



Give Me
An **A!**

Welcome Family & Friends!

CABLE

ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION CENTER

Summer
Graduation &
Achievement Day
Celebration

Friday,
August 14, 2015
11:00 a.m.
in the
Sweetman
Auditorium



High School Graduates

- ♦ Timothy C.
Thomaston
- ♦ Michael G.
Bristol
- ♦ John "Jack" S.
Region 12

Eighth Grade Graduate

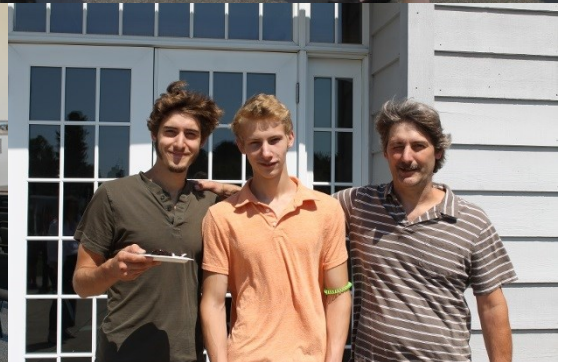
- ♦ Robert H.
Waterbury

The summer
school program
culminated with a

Summer Graduation & Achievement Day Celebration at Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center on Friday, August 14th. Mr. Obst jovially and seriously presented three students their high school diplomas, and one student came to the podium to graduate eighth grade. Family and friends of CJR joined in with staff, students and teachers to congratulate the graduates and many students for various and numerous achievement awards. The celebration was followed by a cookout buffet and refreshments in the courtyard.

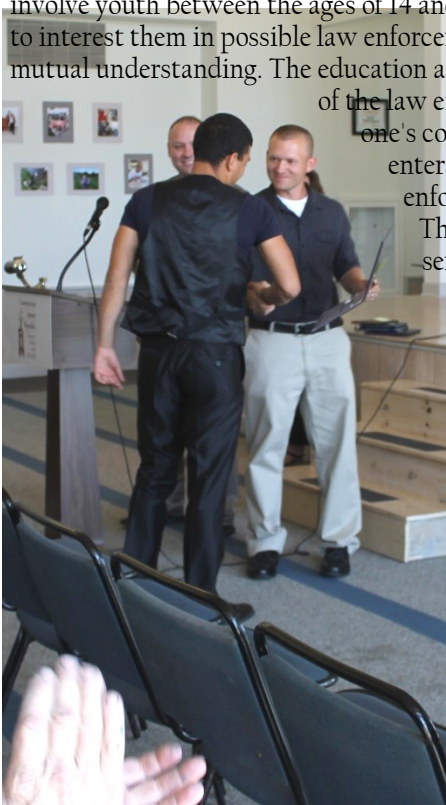
Empty Bowls

Avery volunteering at the Empty Bowls fundraiser Tuesday evening, October 13th. The event was held at the Elks Club in Torrington, CT to benefit the soup kitchen.



Devonn completes Police Explorers program in Torrington

Special recognition also was given to Devonn C. during the Summer Achievement Day event. Way to go, Devonn! The intent of Law Enforcement Exploring is to educate and involve youth between the ages of 14 and 20 in police operations, to interest them in possible law enforcement careers and to build mutual understanding. The education aspect provides knowledge of the law enforcement function in one's community whether one enters the field of law enforcement as a career or not. Through involvement, and service to the community, the Explorer program establishes an awareness of the complexities of police service.



Independent Life Skills

Personal Finance Seminar Talk



In conjunction with the Introduction to Personal Finance unit of study, Ms. Teresa Spring, Bank Center Manager from Webster Bank, Litchfield, visited for a talk on "General Banking 101." Topics discussed included: budgeting, money management, types of accounts, availability of loans and scholarships, and ATM transactions.

Ms. Spring explained basic comparisons of savings banks, commercial banks and credit unions, and differences between debit and credit cards. The students asked pertinent questions and were given checkbook/savings book registers as tools of the trade.

Sewing Skills with Diane Deroy Each student received a kit containing a needle, needle threader, three different styled buttons and a cloth swatch. After some practice, students were taking on Ms. Deroy's Attaching Challenge, using small needles to adhere 2-hole buttons, 4-hole buttons and shank buttons to their swatch. Rainier came out on top of the challenge, Nice!

