



Collaborative for Colchester's Children

HEALTHY, HAPPY & SUCCESSFUL CHILDREN

What's New!

Obtained \$40K Discovery grant to continue C3 work

Communication plan developed

Provided scholarships for campers in need at Parks and Rec's Camp Aboyer

Funded purchase of more Book It Kits as well as board book sets for Lap Sit program at the Cragin Memorial Library

Provided Cycle of Intentional Teaching training to area providers

Awarded a \$12,500 grant to hire a Sustainability Consultant

Received \$50K grant for Early Literacy Partnership

Annual Report July 2011 – June 2012

Collaborative Strengthens Its Infrastructure

Although we continued our efforts to ensure all children in Colchester are healthy, happy and successful, this year was about defining and strengthening the Collaborative itself. Members of the Communication team created a plan that will increase awareness of C3, schedule speakers for presentations, and create marketing materials. Another task force reviewed our options for C3 as a non-profit entity. It was decided that our current status as a

collaborative partnership was the best fit at this time. A Sustainability Team developed an action plan and began the search for a consultant to help us develop long range goals and a resourcing plan to ensure our continued success into the future. Additionally, C3 completed a comprehensive survey of families with young children to determine if we remain focused on the right areas. The resulting data verified that our emphasis

matches the needs and desires of Colchester families. Finally, C3 finished the year off with an energizing and productive Board Retreat in which we discussed organizational operation as well as visualized the many accomplishments of C3 to date. As a result of the retreat, many members expressed a renewed sense of purpose as part of C3.

Joan O'Donnell
Board Chair

Staff

Shelly Flynn
Coordinator

Dawn LePage
Office Professional

Michele Morgan
Communication Coordinator

Cindy Praisner, Program
Accountability Coordinator

Kathy Slade
Program Coordinator

The Power of Partnerships

C3's strong working relationship with the Colchester Public Schools enabled the two groups to quickly come together for a new grant opportunity. In mid-June a panel of twelve, consisting of school staff, the Board of Education Chair, and C3 members took part in an interview to present a comprehensive and collaborative plan for meeting early

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

literacy needs in Colchester. In August, we were notified that Colchester was one of six districts in Connecticut selected to receive \$50,000 for its Early Literacy Partnership! The funds are being awarded by the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund, The Children's Fund of Connecticut, & the CT Department of Education.

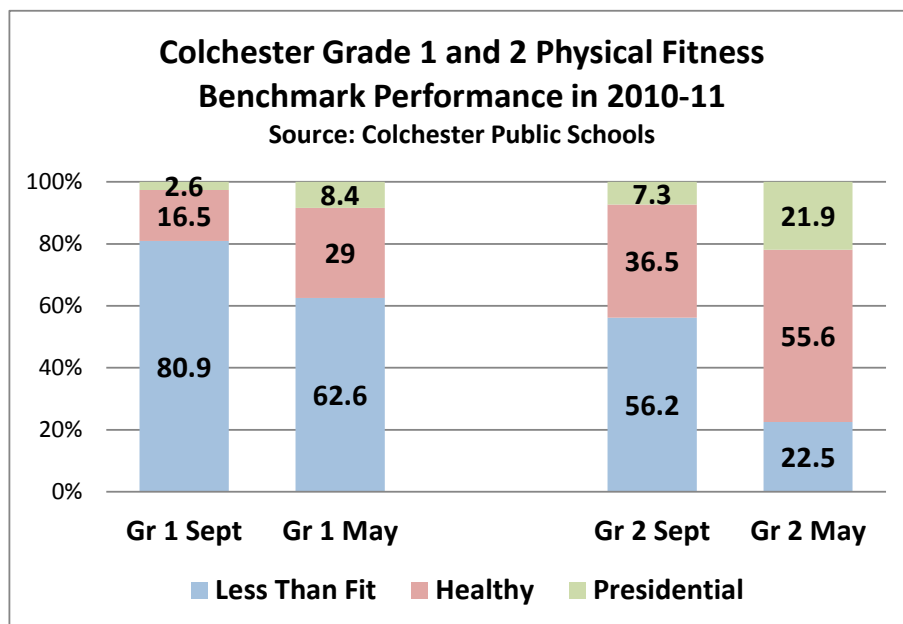
We use the following indicators to see if we are getting results...

We want Colchester children to be healthy.

Did you know?

