

# Graduates In Bloom



**Alliance District Grant  
Board of Education  
Finance Committee  
September 24, 2024**



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# Overview

## **Purpose**

To inform the Board of Education Finance Committee on the Alliance District Grant

## **Process**

Review legislative requirements and BPS resource allocation

## **Payoff**

Understand how Alliance Grant operates to support district improvement efforts



# What is an Alliance District?

- Alliance Districts are 33 of Connecticut's lowest-performing school districts according to the state's Next Generation Accountability System, which is comprised of 12 indicators intended to show how well a district or school is preparing its students for success in and outside of the classroom.
- Any district designated as an Alliance District will be labeled as such for five years.
- Alliance Districts are identified through a four-step process and are eligible for additional state education aid and programmatic supports to help improve the district's ability to increase student outcomes and close the opportunity gap.

# Alliance District Requirements:

- Yearly, Alliance District must submit a detailed plan to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) describing how the district will use Alliance funds to improve student performance.
- Plan must be approved by the commissioner of the CSDE.
- Alliance District funding is released to a district.
- The CSDE reviews the district's progress toward its goals annually to determine whether the district is making sufficient progress for funding to be continued.

# Alliance District Plan Requirements

According to statute, a district's Alliance District Plan may include, but is not limited to, the following strategies:

- Tiered interventions for schools, based on the need of the specific school;
- K-3 foundational reading programs;
- Additional learning time, (extended day or extended year)
- A talent strategy to attract, retain, promote, and bolster staff performance in the form of performance evaluations or other indicators of success;
- Training for staff, administration, and teachers on different teacher evaluation models;
- Early childhood education provider coordination (such as HeadStart);
- Government and community programming for student support and wraparound services;
- Strategies to attract and recruit minority teachers and administrators;
- Enhancements of bilingual education programming;
- Entering into the model school district responsibilities agreement; and
- District-specific goals such as improving bilingual education programming.

# Alliance District -

## Additional Accountability and Support Measures:

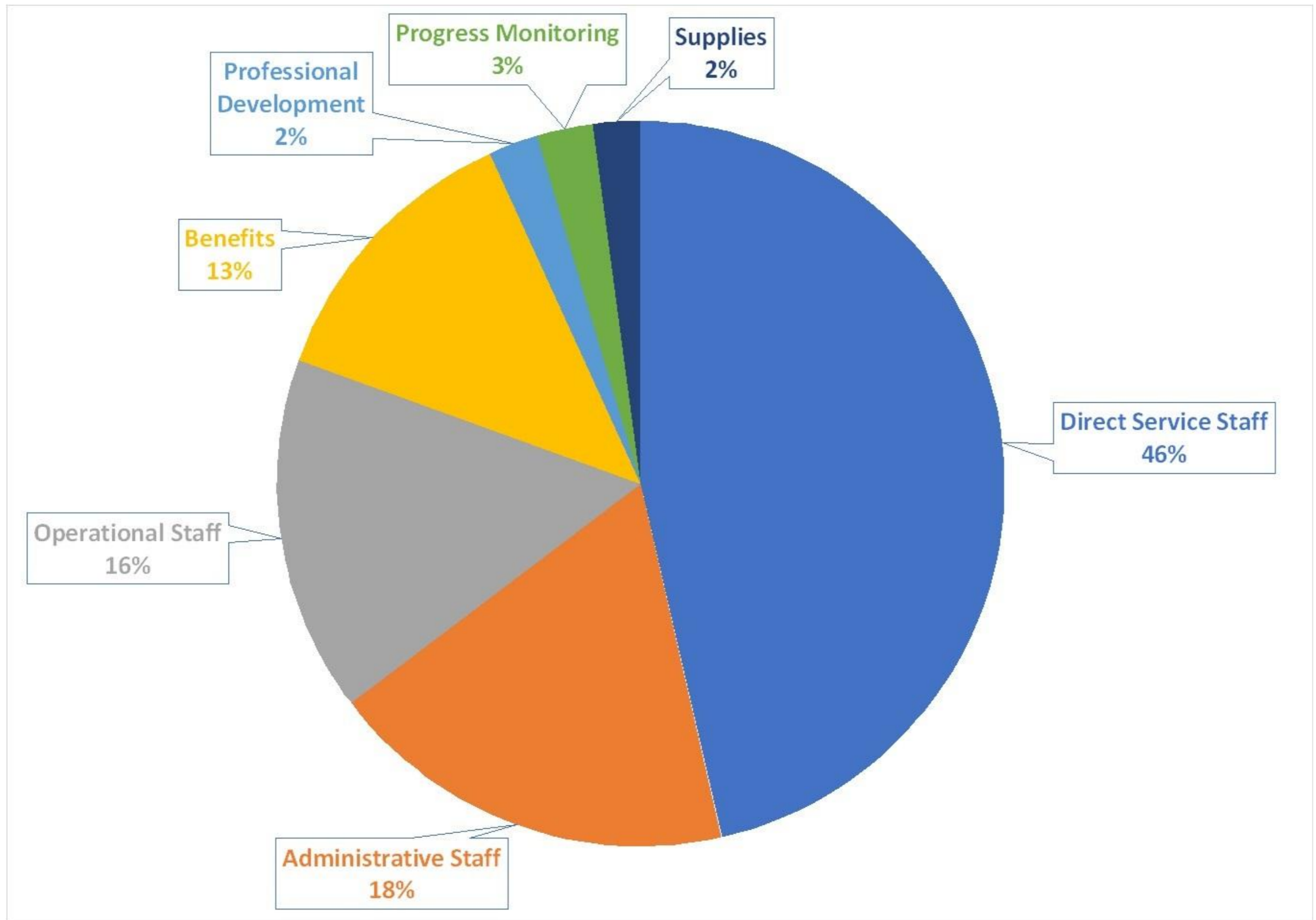
- Plan review and approval

- Monitoring Meetings three times a year
  - Progress Monitoring Tracking
  - Collaborative agenda
  - Fiscal Spend down and Revisions

- Alliance District Symposiums

- Priority to Support Opportunities

# 2024-2025 Alliance Grant Budget Allocations





# Examples from Each Funding Area - Staffing

## → Direct Service Staff:

- ◆ Academic Interventionists and Coaches
- ◆ Gifted and Talented Teachers
- ◆ Tutors (EL, BHS, CAIS, Laurel)
- ◆ Family Engagement and Career Development

## → Administrative Staff

- ◆ District Level School Improvement Coordination
- ◆ BHS Administration

## → Operational Staff

- ◆ Student and Performance Staff
- ◆ Tech Staff
- ◆ Grants Management

## → Benefits for all staff

# Examples from Each Funding Area - Other Areas of Support

- Progress Monitoring:
  - ◆ Software for Benchmark Assessments
- Professional Development
  - ◆ Building Thinking Classrooms
  - ◆ PD WINS
  - ◆ Laurel Literacy Academy
  - ◆ Instructional Coach Training
- Supplies
  - ◆ Supplies supporting PD (PD WINS, Building Thinking Classrooms, Laurel Literacy Academy)
  - ◆ Family Engagement and Career Development
  - ◆ Office of School Improvement

# Next Steps

- October 8, 2024- BPS BOE Agenda Item
- CSDE Alliance Grant Submission

Thank you