- Ms. Denver, Resource & Life Skills



Resource Classroom

There is such a variety happening in our class that I don't know where to start! The year has been off to a great start for all of us. Upper Middle School students finished a unit on the ocean and are currently working on Explorers in Social Studies. They built volcanoes out of clay and a replica of one of Columbus' boats out of milk cartons. They both came out great! In Math, students have been learning about the x and y axis and about Order of Operations. One English class has been reading The Phantom Tollbooth while learning about idioms. In the afternoons, the Integrated

English and American Studies class watched the movie 42 (about Jackie Robinson's life) and discussed Civil Rights in sports. We have also started the book The Madman of Piney Woods.

- Ms. Olinger, Resource & Academics Teacher



Pope Francis Visits Philadelphia

Last weekend of September 2015

Through a Red Cross invitation, Dr. Martin volunteered in The City of Brotherly Love where Pope Francis visited. In preparation for her trip, many interested students and staff



members joined in making and signing a poster-sized card with personalized well-wishes, sincere thoughts and thank yous. The CJR welcome card was displayed in the spectator area where 475 Red Cross volunteer workers, recruited from all around the United States, were gathered.

The Red Cross provides mental health services to individuals and communities that endure or are affected by emotional, physical, sometimes catastrophic, life-changing events.



James K. Obst, Director of Education and Student Services

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding your son's education, always feel free to contact me at 860-567-9423 ext. 211 or at jobst@cjrjyouth.org or CJR's Director of School Operations, Chris Cook, at 860-567-9423 ext.269 or at ccook@cjrjyouth.org or CJR's Director of Special Education, Jan Calabro, at 860-567-9423 ext.289 or at jcalabro@cjrjyouth.org

Cable Academic and Vocational Education Center (CAVEC)

at the Connecticut Junior Republic provides academic, vocational and related educational services.

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

One fourth of our year has flown by already with many exciting things happening and more yet to come.

The Summer Program was a great success with many new accomplishments for our students. Fifty acres of hay were harvested for our animals and over 600 plants were planted in our gardens, including the bulk being used for our pumpkins and related produce to be sold in our market. Cattle were prepared for show and sale in the fall. Many hours were spent keeping our facility looking terrific and making sure our animals were well-cared for.

The first quarter is also a busy time on the farm. Students learned about the fundamentals of showing cattle. Our CJR bull calf, "Banner", was crowned Bull Calf Champion at the Goshen Fair in large part due to the special care and attention he received. Three head of Angus cows were sold at the "Cow Power" Purebred Angus Auction. Very successful! Our breeding program has improved greatly and is producing cattle which are sought after by many fellow breeders. Students played an integral part in the preparation of these sale animals which resulted in our cattle being stand out entries.

The Ag classes have been learning skills in event planning as the Ag trade plays a large role in preparing for our annual "Cars for Kids" fundraiser, which occurred over the Columbus Day weekend.

Our CJR Farm Market is an exciting place during October weekends. The hard work of the students made it a resounding success.

Moving into November our students will learn skills in fall clean up, equipment maintenance and repair, agriculture construction, firewood production and breaking and training techniques for cattle.



Our kids have much to be proud of during their time on the farm and certainly would love to show anyone that is interested.

Until next writing, we hope Mother Nature goes easy on us during the winter and that everyone has a happy and healthy end to their year.

As always, please remember... No Farms, No Food.

- Mr. Elwell, Agricultural Science & Farm Manager



Exploratory & Plant Science

were involved with many hands-on projects in order to provide wonderful fresh produce from the many farm gardens. CJR grown food items have been and currently are enjoyed every day by having our outstanding chefs in the dining hall create outstanding meals for the whole school community to enjoy. This gives the students in this class confidence that hard work and perseverance bestow rewards for so many. In addition to enhancing our chef's menus, 2015 fall crops were sold at the farm stand and included many varieties of pumpkins, gourds, winter squash and assorted root crops (such as potatoes) that will be enjoyed throughout the winter months.

Students decorated the school grounds with award winning harvest displays that featured our fall mums, flowering cabbage and kale. The decorative plants were cared for all summer by students in this trade.

As fall is upon us, the greenhouse is in full bloom with beautiful poinsettia and tropical plants. The poinsettias are planted during the first week of school and ready for sale by Thanksgiving. Students are also working on a Holiday Wreath Sale at the farm. Each wreath is decorated by students and we all look forward to the pleasant aroma of pine. The seasonal wreaths will be offered throughout the campus and as decorations for the school. Proceeds go directly back into school programs.

