



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Access to Advanced Coursework: An Equity Priority

---

Ivelise Velazquez, NHPS Assistant Superintendent  
May 18, 2022

Which of our students  
are accessing  
advanced coursework  
in HS and earning  
credits for college?

# Step 1: CSDE Guidance



## District Guidance for **Developing an Advanced Course Participation Policy**

April 2022

# State Trends in the Data

Who is accessing advanced  
courses and to what extent?

(CSDE: 2019 AP/IB/dual enrollment  
course participation)

- 51.7% of All in CT (2019)
  - 75% of Asians Students
  - 56.4% of White Students
  - 39.7% of Black Students
  - 40.5% of Latinx Students
-

# New Haven vs State of Connecticut

Indicator	Index/Rate	Target	Points Earned	Max Points	% Points Earned	State Average % Points Earned
<b>NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b>						
5. Preparation for CCR - Percent Taking Courses	65.7%	75%	43.8	50	87.6	100.0
6. Preparation for CCR - Percent Passing Exams	18.1%	75%	12.0	50	24.1	56.7
<b>STATE OF CONNECTICUT</b>						
5. Preparation for CCR - Percent Taking Courses	80.0%	75%	50.0	50	100.0	
6. Preparation for CCR - Percent Passing Exams	42.6%	75%	28.4	50	56.7	

# Wonderings

1. If 65.7% of NHPS students are taking courses, why are only 18.1% of those earning credit?
2. If fewer than 1 in 5 earn credit, who are those students?
3. Who is successful and why?
4. What type of course has been most successful Dual, IB, AP, etc.?





# Step 2: Collect Focus Group Input

---

What do the  
students, teachers  
and parents say  
about the access?





# Step 3: Facilitate a Committee Meeting

---

# Agenda for T&L

## What does our current data say?

On average, half the students who are enrolled in college credit course earn credit in the State.

In NHPS, only 1 in 5 enrolled earn credit.

## What do stakeholders say about increasing access?

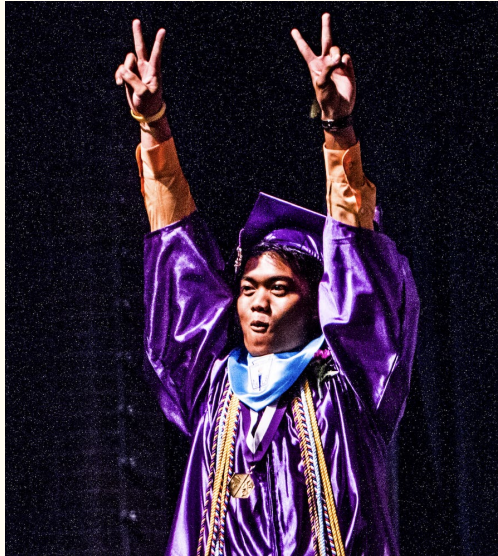
- Disaggregate and target underserved.
- ??????



# Step 4: Draft Policy for/ with the BOE

---

# Who needs greater voice at the policy table?



Who holds the  
most significant  
influencer power?



**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



# What safeguards are needed to sustain change?

## Monitor Trend

2015 - 15.9% earned credit

2016 - 16.7% earned credit

2017 - 18.1% earned credit

2018 - 20.2% earned credit

2019 - 18.1% earned credit

---

# Conclusion- Policy *likely* Will Focus on Levers

*Start in Middle School*  
*Partner with Families*  
*Reduce Barriers*  
*Increase Supply*

Knowledge Voice Network Leverage

District Guidance for  
**Developing an  
Advanced Course  
Participation Policy**

April 2022

# District Guidance for **Developing an Advanced Course Participation Policy**

---

April 2022



Connecticut State Department of Education

CONNECTICUT STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



## Contents

Introduction .....	ii
Advanced Coursework and Programs in Connecticut High Schools .....	1
Principles to Guide Development of Local Policy .....	1
Start in Middle School .....	2
Recommendations for Starting in Middle School .....	2
Partner with Families .....	3
Recommendations for Partnering with Families .....	3
Reduce Barriers .....	4
Recommendations for Reducing Barriers .....	5
Increase Supply .....	6
Recommendations for Increasing Supply .....	7
Summary .....	7
Glossary of Terms .....	8
References .....	9

## Introduction

[Public Act 21-199](#) requires that by July 1, 2022, boards of education adopt a policy, or revise an existing policy, concerning the eligibility criteria for student enrollment in an advanced course or program. The statute defines advanced course or program as “an honors class, advanced placement class, International Baccalaureate program, Cambridge International program, dual enrollment, dual credit, early college or any other advanced or accelerated course or program offered by a local or regional board of education in grades nine to twelve, inclusive.”

The statute requires that local policies provide for multiple methods by which a student may satisfy the eligibility criteria for enrollment in an advanced course or program. While a student’s prior academic performance may be considered, it must not be the only measure considered for eligibility.

Additionally, boards of education must ensure the creation of an academic plan for every student. The plan must be designed to enroll each student in one or more advanced courses or programs, allowing students to earn college credit or result in career readiness before graduation from high school.