- Colchester Public Schools is now calculating the Body Mass Index of children in grades K-3. For the past two years, 25% of our children grades K-3 have measured as overweight or obese.
- In collaboration with C3, Colchester Public Schools has instituted its own physical fitness tests for grades one and two beginning in 2010-2011.

The tests will give us an earlier look at the fitness levels of children in Colchester. Presidential Fitness testing benchmarks are used to assess children in grades 1 and 2 as the budget allows. The blue areas show the percentage of children scoring less than fit for their age.

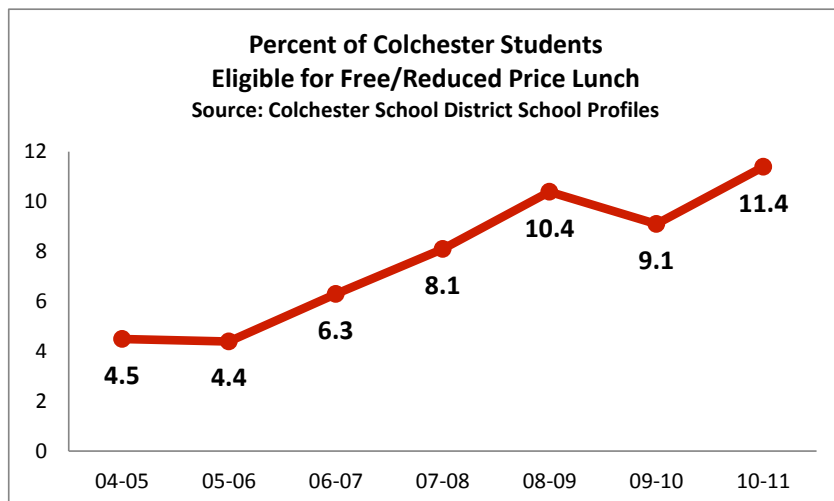


We want Colchester children to be happy.

Did you know?

Our best indicators for happiness are:

- A measure of economic security and stress— students eligible for receiving free and reduced lunch. In Colchester, the number of children eligible in 2010-2011 continued to climb to 350 students.

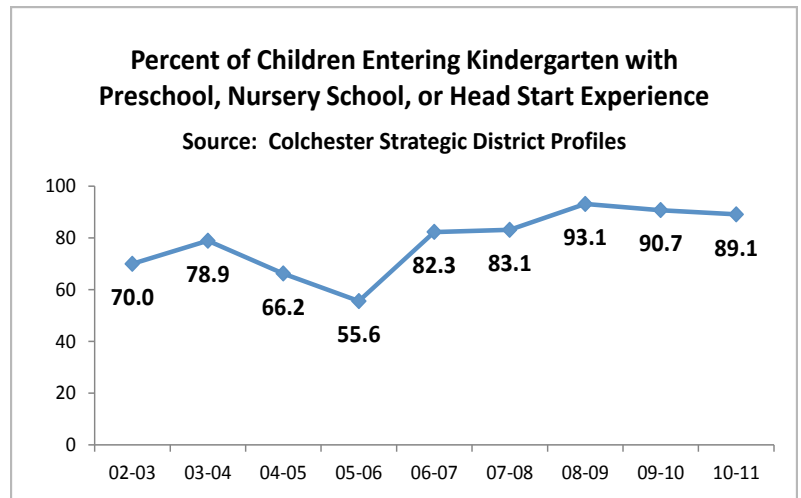


- The percent of K-3 students with multiple discipline referrals helps identify how many young children are displaying actions that suggest a need for more support. After an upward trend was halted last year, the number of students with two or more referrals continued to decrease slightly to 8.1% in 2010-2011.

We want Colchester children to be successful.

Did you know?

- Participation in a quality early childhood program can help prepare children for later schooling and life. Through the work of the School Readiness Council and other C3 efforts, the percent of children with a preschool experience remains high. In 2010-11, the tuition for 23 students was subsidized through our School Readiness grant.



- Academic success is measured using the results of the third grade Connecticut Mastery Tests in reading, writing, and math. Students who score at goal demonstrate extensive knowledge and consistent performance on grade level content. Using trend lines on data for 2006-2011, student performance on CMTs has been flat for both math and writing while reading has shown a slightly increasing trend. We also track childrens' performance at the start of Kindergarten through the use of DIBELS, AIMSweb, and the Kindergarten Inventory.

We want a Collaborative that is effective and strong.