The tilapia program is progressing very strongly with production of offspring at the farm and adult fish reaching a length of 10" in just 8 months. This amount of growth can only be achieved with daily care by all students to maintain optimum health.

As with many Exploratory class projects, such success could not be achieved without the outstanding support of Mr. Elwell's ag-science students, who go to great lengths to help out in so many ways. Until next time, thanks for reading our amazing school newsletter!

- Mr. Budny, Exploratory & Plant Science



American Studies ☆☆☆

This year in American Studies at The Connecticut Junior Republic, we have been studying America's progression as a growing nation throughout the years. As the first quarter comes to an end, our students have engaged in class discussions, map labeling, current news, and making historical connections to modern era issues. Students that are enrolled in periods 6, 7, and 8 are taking part in a STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math)



integrated course that utilizes cohort style learning with different disciplines blended into an American Studies class. Students enrolled in this new style classroom

learn History and Civics through a different method that keeps them inline with their other courses. This class has been successful in learning America's role in Space Exploration, International Trade, Constitutional Law, and Music in American Culture. These thematic units will continue throughout the year. Students have also been watching the presidential candidates jockey for power and start their quest for The White House.

- Mr. Hall, American Studies

Wood Technology

The beginning of the new school year has brought the Wood Technology class many new students as well as our returning students. The shop has been extremely busy from the first week. As always many students have chosen to create CJR's famous Adirondack chair and many have chosen to create their own variation of the design.



I am always pleased to see students create projects for their families and encourage them to elicit requests from family members. This year's first quarter students have produced projects such as coffee tables, changing tables, shelving units and television stands among other various projects. The personalities and the creativeness of the students never ceases to amaze me. As the holiday season approaches, many students have begun to create projects to pass along as gifts to family members and friends, so be sure to place your order now, time is quickly passing.

- Mr. Sawoska, also known as "S", Wood Technology

S. T. E. M.

Science <> Technology
Engineering <> Mathematics

In S.T.E.M. many day students and residential students have shown great motivation and creativity in applying their understanding of mathematics and physics to engineer some terrific projects. Since the beginning of the school year, students have created motorized boats, glider planes, air pressure rockets, and egg drop capsules.

We've also done units looking at forensic science and the science of sound. Students in the afternoon have done well in drawing connections to their related history and language arts classes, since these three classes are taught as a cohesive unit in the afternoon. We see a great deal of enthusiasm throughout the day in S.T.E.M. and it seems that this is guaranteed to continue. In the coming months, students will apply their energy to new units such as properties of light and constructing bridges. We look forward to inspiring results.

-Mr. LaBranche, STEM



English

During the first quarter, students enrolled in English classes at the Cable Academic and Vocational



Education Center analyzed a variety of complex topics using their critical reading and writing skills. Our young gentlemen researched and recommended ways to improve the American education system, examined portrayals of violence in the media, and evaluated the efficacy of the U.S. Justice System. In our STEM-based English classes, students assessed the cost effectiveness of space travel, appraised several methods for providing clean water to a greater segment of the world's population, and presented their researched findings on early attempts at air travel. Currently, students are

creating textual connections by producing soundtracks for their own lives, the lives of their fictional favorite characters, or for a text they have read.

-Mr. Dickau, English



Creative & Applied Arts

soup bowl event, *Empty Bowls*, hosted at the Elks Club in Torrington to support *FISH*, which is a non-profit organization that serves Northwestern CT by providing food, shelter, and hope. CJR was able to collaborate with other schools and businesses in the area to support a local organization. This was a successful event for all.

Within the art classroom this Fall, students are working on a wide variety of projects such as watercolor, nail & string art, coiled paper images, Photoshop and murals within the classroom.

During the fall quarter, students completed bowls for the October



Stay tuned...

-Mrs. Rinaldi, Creative & Applied Arts

"Patience is an integral part of talent."

-Vicki Baum-

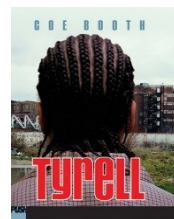


Library News

Currently, the library has approximately 1500 books in its inventory. The great news is not only is our inventory increasing, but circulation is increasing as well. According to Destiny statistics, our computer library management system, there are 126 patrons. That includes students (day and residential), staff, administration, and the CARE program in Waterbury. Since September 1st, 102 books have been borrowed. The response to our new library is nothing short of amazing. The library statistics also show that it is almost an equal split as to what genre patrons are responding to. 50.4% of books borrowed have been fiction, and 49.42% have been nonfiction. Of the nonfiction, the most popular category of books borrowed has been from the arts and recreation section. The arts and recreation section contains graphic novels, and subjects such as sports, crafts, drawing, games, etc.