The statute requires that the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) issue guidance and that local policy shall be developed in accordance with the guidance. This document serves as that guidance and is aligned closely with the State Board of Education’s commitment to ensure equity and excellence for all Connecticut students.

Local board policy that meets the requirements of PA 21-199 will address at a minimum two elements:

- the eligibility criteria for enrollment in an advanced course or program; and
- an academic plan designed to enroll a student in one or more advanced courses or programs.

## Advanced Coursework and Programs in Connecticut High Schools

Research shows that students who enroll in challenging coursework in high school are more likely to graduate and are better positioned for post-secondary success (Morgan, Zakhem, and Cooper 2018; Shields et al. 2021). Every high school's program of studies should provide a variety of challenging options for all students including courses that allow students to earn college credit while in high school, work-based learning opportunities, and programs that lead to industry recognized credentials for high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand careers.

Collectively, Connecticut high schools offer students a wide range of options through partnerships with higher education and industry. The [Next Generation Accountability System](#) measures the percentage of students in Grades 11 and 12 who participate in at least one of the following during high school: two Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or dual enrollment courses; two courses in one of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) career clusters; or two workplace experience courses.

When looking only at AP/IB/dual enrollment course participation, we find that 57.7 percent of Grade 12 students participated in such dual credit courses. This means that while approximately 70 percent of Connecticut's high school graduates are enrolling in a 2- or 4-year postsecondary institution within a year of graduation, many students are entering without having the distinct advantage of experiencing the rigor of college-level work beforehand and the opportunity for realizing substantial savings in college tuition.

In 2018-19, more than half of Connecticut Grade 11 and 12 students participated in a dual credit course (51.7 percent). However, the data show large differences in participation when disaggregated by race/ethnicity. While participation rates were high among Asian students (75 percent) and above the state average among White students (56.4 percent), they were below average among Black/African American (39.7 percent) and Hispanic/Latino (40.5 percent) students. Encouraging all students to take on the challenge of dual credit courses in high school will support their successful transition to post-secondary.

### Principles to Guide Development of Local Policy

Beyond traditional course eligibility criteria (i.e., grades and teacher recommendation), locally developed policies that address course access and academic planning for students should follow these guiding principles:

- Start in middle school;
- Partner with families;
- Increase supply; and
- Reduce barriers.

The sections that follow provide specific recommendations for each of the four guiding principles.

## Start in Middle School

Beginning in 2012, [Connecticut General Statutes 10-221a](#) required that districts work with every student starting in Grade 6 to create a [Student Success Plan](#) (SSP). This is an individualized student-centered plan based on the student's interests and strengths. The plan is designed to help students understand the relevancy of what they are learning in relationship to their long-term postsecondary goals. Public Act 21-199 re-emphasizes the importance of involving students and families in the development of an academic plan and requires that students eligible for advanced coursework have an academic plan that includes enrollment in one or more advanced courses or programs allowing the student to earn college credit or result in career readiness during high school. The SSP can serve as the academic plan required in Section 5 of P.A. 21-199.

There is evidence to suggest that the middle school experience in terms of academic achievement and engagement are strong precursors to high school success (CSDE 2021; Hodara and Pierson 2018; Royster, Gross, and Hochbein 2015). The Association for Career and Technical Education identifies middle school as an ideal time for students to explore career options, build self-awareness, and begin to create education and career plans with the support of their parents, teachers, counselors, and other school staff (2018). Developmentally, students in the middle grades are ready to think abstractly, work collaboratively with their peers, and engage in active learning that is relevant to their interests.

Given the importance of the middle grades in setting the foundation for high school, districts must ensure that instruction across the middle grades and extending into and throughout high school is closely aligned to the Connecticut Core State Standards (CCSS) and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). When instruction in the middle grades adheres to grade-level standards and students are provided just-in-time supports, more students will be prepared for the expectations of advanced coursework in Grades 9-12.

### Recommendations for Starting in Middle School:

- Coordinate standards, instruction, and expectations across middle and high school by fostering regular communication among faculty districtwide. The focus should be on vertical articulation of content across the grades rather than offering courses for high school credit in middle school.
- Offer career awareness, exploration, and immersion activities that directly align with the high school program of studies.
- Encourage high school faculty to familiarize themselves with the Smarter Balanced system of assessments and NGSS assessments including interim assessment blocks, which can be used to measure student understanding and adjust instruction in Grades 9-12.
- Remind middle school faculty that their messaging to students regarding high school expectations has an impact on students. Students should be assured that if they are mastering middle school standards, they are prepared academically. Avoid characterizing learning at the next level as very difficult and dramatically different than middle school, which may discourage some students from considering advanced coursework.
- Use EdSight Secure to share students' middle school data with high school faculty. Sharing these data will improve the quantity and quality of information available for decision making, reduce unnecessary pre-tests and the administration of screening tools, and maximize instructional time.