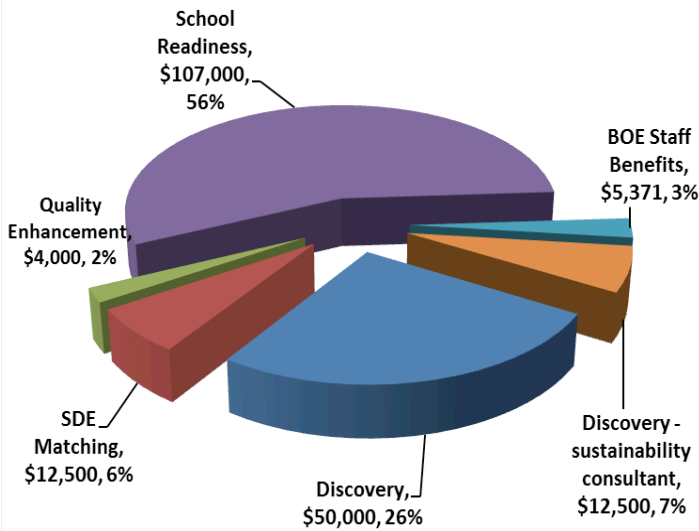
Did you know?

During 2011-2012, our part-time staff and 64 members accomplished the following:

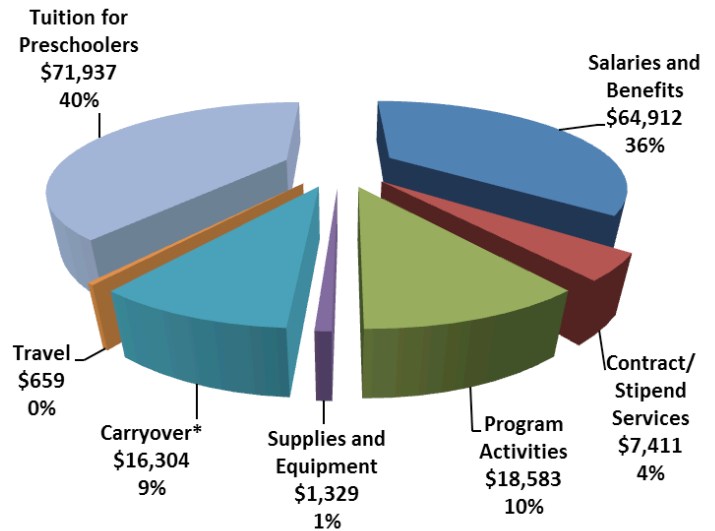
- Obtained \$191,371 in private and State grants to be used for building a stronger organization, subsidizing preschool tuitions, and providing programs and services to young children and their families.
- Promoted fitness and fun through our Family Fun Day. Over 60 families participated in several physical activities while one in 5 said they would "change an action or attitude" as a result of their participation.
- Developed our website-www.colchesterC3.org. It had 230 page views within 48 sessions last year. The site now contains information about C3, meeting minutes, things to do, listing of local providers, School Readiness applications, events and more. Spread the word!
- Created a facebook presence. With 71 likes and an average reach of 33 individuals for posts, we are striking out into the world of social media. Like us and keep updated on C3 efforts and events.
- Began providing partners with marketing materials– you may have seen our logo in some area windows!
- Organized another successful Preschooler's Expo in partnership with MOMS Club of Colchester. About 225 individuals attended where they were able to receive information and participate in a free developmental screening.

Financial Information for 2011-2012

Monetary Revenues Total: \$191,371



Expenses Total: \$191,371



*Carryover includes funds that were not spent in 2011-2012 that are earmarked for use in 2012-2013.

Volunteers are the backbone of C3. Contact Shelly Flynn to find out how you can help!

sflyn330@colchesterct.org or 860-537-0717

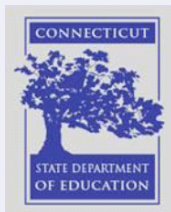
Thank you to our supporters!

Grantors:



*William Caspar
Graustein
Memorial Fund*

**Connecticut State
Department of
Education**



Partners with MOUs*:

- C.A.S.T.L.E.
- Colchester Board of Education
- Colchester Board of Selectmen
- Colchester Elementary School PTO
- Colchester Parks and Recreation
- Colchester Youth & Social Services
- Cragin Memorial Library
- TVCCA
- UCFS
- William W. Backus Hospital

* Memorandum of Understanding

Visit us online at:

www.colchesterC3.org



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**Collaborative for
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