My focus for the year is to beef up our nonfiction section. So far I have ordered new football books, a few new biographies, and books having to do with all aspects of the military. Please let me know what other topics are of interest to you and I will order them. In the meantime, come see the new titles of fiction that have arrived. Many of them are books that are soon to be major motion pictures. Books are always better than the movie. Read it first!

-Mrs. Whiteside, Librarian



GRAPHIC ARTS

In the first quarter of our school year, the Graphic Arts classes accomplished the goal we had set back in late summer. The goal was to complete the printing, collating and binding of two hundred 2016 school calendars in time for the "Cars for Kids" automobile show. The calendars were handed out to the first two hundred people who entered cars into the show. The theme for the 2016 calendar is *classic cars* and some of the images were actually drawn from photographs of past winners of the car show.

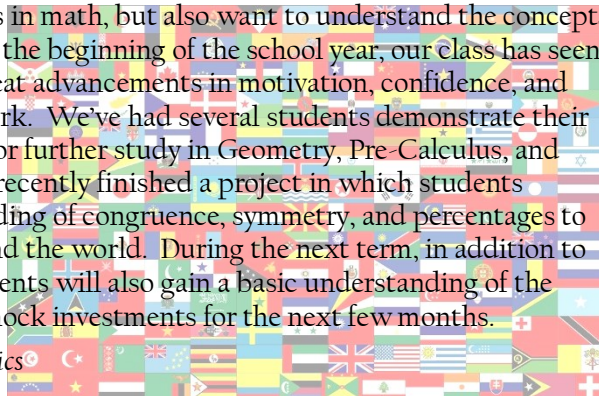
After printing the outline of all the cars in black ink, the students chose the rest of the colors to be printed. The chosen ink colors were mixed using a formula guide book and a triple beam scale. On our Hamada Star printing press, we also printed booklet envelopes which will be used for mailing the calendars to donors. -Mr. Clark, Graphic Arts



Mathematics

Students in Math 105 have shown much motivation to grow their understanding of mathematics. Students have shown that they not only want to earn high marks in math, but also want to understand the concepts they are studying. Since the beginning of the school year, our class has seen many students show great advancements in motivation, confidence, and maturity about their work. We've had several students demonstrate their interest by advocating for further study in Geometry, Pre-Calculus, and college level math. We recently finished a project in which students applied their understanding of congruence, symmetry, and percentages to analyze flags from around the world. During the next term, in addition to their usual studies, students will also gain a basic understanding of the stock market through mock investments for the next few months.

-Mr. LaBranche, Mathematics



CONSTRUCTION MAINTENANCE & DRAFTING

This year started with a lot of action in the project house. We turned the lights and outlets on. Students hooked up a drain, so we could run water to the bathroom and kitchen sink. We took different style faucets apart and replaced valves and O-rings. With the mechanicals done, we started measuring for floors and trim, but I wanted to make a mess in the house before we put new floors in. So classes made holes in the walls in order to repair them. There were small holes that could be repaired with some joint compound and tape and other holes that needed to be cut out, a backer and new piece of drywall installed, then finished with joint compound and tape. A few of my more experienced painters also helped paint one of the vocational classrooms.



Next, classes will be installing different types of floors in our project house. A new style groutable vinyl tile, ceramic tile, carpet and laminate floor will all be installed in different areas.

- Mr. Ouellette,
Construction
Maintenance
& Drafting



Physical Education

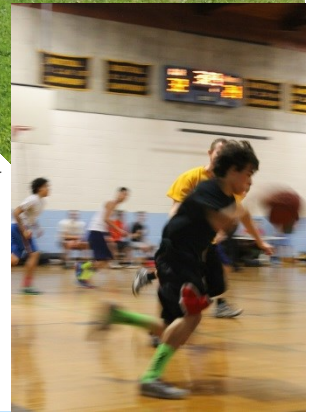
Welcome and welcome back to all of your new and returning students here at the CAVEC. My name is Chris Mulhall and I am the Physical Education Instructor at the main campus in Litchfield.

The students in my classes are off to a great start. They have been introduced to games that include: basketball, football, kickball, dodgeball, and tennis.