## Partner with Families

Research has shown the positive effects of engaging families throughout a child's educational experience (Wood et al. 2017; Ferguson et al. 2008). Districts should capitalize on these already developed systems of engagement to develop a communication and engagement plan focused on the transition to high school, a critical time for students and one when family engagement tends to decline (Mac Iver et al. 2015; Simon 2004). Families can help their children navigate high school beyond the ninth-grade transition. They can assist their children in staying on top of important dates, monitor progress, and intervene when necessary. However, families need information from the school to do this effectively. If schools regularly provide timely and accessible information to families, students will be better positioned for success.

Outreach efforts should build awareness for students and their families on the importance of experiencing the challenge of advanced courses in high school as a way of preparing for postsecondary. These efforts should include two-way conversations that provide opportunities for school staff to hear what families say about their children's interests, challenges, and postsecondary plans (CSDE 2018). Keeping the student's SSP in mind when having conversations with families is key to showcasing the relevance of course selections.

Students and their families should be provided opportunities to ask questions directly of school staff about course expectations, available supports, work-based learning opportunities, and the benefits of earning college credit while in high school. Benefits may include skipping introductory courses in college, saving money on postsecondary tuition, learning exciting subjects in greater depth, and building confidence and skills needed to be successful in college and careers.

The value of earning college credit and being exposed to career opportunities while in high school must be emphasized. Explaining that students can leave high school with a semester or more of college credits on their transcript or with skills that prepare them for high-skill, high-wage, in-demand occupations can yield real financial benefits that may not be immediately obvious.

There will be students who are unsure of their ability to demonstrate success on an end-of-course exam. Teachers and school counselors can remind students of why they are a strong candidate, the supports that are available, and how experiencing and engaging in the coursework generates benefits in the future even if college credit is not awarded. The most effective approach to reach these students is through individualized counseling and conversations with staff they know and trust.

### Recommendations for Partnering with Families:

- During the middle school years, engage families in the development of the SSP.
- High schools should continue and improve upon effective systems of family engagement used in middle school.
- Ensure families are fully aware of all the benefits of taking college courses and participating in work-based learning opportunities during high school. This information is particularly important for students from low-income families and first-generation college students.
- Communication should be ongoing and accessible to families (e.g., materials provided in multiple languages, translators available during information sessions).
- Provide families with a variety of options for engaging on the topic of course selection. Large group information sessions may work for some, but others may need more personalized support. Consider small sessions designed for families that have not experienced college.
- Invite students and families to express interest in advanced coursework and discuss those choices along with career options with their school counselor who can answer questions and serve as an advocate for the student.

## Reduce Barriers

A local policy to identify students who are eligible for advanced coursework must be developed with attention to equity. National data show that there are student groups that are disproportionately underrepresented in advanced courses. This is true for students who are Black and Hispanic, students from low-income families, students with disabilities, and English learners (Patrick, Socol, and Morgan 2020; Spencer and Maldonado 2021; Umansky 2016). Students must not be disqualified from participation in a course or program based on demographic or programmatic variables including disability status or English language proficiency. Providing accommodations to students who need them simply ensures access to the content and is appropriate regardless of course rigor.

Experiencing coursework focused on advanced content benefits students, especially students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Enrollment in advanced courses can increase overall student achievement and improve a student's sense of competence and self-esteem leading to better long-term outcomes (Umansky 2016; Zinth and Barnett 2018). In fact, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education characterizes advanced coursework as a service that can support postsecondary transition plans for students with disabilities. (USED 2020).

The CSDE has a long history of encouraging students to enroll in advanced courses. For the last nine years, CSDE has used assessment data to identify students who have the potential to succeed in rigorous courses. These students receive a letter directly from the Commissioner of Education encouraging them to explore rigorous coursework options. From 2012-13 through 2019-20 the criteria for identification was limited to PSAT scores and the letters were sent to students in Grades 10 and 11.

Beginning in 2020-21, the CSDE reevaluated the identification methodology and determined that performance on the Smarter Balanced assessment administered in middle school could effectively be used for identification. Unlike PSAT, Smarter Balanced is administered to all students. Smarter Balanced also provides a broad array of accommodations and supports to ensure that students have the tools necessary to effectively demonstrate what they know. Using Smarter Balanced results instead of PSAT provides more students an opportunity to be identified and increases the diversity of the recipient list. The improved methodology considered scores for each grade (6, 7, 8) and subject (mathematics and English language arts) combination separately. Therefore, rather than limiting identification to a single score, this approach looks for strengths on any of the indicators. The 2020-21 notifications were also sent to parents and guardians for the first time. Additional improvements to the process were implemented in 2021-22 based on recommendations and feedback from educators and families including:

- Letters were sent to students in Grades 9 and 10 (instead of 10 and 11) to allow students more time to plan their course pathway in high school;
- The timing of the letters was adjusted to a January mailing so students and families have time to plan course selection in advance of initial registration deadlines; and
- Schools were provided secure access to the list of students receiving the letters so principals and counselors would know in advance which students would receive the letters.

Local school district efforts to encourage more students to enroll in advanced courses should complement and extend beyond the CSDE's efforts. Schools have a tremendous amount of information about every student. Those data as well as recommendations from teachers, administrators, school counselors or other school personnel should be considered together. When making decisions about the appropriateness of courses or programs, consideration of as much information as possible will lead to the best and most equitable decisions.

