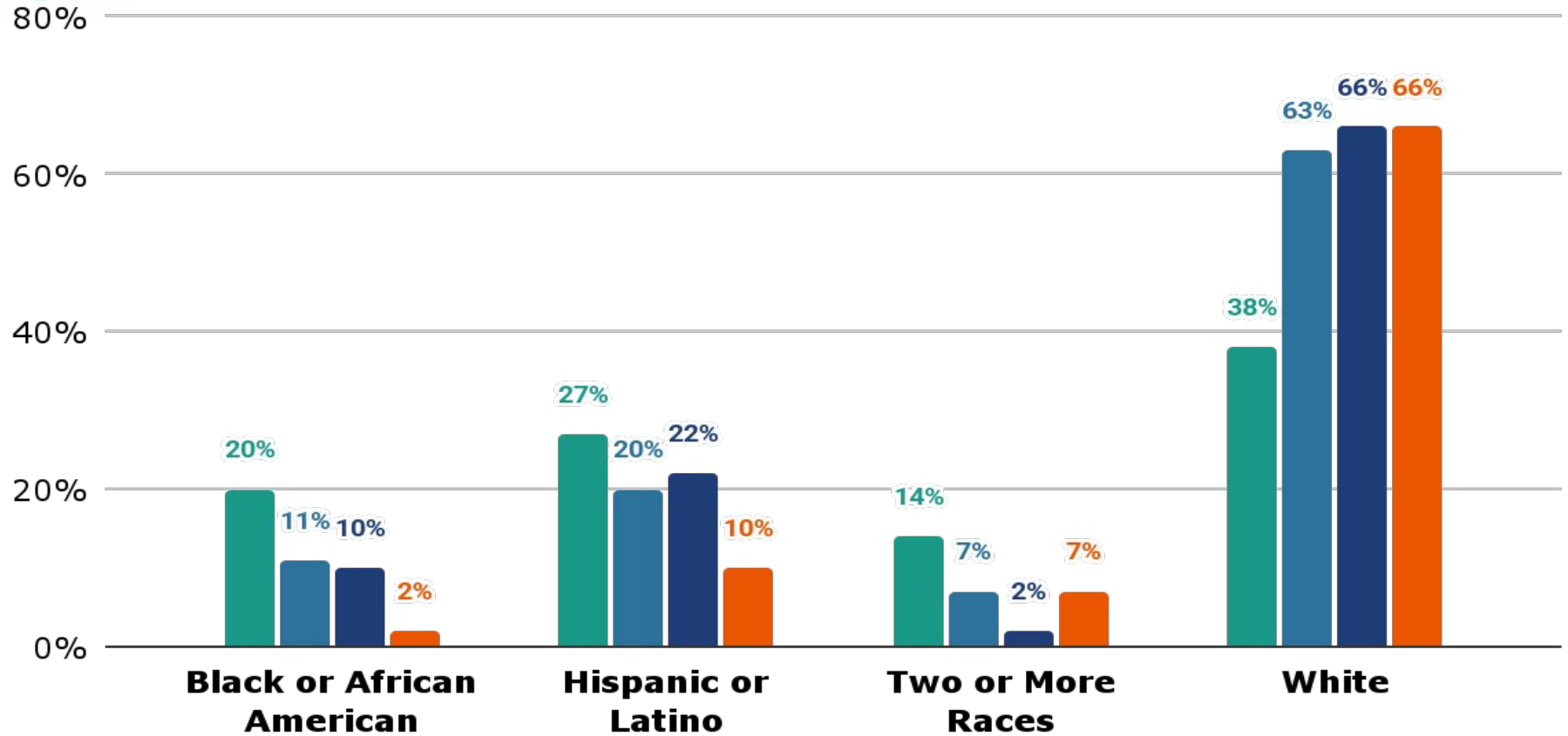
Asian White Two or More Races Hispanic or Latino
Black or African American