A major focus and emphasis each and every class entails the concepts of sportsmanship, teamwork, and fair play. Regular participation is expected and effort is required in order to excel in my classes. Attitude and positive peer culture are also key. These build on leadership qualities that will last for our students beyond this school year.

I am very impressed thus far with the majority of our young men here at the CAVEC. We will be building upon our skills through various activities and team sports. I am very pleased with the start and know it will continue to keep improving. Good job boys!

- Mr. Mulhall, Physical Education

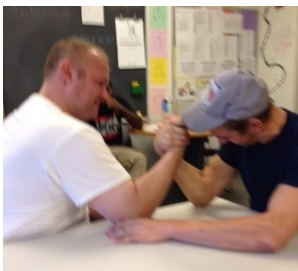


Therapeutic Respite Assessment Center



The TRAC program residents have had a busy fall. The boys have gone on several hikes including Mohawk Mountain, Avon Mountain to the Heubline Tower, and to the tower at Hubbard Park in Meriden. They recently spent the day at Six Flags for the Fright Festival and have explored participating in the scavenger hunt type game of Geocaching. Fishing in the CJR pond has been good since they restocked it with fish and of course pool and ping pong contests abound in the cottage. In the classroom we continue to study hard and try to learn at least one new vocabulary word every day. The boys continue to enjoy participating in the STEM class and a variety of vocational experiences.

- Mrs. Gagne,
TRAC Academics



Football Toss

Boys Intermediate Residential Program

The Roberts Cottage residential program, Boys' Intermediate Residential Program (B.I.R.P.), continues to thrive during the first marking period of the 2015-2016 school year.

On January 22, 2016, three of our young men will graduate from high school. Congratulations to Mike F., Curtis R. and Mike T.! Each of you has worked diligently and passionately to achieve this goal! We know that you are investigating plans to possibly further your academic and vocational pursuits at various institutions of higher learning. The recent UConn field trip was a huge success and was thoroughly enjoyed by those in attendance! We applaud your efforts and wish you only the best in all of your endeavors!

As a classroom, we continue to explore in the areas of language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Six of our students have participated in the STEM program which includes science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Much of our focus remains in the area of reading comprehension and the mastery of computational skills. We have also focused on the individual states of the United States. Researching factual information and hands-on map work is done with each of the states. Our students also participate in the vocational program classes, such as wood shop, graphics, auto, construction, art and the farm and many other after school activities which will help them earn additional credits towards high school graduation.

We look forward to the second marking period's challenges and are confident that we will meet them successfully. We also are looking forward to the upcoming Holidays and would like to wish everyone the best Holiday Season ever!

- Ms. Silano, B.I.R.P. Academics

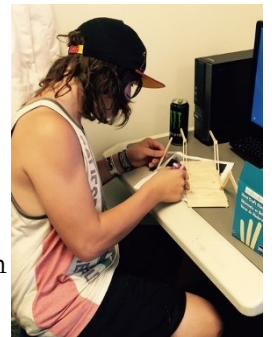
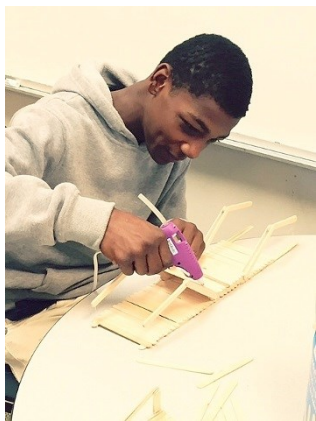


UPPER MIDDLE SCHOOL

We began the school year focusing **Science** on *Bridge Building*. The students needed to use strategies to meet load stress and

aesthetic challenges in designing and building a bridge out of up to 200 popsicle sticks. Students developed an understanding of structural engineering and design, as well as problem solving and team work. We evaluated the effectiveness of individual designs as each student presented and tested their bridge by piling books on top of it. The strongest bridge held **40 books** and used **156 popsicle sticks**. All students did a terrific job!

American Studies found us in **THE ERA of THOMAS JEFFERSON...** We focused on the largest and most extraordinary land purchase in the history of the United States: **The Louisiana Purchase**. We outlined each state created from this grand purchase by marking the **Journey of Lewis and Clark**. In more than two years of their journey, they covered 8,000 miles and discovered 173 new plants and 122 species and subspecies of animals.