There have been ongoing efforts to remove financial barriers for students who choose to enroll in an AP course or a dual enrollment course. While there is no cost to high school students who choose to enroll in an AP course, there is an examination fee. The CSDE covers the cost of AP exam fees for students

from low-income families. There are registration fees associated with dual enrollment courses offered through the Connecticut State Colleges and University System and the University of Connecticut. Again, those fees are waived for students who qualify.

It is possible that there are students who have economic need but do not qualify for these waivers. Districts are encouraged to use available funds to eliminate financial barriers for students when possible. Additionally, communicating that financial assistance is available to students who need it can influence whether a student believes that enrollment in advanced coursework is possible (Watkins 2022).

School counselors have a role in encouraging and helping to recruit students to enroll in advanced courses while supporting them throughout the process. Connecticut's School Counseling Framework (2020) puts academic achievement and success for all students at the center of its model. School counselors support their students' academic needs and career aspirations as well as their social/emotional needs to achieve these goals. School counselors are uniquely positioned to ensure students are treated fairly and have access to the resources necessary to meet their needs. Their decisions are informed by the relationships they have developed over time with students, relevant data, and their collaboration with subject area teachers. A school counselor may advocate for a student to level up into a more challenging course better suited to a student's postsecondary plans, and they may identify additional resources such as tutoring for students who need extra support to be successful.

### **Recommendations for Reducing Barriers:**

- Use EdSight Secure to provide school counselors and teachers with lists of students identified by CSDE as having potential for success in rigorous courses. Staff may wish to reinforce the Commissioner's message, answer questions, and provide support to students as they consider their course selections for the next school year.
- Share descriptive statistics with faculty showing advanced course enrollment over time and disaggregated by student group. These data can be used to track progress, discuss effective strategies, identify challenges, and generate potential solutions.
- Urge staff to pay special attention to student interests and coursework fit rather than relying solely on past performance when recommending advanced coursework for students. If the goal is to expand access, recommendation decisions based on past performance exclusively will not spur change.
- Do not exclude students from consideration simply based on disability status or English language proficiency.
- Communicate directly with students from low-income families that registration fees and exam fees for advanced coursework will be waived.
- Encourage students to self-advocate based on their individual goals and future plans.
- Monitor course registrations throughout the enrollment period and encourage students to reconsider selections if the student has potential to be successful in more challenging courses.
- Provide opportunities during the summer for students to prepare for challenging coursework by offering sessions that focus on reviewing study habits, organization, and time management.

## Increase Supply

Providing a range of advanced courses and work-based learning opportunities that appeal to the greatest number of students is an important step toward increasing access and participation in advanced coursework. Schools must provide a variety of pathways for students to achieve the goals outlined in their SSPs. Appealing to students' interests and long-term plans creates relevance for students and increases engagement, which is positively related to student achievement (TNTP 2018).

Advanced course offerings should provide multiple entry points for students. A student who may not be ready to enroll in advanced coursework in Grade 10 may be prepared to succeed in Grade 11. Options must be open and available for students while at the same time promoted by educators. As students progress through middle school and high school, they develop a sense of identity that can be dramatically influenced by their peers and adults who surround them. Educators play a key role in encouraging students to assess their interests and pursue coursework that is challenging.

While coursework must be appropriately challenging, prerequisite knowledge should be examined periodically and its necessity evaluated to ensure that unnecessary prerequisites are not creating artificial barriers for students expressing an interest in the content area and with the motivation to succeed. [Public Act 12-40](#) recommends embedded supports for students in credit-bearing courses in colleges and universities as a way to avoid remedial coursework. High schools should consider that same approach with their course offerings. Rather than requiring extensive prerequisites, considering corequisites may be a more effective approach to getting students enrolled in courses that are of high interest to them.

Over the years, districts have successfully transformed traditional courses to dual enrollment courses in partnership with higher education institutions. For example, the [University of Connecticut's Early College Experience Program](#) (ECE) is in nearly every Connecticut high school. The program currently offers 83 courses across 34 disciplines. Students who successfully complete an ECE course during high school earn credit toward high school graduation while simultaneously earning college credits that will appear on a student's University of Connecticut transcript.

Dual enrollment partnerships continue to expand across Connecticut. High schools currently partner with all schools in the Connecticut State College and University (CSCU) System as well as a variety of private institutions including Goodwin University, Post University, Quinnipiac University, and the University of Bridgeport among others. Through these partnerships, students are earning college credit and acquiring skills in a wide range of content areas that include but are not limited to the arts, computer science, financial literacy, marine science, health science, advanced manufacturing, and hospitality and tourism. These rich learning experiences that result in earning college credit during high school, provide students a distinct advantage in terms of course load and cost when enrolling in college and in preparation for careers.