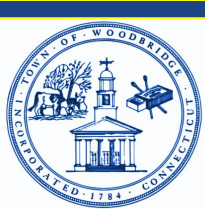




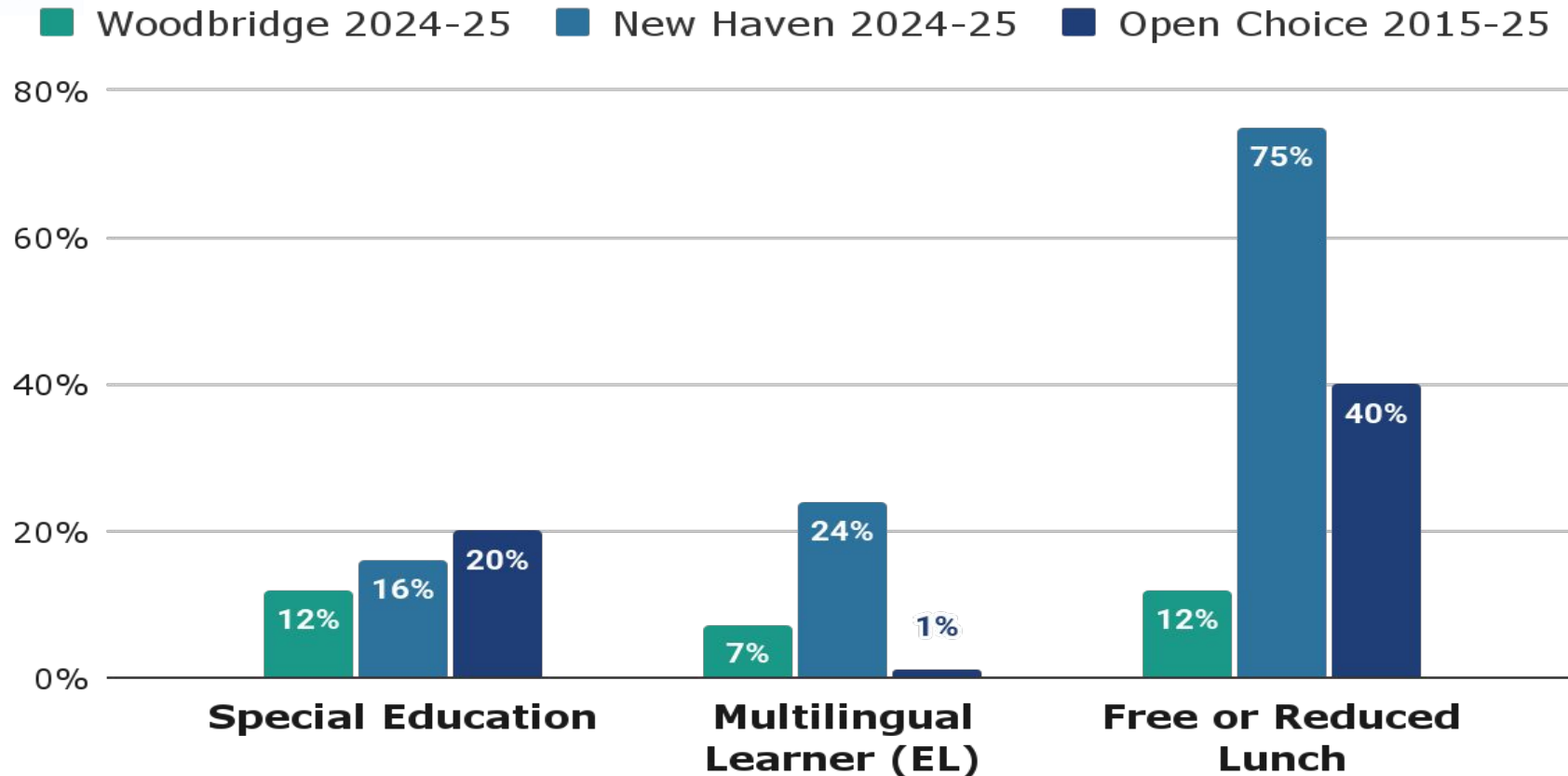
Open Choice Student Race and Ethnicity - 10, 5, and 3 Years