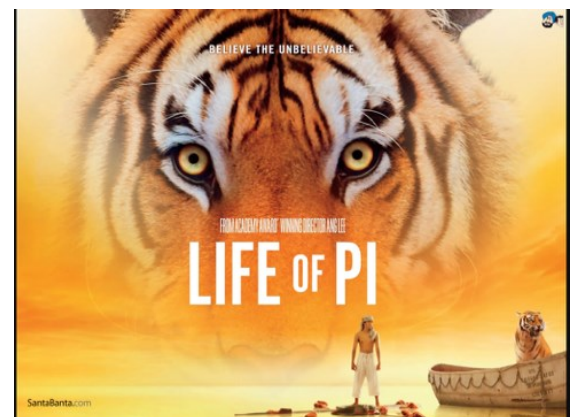


English began with the reading of a Canadian fantasy adventure novel by Yann Martel. *Life of Pi* is about a young man who survives a disaster at sea and is hurled into an epic journey of adventure and discovery. While cast away, he forms an unexpected connection with another survivor: a fearsome Bengal tiger. Our study of the novel concluded by bringing our reading to life with the American adventure drama film. Pi tells his life story of shipwreck and survival. The author has woven a "glorious spiritual adventure that makes us question what it means to be alive, and to believe."

Our **Math** focus has been on the mechanics of **Budgeting**. Regardless of where their money comes from, students learn they have the power to direct where it goes, and that the choices they make can impact the future. *Spending, Sharing, Saving and Investing...*

We're off to a great start to a New School Year!!

- Ms. Stevens, Academics



Power Mechanics



This fall, the Auto Shop students have been working on numerous projects. Some students are working on lawnmower engine rebuilding, while others have progressed to rebuilding an automobile engine. Our auto body students have been working on our project car, fabricating patches, repairing dents and lowering the suspension. Our welding and fabricating students have seen many projects evolve, and continue to repair CJR farm equipment.

-Mr. Drost, Power Mechanics



Transition Services

This quarter, Juniors and Seniors got the chance to attend a presentation from the admissions recruiter at Northwestern Connecticut Community College. The speaker discussed not only what Northwestern had to offer, but included offerings at other Connecticut Community Colleges. Students were able to learn about the admissions process and transferability of course credits, as well as the financial savings benefits of attending a community college. They also learned about some of the other benefits of the community college system, such as, after achieving an associate's degree, students can continue on to a Connecticut state school and finish a bachelor's degree in only two more years.



Towards the end of the quarter, two students visited Naugatuck Valley Community College to look at the Nursing Program that is offered there. Stafford and Andrew T., who are very interested in helping and caring for others, found the tour to be very helpful. They had the opportunity to see the nursing lab as well as some of the academic classrooms. The program is primarily hands-on and the technology utilized to teach with is top notch. We also found out that they are in the process of building a brand new nursing wing at the college.



Welcome, Ms. Diane Sisson, LCSW!

CAVEC now has a popular Social Worker on board! Diane Sisson, LCSW, works with students in school and also outside of school.

After School Programs and Volunteering

Omar volunteers at an equine rescue in Washington, CT called H.O.R.S.E. (The Humane Organization Representing Suffering Equines), which is currently boarding 23 animals.



From the new weekend program...



We have a group of kids who are making sides for their own Thanksgiving dinner as well as extras to share with other students...next we are going to do the same with Christmas cookies.



CABLE

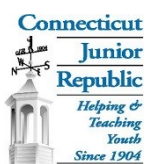
ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION CENTER

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Accredited by New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)

Mission Statement

To provide all students with a supportive educational environment which nurtures their ability to maximize their individual potential and strengthen their social and academic experiences, now and throughout their lifetimes.



I look forward to having the opportunity to visit more colleges and explore different post graduate opportunities for the students in the near future.



- Mr. Mayer, Guidance Counselor

Welcome New Students!

Jason B., Stamford . Jacob B., Westbrook . Malik B., New Haven . Jordan B., Waterbury . Shane C., Torrington
Ranier C., Norwich . Tyshawn E., Bridgeport . Arkeith E., New Haven . Shakiem G., Danbury . Mark H., Meriden
Melquawn J., Waterbury . Larry J., New Britain . Davante J., New Haven . Malachi K., Plymouth . Lukas K., Region 1
Jayme L., Torrington . Eric N., Winchester . Markev N., Watertown . Jovany R., Willamantic . Curtis R., New Haven
Samuel R., Winchester . Noah S., Brookfield . Yazir S., Stamford
Bayar S., Brookfield . Michael T., Glastonbury
Kyle T., Torrington . Lazarus T., Hartford