High schools have also increased the availability of work-based learning opportunities for students across the state using federal funds. The amended Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins V) makes funds available to support and grow opportunities for high school students to earn registered pre-apprenticeship certificates and participate in a variety of work-based learning opportunities. The funds can assist eligible secondary and postsecondary recipients in the delivery of required related classroom instruction by covering the costs of textbooks for new courses, software for instruction, applied learning lab equipment, and transportation to employer on-the-job partners to observe all aspects of an industry. These structured work experiences are coordinated with related classroom instruction and undertaken in partnership with local businesses or organizations (CSDE 2019). Work-based learning programming is designed to enable students to learn and apply career and technical education skills and knowledge in a real-world work environment.



Increasing supply can present a challenge when there are limited staff available or few students interested in certain content areas. In these cases, remote course options may be an effective way to increase the supply of advanced courses for some students. [VHS Learning](#) is one organization that Connecticut high schools have used to supplement local offerings.

### Recommendations for Increasing Supply:

- Re-evaluate prerequisites so that educators identify what is needed to succeed IN the course rather than BEFORE the course.
- School counselors and teachers should promote enrollment in advanced courses to students in all grades. Students must be assured that even though they may not have taken an advanced course at the beginning of high school, there are many opportunities to do so throughout high school in every grade.
- Review the current program of studies to identify courses with the potential to be offered in partnership with a college or university.
- Consider adding sections of high-interest courses while encouraging teachers of advanced courses to collaborate to ensure consistency of content and expectations for a diverse set of learners.
- If a district does not currently receive Perkins V funds, conduct a comprehensive local needs assessment to evaluate the extent to which student interests and labor market data support an application to provide more opportunities for students.
- Leverage remote options to expand the range of courses available to students.

### Summary

The guidance makes clear that a student's academic plan and course selections have tremendous influence on graduation and post-secondary outcomes. While students should drive the process, responsibilities for planning and selection are distributed among a variety of individuals including district and school leaders, teachers, school counselors, school psychologists, social workers, and other staff members all in partnership with families. Collectively, this network of support influences outcomes sometimes through deliberate and coordinated actions and other times through the most common subtle daily interactions. It all matters.

By July 1, 2022, in accordance with this guidance, all districts must have local policies specifying student eligibility criteria for advanced courses and programs and a provision requiring the creation of an academic plan for all students. The CSDE anticipates that some districts will use this guidance to document and formalize their efforts into new local board policy. Others with long-standing formal written policy will use the guidance to reflect and expand on existing policy. Regardless of the approach taken, all efforts should remain focused on improving the high school experience and post-secondary outcomes for **all** high school graduates.

## Glossary of Terms

**Advanced Placement (AP)** — The [Advanced Placement Program](#), authorized by the College Board, offers college-level courses and exams students take in high school.

**Cambridge International Program** — [Cambridge Assessment International Education](#) provides internationally recognized academic programs for students aged 5 to 19. High school level courses, available only through approved Cambridge International Schools, provide students the opportunity to earn postsecondary credit that is accepted by colleges in the U.S. and abroad.

**Career and Technical Education (CTE)** — This is coursework that is designed to prepare students with technical, academic, and employability skills for success in the workplace and in further education. The courses represent a wide range of industries and occupations.

**CTE Career Clusters** — Career clusters are groupings of CTE courses concentrated in a particular industry or occupation. Connecticut's 12 Career Clusters are:

- Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Business Management and Administration
- Education and Training
- Finance
- Health Science
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Information Technology
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

**Dual credit** — Students who successfully complete a dual enrollment course earn credit toward high school graduation as well as college course credit that appears on a student transcript issued by a college or university. Dual enrollment courses are often referred to as dual credit courses.

**Dual enrollment** — Dual enrollment courses are college courses offered by high schools in partnership with a college or university. Students taking these courses in high school are simultaneously enrolled with the partner higher education institution.

**International Baccalaureate (IB)** — [The International Baccalaureate](#) offers international education through four programs for students aged 3 to 19. The four programs are: Primary Years, Middle Years, Diploma Program, and Career-related Program. Schools must be authorized to teach IB programs. Every authorized school is known as an [IB World School](#).