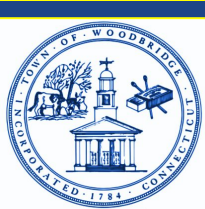
10 Years 5 Years 3 Years WSD 24-25



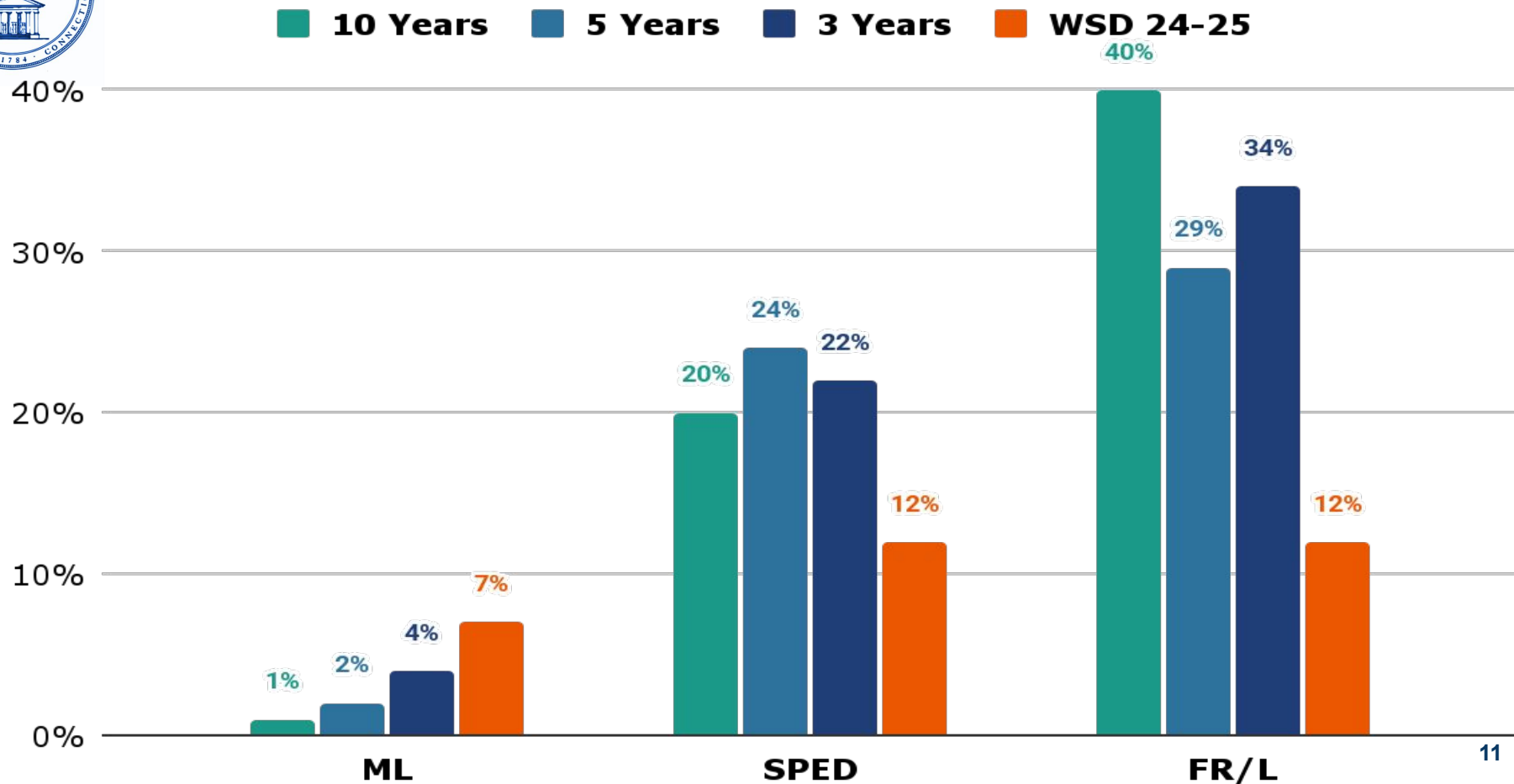


Student High Need Comparison





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





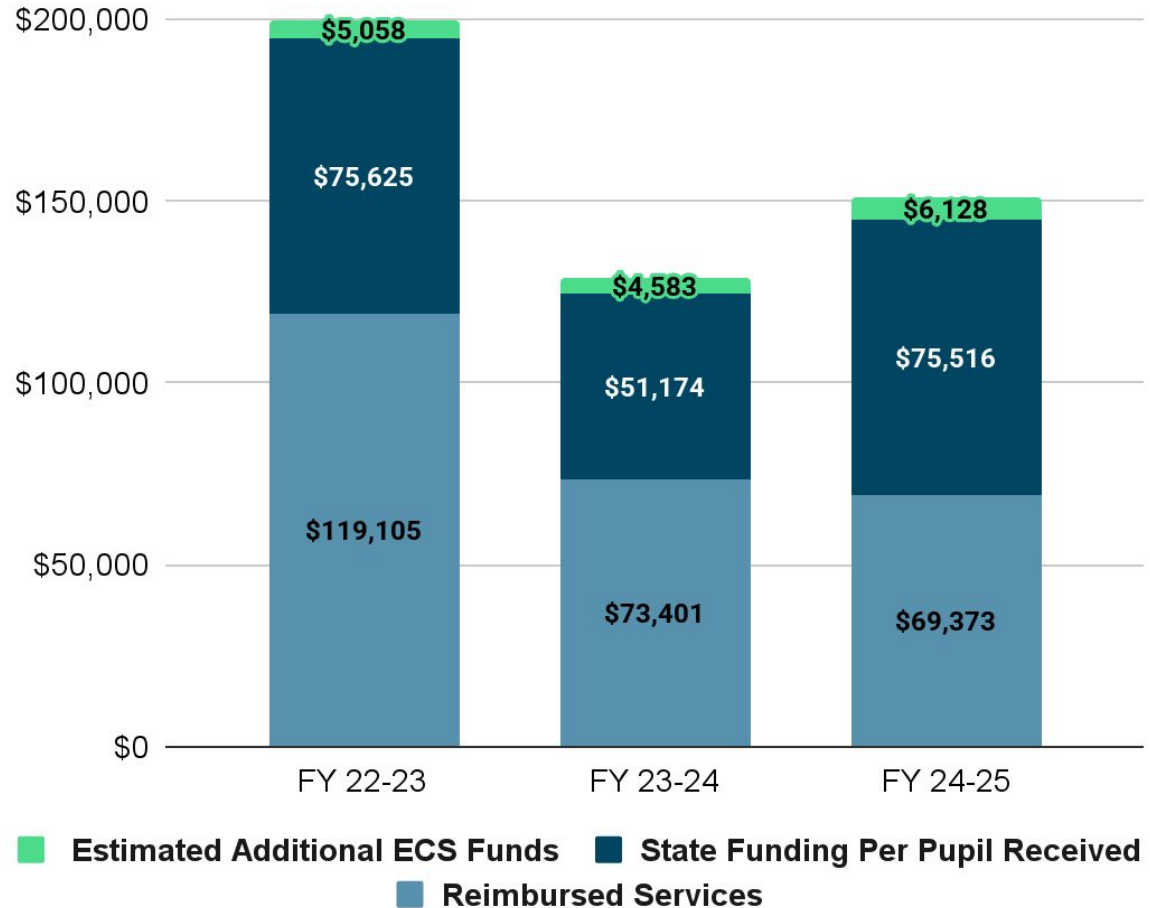
Open Choice Grant Amounts Per Student

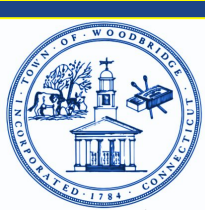
Percentage of Receiving District's Total Enrollment Who are Open Choice Participants	Per-Student Grant Amount District Receiving Open-Choice Students
Less than 2%	\$3,000
2% to less than 3%	\$4,000
3% to less than 4%	\$6,000
Greater than 4%	\$8,000

**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

2025-2026

2026-2027

Grade Level	Total Slots	Average Class Size	Grade Level	Total Slots	Average Class Size
Kindergarten	3	17.00	Kindergarten	1 (or 2)	17.17
Grade 1	3	17.40	Grade 1	3 (or 4)	16.25
Grade 2	1	18.83	Grade 2	3	17.00
Grade 3	3	20.00	Grade 3	1	18.83
Grade 4	5	19.67	Grade 4	3	20.00
Grade 5	1	21.17	Grade 5	5	20.00
Grade 6	1	20.83	Grade 6	1	21.17
Total	17		Total	18	

Recommendation to