## References

- ACTE (Association for Career and Technical Education). 2018. *Career Exploration in Middle School: Setting Students on the Path to Success*. Alexandria, VA: ACTE.  
[https://www.acteonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/ACTE\\_CC\\_Paper\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.acteonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/ACTE_CC_Paper_FINAL.pdf).
- CSDE (Connecticut State Department of Education). 2020. *Connecticut Comprehensive K-12 School Counseling Framework Guide*. Hartford, CT: CSDE.  
<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/School-Counseling/SchoolCounselingFramework.pdf>.
- CSDE (Connecticut State Department of Education). 2021. *Encouraging Participation in Rigorous Courses: Rationale, Methods, and Results*. Hartford, CT: CSDE.  
[https://edsight.ct.gov/relatedreports/methods\\_and\\_rationale\\_encouraging\\_participation\\_in\\_rigorous\\_coursework.pdf](https://edsight.ct.gov/relatedreports/methods_and_rationale_encouraging_participation_in_rigorous_coursework.pdf).
- CSDE (Connecticut State Department of Education). 2018. *Full, Equal and Equitable Partnerships with Families: Connecticut's Definition and Framework for Family Engagement*. Hartford, CT: CSDE.  
<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Publications/CT-Family-Engagement.pdf>
- CSDE (Connecticut State Department of Education). 2019. *Today's Skills, Tomorrow's Careers: Career Clusters, Career Pathways, Sample Occupations, and Programs of Study*. Hartford, CT: CSDE.  
[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/CTE/TSTC\\_CC\\_Final.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/CTE/TSTC_CC_Final.pdf)
- Ferguson, Chris, Manica Ramos, Zena Rudo, and Lacy Wood. *The School-Family Connection: Looking at the Larger Picture*. Austin, TX: National Center for Family and Community Connections with Schools, 2008.  
<https://sedl.org/connections/resources/sfclitrev.pdf>.
- Hodara, Michelle, and Ashley Pierson. *Supporting the Transition to College: Accelerated Learning Access, Outcomes, and Credit Transfer in Oregon*. Portland, OR: Regional Educational Laboratory Northwest, 2018.  
<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED589159.pdf>.
- Mac Iver, Martha Abele, Joyce L. Epstein, Steven B. Sheldon, and Ean Fonseca. "Engaging Families to Support Students' Transition to High School: Evidence from the Field." *The High School Journal* 99, no. 1 (2015): 27–45.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/44075331>.
- Morgan, T. Lee, Diana Zakhem, and Wendy Loloff Cooper. "From high school access to postsecondary success: An exploratory study of the impact of high-rigor coursework." *Education Sciences* 8, no. 4 (2018): 191.  
<https://www.mdpi.com/2227-7102/8/4/191>
- Patrick, Kayla, Allison Socol, and Ivy Morgan. *Inequities in Advanced Coursework: What's Driving Them and What Leaders Can Do*. Washington, D.C.: Education Trust, 2020.  
<https://edtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Inequities-in-Advanced-Coursework-Whats-Driving-Them-and-What-Leaders-Can-Do-January-2019.pdf>.
- Royster, Pamela, Jacob Gross, and Craig Hochbein. "Timing Is Everything: Getting Students Back on Track to College Readiness in High School." *The High School Journal* 98, no. 3 (2015): 208–25.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/44075294>.

- Shields, Katherine A., Jessica Bailey, Makoto Hanita, and Xinxin Zhang. *The Effects of Accelerated College Credit Programs On Educational Attainment in Rhode Island*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, Regional Educational Laboratory Northeast & Islands, 2021.  
[https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/rel/regions/northeast/pdf/REL\\_2021103.pdf](https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/rel/regions/northeast/pdf/REL_2021103.pdf).
- Simon, Beth. "High School Outreach and Family Involvement." *Social Psychology of Education* 7, (2004): 185-209.  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/227266981\\_High\\_School\\_Outreach\\_and\\_Family\\_Involvement](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/227266981_High_School_Outreach_and_Family_Involvement)
- Spencer, George, and Mónica Maldonado. "Determinants of Dual Enrollment Access: A National Examination of Institutional Context and State Policies." *AERA Open*, (January 2021).  
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/23328584211041628>.
- TNTP. 2018. *The Opportunity Myth: What Students Can Show Us About How School Is Letting Them Down—and How to Fix It*. New York, NY: TNTP.  
[https://tntp.org/assets/documents/TNTP\\_The-Opportunity-Myth\\_Web.pdf](https://tntp.org/assets/documents/TNTP_The-Opportunity-Myth_Web.pdf).
- Umansky, Ilana M. "Leveled and Exclusionary Tracking: English Learners' Access to Academic Content in Middle School." *American Educational Research Journal* 53, no. 6 (2016): 1792–1833.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/44245971>.
- USED (United States Department of Education). 2020. *A Transition Guide to Postsecondary Education and Employment for Students and Youth with Disabilities*. Washington, DC: USED.  
<https://sites.ed.gov/idea/files/postsecondary-transition-guide-august-2020.pdf>
- Watkins, Nancy. "Opening the Door to Advanced Courses." *Educational Leadership* 79, no. 5 (2022).  
<https://www.ascd.org/el/articles/opening-the-door-to-advanced-courses>
- Wood, Lacy, Emily Bauman, Zena Rudo, and Vicki Dimock. *How Family, School, and Community Engagement Can Improve Student Achievement and Influence School Reform*. Quincy, MA: Nellie Mae Education Foundation, 2017.  
<https://www.nmefoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Final-Report-Family-Engagement-AIR.pdf>
- Zinth, Jennifer, and Elisabeth Barnett. *Rethinking Dual Enrollment to Reach More Students*. Denver, CO: Education Commission of the States, 2018.  
[https://www.ecs.org/wp-content/uploads/Rethinking\\_Dual\\_Enrollment\\_to\\_Reach\\_More\\_Students.pdf](https://www.ecs.org/wp-content/uploads/Rethinking_Dual_Enrollment_to_Reach_More_Students.pdf)



The Connecticut State Department of Education  
is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Overnight Domestic Field Trip Approval Proposed Process

### **Effective for the remainder 2021-22 school year, for all overnight domestic trips:**

- All trips will be due in the central office at least 5 weeks ahead of time, with a final deadline of **May 13<sup>st</sup>** for trips taking place any time before **November 15, 2022** (exceptions listed below).\*
- Please submit your trips to Sandra Clark and Cynthia Johnson, to be collated for the monthly Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting.
- The trips will come to the Teaching & Learning Committee for approval by the BOE. Trip leaders will be informed that their trips will be discussed so that they can be present to answer questions.
- Approvals will happen in Committee during April and May of this year.
- All overnight trips must be fully funded through fundraising, grants, and/or student payments (not General Funds).

### **Effective for the 2022-2023 school year:**

- Schools may submit overnight travel trip applications from August 15<sup>th</sup>- October 15<sup>th</sup> for consideration by the Committee at the September, October, and November meetings for during the 2022-23 school year (exceptions listed below).\*
- Schools will not be allowed to take any deposits for trips until they have been approved by the Teaching & Learning Committee and the Board of Education.
- Please submit your trip request to Sandra Clark and Cynthia Johnson to be collated for the monthly Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting.
- The trips will come to the Teaching & Learning Committee for approval by the BOE. Trip leaders will be informed that their trips will be discussed so that they can be present to answer questions.
- Approvals will happen in Committee during September, October and November of this year.
- All overnight trips must be fully funded through fundraising, grants, and/or student payments (not General Funds).

\* Academic or sports competition trip applications will be accepted on an as-needed basis. Other opportunities that may arise will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**One month** before each trip, please submit the following by email to your principal.

- Updated #of students
- Updated chaperone list
- Emergency contact information for trip leaders
- Detailed itinerary



NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Domestic Out-of-State Trips Travel Request Form

Requested Date(s) of Trip	6/24/22-6/27/22
Destination and Short Description	Educators Rising National Conference Washington, DC
School Name	James Hillhouse High School
Grade Level(s)	9-12
Anticipated # of Students	7
Anticipated # of Chaperones:	Note: there should be at least 2 NHPS staff chaperones. If there are male and female students on the trip, there must be a male and a female chaperone. 2
Mode(s) of Transportation	Air and Ground Transportation
Accommodations	Hotel Ground Transportation Meals
Estimated Costs	Please include the details of what each expense covers. Hotel-\$299per room/nights(4) x 5 rooms= \$5,980. Ground Transportation- to/from airport=\$250 Meals-4days/7 students=\$280.60 each=\$1964.20
Fundraising Plans What will you do for students who cannot afford the trip?	Partial funding provided by Edrising: Flights and Registrations for students & Chaperones.
Academic Connection & Objectives (consult your Curriculum Supervisor with questions)	
Student will tour the campus of Howard University and National Museum of African American History Washington, DC.	

## Tentative conference schedule

### Thursday, June 23<sup>th</sup>

- 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM State/Regional Coordinators Meeting
- 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM Registration/Store opens

### Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>

- 8:00 AM Registration/Store opens
- 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM Competitions
- 7:00 PM Opening Ceremony with Keynote

### Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>

- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Competitions
- 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Academy Training Part 1
- 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM Breakout sessions
- 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM College & Innovation Fair
- 11:00 – 12:00 PM Dedicated time to visit exhibit hall
- 12:00 PM Lunch with Keynote
- 2:00 – 5:00 PM Breakout sessions
- 2:00 - 5:00 PM Academy Training Part 2
- 2:00 - 7:30 PM Competitions
- 8:00 - 11:00 PM Student Social Event

### Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>

- 8:00 AM Registration/Store opens
- 8:00 AM - 11:00 PM Competitions
- 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Academy Training Part 3
- 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM Breakout Sessions
- 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Membership Recognition General Session
- 12:00 PM Lunch on your own
- 2:00 - 4:00 PM Academy Training Part 4 (optional work and networking time)
- Afternoon free for city exploration

### Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup>

- 8:00 AM Store opens
- 9:00 - 11:45 AM Breakout sessions
- 12:00 - 1:00 PM Adult Networking Lunch
- 12:00 - 1:00 PM Student Networking Luncheon
- 1:30 - 3:30 PM Closing General Session & Awards Celebration





NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Domestic Out-of-State Trips Travel Request Form

Requested Date(s) of Trip	10/11/22-10/13/22
Destination and Short Description	Nature's Classroom Ivoryton, CT
School Name	Edgewood Magnet School
Grade Level(s)	6, 7, 8
Anticipated # of Students	130
Anticipated # of Chaperones:	8 Teachers, (both male and female)Volunteer parents.
Mode(s) of Transportation	Bus
Accommodations	There are dormitory style accommodations with four students per room and a bathroom. Chaperones have adjoining rooms with private baths.
Estimated Costs	\$275.00 is a room and board rate for the two night stay which also includes the activities onsite daily. There is an onsite nurse included in the cost.
Fundraising Plans What will you do for students who cannot afford the trip?	We will use a combination of magnet funding and PTO fundraising for students.

**Academic Connection & Objectives**  
(consult your Curriculum Supervisor with questions)

We are a STEAM school with a focus on outdoor learning. These connections to our teacher created units for science and engineering pair well with this setting for learning. Students will learn outdoor survival skills, team building, make social and emotional connections through learning and play as well as connecting to sessions in biology, forestry, animal habitats and watershed activities.

10/11-10/15  
grades 6,7,8



Think Outside the Books

[School Program](#) [Conference Centers](#) [Summer Camp](#) [Employment](#) [Donate](#) [Contact](#)

 [Log In](#)

# Ivoryton, CT





## Site Highlights

With numerous streams, a cedar swamp, a hardwood forest, and two ponds, this 700 acre site offers a great deal of diversity. The expansive property gives students the opportunity to view a New England forest that grows

undisturbed and wild, while comparing it to dams and quarries which highlight human impact on the land. Field groups often hike around the mile-long Bushy Hill Pond. This journey takes students past glacial erratic rocks, sparking discussions on how the land was shaped and carved over 10,000 years ago. The hike also takes students up to Lookout Point, a beautiful spots for quiet reflection which overlooks the pond and the facilities. A small farm on property is home to goats, sheep, pigs, chickens, ducks, donkeys, and llamas. Field groups can visit the farm and learn about animal husbandry and small-scale farms.

Schools can choose to add a day trip to Hammonasset Beach State Park on Long Island Sound to their agenda. This educational experience includes a visit to a salt marsh, tidal flats, a sandy beach, and a rocky shore. This is another great opportunity to learn about the diverse ecosystems of Connecticut's Shoreline.

### Housing and Facilities

With several housing options, every group can find suitable accommodations. Each dormitory has separate chaperone rooms and meeting spaces.

*Lakeside:* this recently renovated building offers housing for 32 students and 4 adults

*The Health Center:* sleeps 28 students and has a private room with bath for adults

*Katsanis:* this large dormitory has 4 wings, each wing with 22 beds and a private room with bath for 2 chaperones

For use at free time, our Ivoryton site has a basketball court, a field for baseball or kickball, and a dodgeball court.

Nature's Classroom, Inc.

Address

Dr. John G. Santos, Executive Director  
19 Harrington Rd  
Charlton, MA 01507

Contact

info@naturesclassroom.org  
Phone: 508-248-2741 Fax: 508-248-2745  
Toll Free: 800-433-8375



Think Outside the Books

[School Program](#) [Conference Centers](#) [Summer Camp](#) [Employment](#) [Donate](#) [Contact](#)

 [Log In](#)



## School Program

Nature's Classroom has been offering schools unique educational opportunities since its creation in 1973. Schools can choose to come to Nature's Classroom for 1-5 days and can bring 1 or multiple grades at a time. Our program is ideal for grades 3-8, but can be modified to accommodate almost any age. We host school groups Monday- Friday during the fall and spring at our 12 locations, and at our Charlton, MA site during the winter.

Our program allows students to learn and experience what



is otherwise not possible during a school-year. As a residential field trip program that emphasizes experiential education, we take a holistic approach to learning, and foster not only the educational growth of students, but also social and personal growth. After living and learning together during their time at Nature's Classroom, students develop a sense of community, a confidence in themselves, and an appreciation for others that is carried with them to the school community.

To learn more about our program, please explore the pages in our 'School Program' drop-down menu. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us by clicking the link below.

Contact

NATURE'S CLASSROOM, INC.

Address

Contact

Dr. John G. Santos, Executive Director

info@naturesclassroom.org

19 Harrington Rd

Phone: 508-248-2741 Fax: 508-248-2745

Charlton, MA 01507

Toll Free: 800-433-8375





NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Domestic Out-of-State Trips Travel Request Form

Requested Date(s) of Trip	<b>June 22-26, 2022</b>
Destination and Short Description	<b>Long Beach, CA; Marine Advanced Technology Education Center Remotely-Operated Vehicle World Championships</b>
School Name	<b>Sound School</b>
Grade Level(s)	<b>9 - 12</b>
Anticipated # of Students	<b>6</b>
Anticipated # of Chaperones: <b>2</b>	Note: there should be at least 2 NHPS staff chaperones. If there are male and female students on the trip, there must be a male and a female chaperone.
Mode(s) of Transportation	<b>Fly to LAX, rent a minivan to drive to Long Beach</b>
Accommodations	<b>Travelodge by Wyndham, Harbor City, CA</b>
Estimated Costs	Please include the details of what each expense covers. Minivan rental \$464, Flights \$4200, Hotel \$1072
Fundraising Plans What will you do for students who cannot afford the trip?	Students have four fundraisers planned, as well as a GoFundMe page, and we have a generous donor who will subsidize students who cannot afford to make up the difference between costs and fundraising.
<b>Academic Connection &amp; Objectives</b> <b>(consult your Curriculum Supervisor with questions)</b>	
Ocean Engineering students will connect with industry professionals in the fields of engineering and marine technology from around the world, as well as employers at the Ocean Careers Expo that runs simultaneously with the competition. In addition they will interact with student engineering teams from around the world from universities and high schools as far away as Singapore, Iran, Ukraine, Scotland, etc. This is an irreplaceable opportunity.	