

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Bridgeport | Achievement First Bridgeport Academy

BRIDGEPORT

Achievement First Bridgeport Academy

Shalia Garnett, Principal–Elementary School
655 Stillman Street
Bridgeport, CT 06608
Telephone: 203-338-0593
Email: shaliagarnett@achievementfirst.org

Grades: K–4 | Enrollment: 467 | Opening Date: Fall 2010 | Board Chairperson: Rajeev Lakra – Raj.Lakra@wellsfargo.com

[Achievement First Bridgeport Academy Elementary School](#) is a public charter school located in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Serving students in kindergarten through Grade 4, with a focus on cultivating a lifelong love of learning and helping students develop the building block skills of success.

Achievement First Bridgeport Academy–Middle School

Stephanie Fox, Principal-Middle School
529 Noble Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06608
Telephone: 203-333-9128
Email: stephaniefox@achievementfirst.org

Grades: 5–8 | Enrollment: 383 | Opening Date: Fall 2007 | Board Chairperson: Rajeev Lakra – Raj.Lakra@wellsfargo.com

[Achievement First Bridgeport Academy](#) is a rigorous college preparatory public charter school that serves students from the Bridgeport community. The educational program is built upon the culture and academic curriculum developed at Amistad Academy. Achievement First Bridgeport prioritizes both academic and social growth, with a central mission focused on guiding students towards college graduation and/or careers. Achievement First Bridgeport Academy maintains high expectations for student behavior and academic progress, fostering a culture where achievement is not only valued but also considered 'cool.' Within this positive environment, students feel safe, inspiring them to develop greater self-awareness and confidence. To support our students' learning journeys, we offer numerous opportunities, including extended instructional days, small-group learning, after-school tutoring, and a Summer Academy program. Graduates of Achievement First Bridgeport Academy have the opportunity to continue their education at Amistad High School in New Haven through a cooperative agreement between the Achievement First schools.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Bridgeport | The Bridge Academy | Capital Preparatory Harbor School

BRIDGEPORT

The Bridge Academy

Tyrone Elliott, Executive Director
160 Pulaski Street
Bridgeport, CT 06608
Telephone: (203) 336-9999
Email: tyrone.elliott@bridgeacademy.org

Middle School Principal | Rachel Allison rachel.allison@bridgeacademy.org

Grades: 7–12 | Enrollment: 280 | Opening Date: Fall 1997 | Board Chairperson: Celeste Markle – c_markle@yahoo.com

[The Bridge Academy](#) serves 280 students in grades 7 through 12. We are a small, supportive learning environment that works to meet the diverse needs of all community members. One hundred percent of our seniors are accepted to college, and many return to work at Bridge after graduating. We are especially proud of the fact that many of our alumni send their children to Bridge. We have been serving the families of Bridgeport for over 25 years and look forward to 25 more!

Capital Preparatory Harbor School

Dr. Ayanna Carter, Asst. Superintendent
777 Main Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Telephone: (475) 422-5900
Email: ayanna.carter@capitalprepharbor.org

Upper School Principal

Wynton Borders
777 Main Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Telephone: (475) 422-5900
wynton.borders@capitalprepharbor.org

Lower School Principal

Ronald Hawkins
461 Mill Hill Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Telephone: (860) 969-3300
ronald.hawkins@capitalprepharbor.org

Grades: K-12 | Enrollment: 778 | Opening Date: Fall 2015 | Board Chairperson: Richardo Griffith - richardo.griffith@capitalprepharbor.org

[Capital Preparatory Harbor School](#) provides a year-round, college-preparatory education that encourages students to become scholars and agents of change. At Capital Prep, every student is expected to graduate and attend a four-year college of their choice. Capital Prep is an early-college model, which means students will have access to college courses while in high school.

Serving as the anchor for student development, Capital Prep educators provide an educational environment that creates opportunities for all students to realize and fulfill their academic, social, and civic responsibilities. As leaders of social justice, we expect our students to use their education to improve the lives of others.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Bridgeport | Great Oaks Charter School | New Beginnings Family Academy

BRIDGEPORT

Great Oaks Charter School Bridgeport

John Scalice, Principal
375 Howard Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06605
Telephone: (203) 870-8188
Email: jscalice@greatoakscharter.org

Middle School Principal | Denise Linares dlinares@greatoakscharter.org
High School Principal | Chris Pellegrino cpellegrino@greatoakscharter.org

Director of Operations | Latoya Hubbard lhubbard@greatoakscharter.org

Grades: 6-12 | Enrollment: 661 | Opening Date: Fall 2014 | Board Chairperson: Bob Carlson - bcarlson@greatoakscharter.org

The mission of the **Great Oaks Charter School-Bridgeport (GO-BPT)** is to prepare students to succeed in college. The purpose of the school is to give students the knowledge and values required to graduate from a competitive four-year college by delivering individualized instruction, emphasizing character development, and fostering relationships with families. What sets GO-BPT apart is the tutoring model. GO delivers at least two periods of one-on-one or small group tutoring to every student every day through the Great Oaks Tutor Corps.

At GO-BPT, the unrelenting focus on academic achievement with individualized care and support develops students' mindsets, skills, and knowledge to prepare them for high school and college success. We deeply value our scholars and recognize the greatness in every individual. Our team gets to know students extremely well so that they can educate the individual to maximize their potential.

New Beginnings Family Academy

Ronelle P. Swagerty, Chief Executive Officer
184 Garden Street
Bridgeport, CT 06605
Telephone: (203) 384-2897
Email: rpswagerty@nbfacademy.org

Lower School Principal | Collette Fearon cfearon@nbfacademy.org
Upper School Principal | Valore Turner vturner@nbfacademy.org

Chief Academic Officer | Pam Dalton pdalton@nbfacademy.org

Grades: PK-6 | Enrollment: 499 | Opening Date: Fall 2002 | Board Chairperson: Donald Foley – Donald.e.foley@gmail.com

[New Beginnings Family Academy](#) (NBFA) mission is to provide students with a meaningful, high-quality education through experience-based learning that helps them develop essential social, emotional, and critical-thinking skills. NBFA's emotionally responsive model attends to the whole child, not just academics, and focuses on developing collaborative, socially responsible leaders by organically weaving ethics and character building into daily instruction in small-class settings. Our student-focused approach brings out the best in each child by getting to know them individually, encouraging curiosity, and fostering their personal interests.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Bridgeport | Park City Prep Charter School

BRIDGEPORT

Park City Prep Charter School

Bruce Ravage, Executive Director
1550 State Street
Bridgeport, CT 06605
Telephone: (203) 953-3766 ext. 119
Email: bravage@parkcityprep.org

Assistant Director | Lorraine Moore lmoores@parkcityprep.org
Telephone: (203) 953-3766 ext. 137

Grades: 4–8 | Enrollment: 435 | Opening Date: Fall 2006 | Board Chairperson: John Bryk - jbryk@ZNCLAW.COM

The mission of [Park City Prep Charter School](#) is to maximize the academic achievement of each student in preparation for admission to, and success at, selective college preparatory high schools.

As part of the rigorous curriculum that emphasizes mathematics, scientific inquiry and technology, the faculty and staff work to instill in each student the "PREP" values of responsibility, excellence, and perseverance, and to imbue students with a vision of a future filled with opportunity and promise.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Hartford | Achievement First Hartford Academy

HARTFORD

Achievement First Hartford Academy

Sueleidy Cruz, Principal—Elementary School
305 Greenfield Street
Hartford, CT 06112
Telephone: (860) 695-6560
Email: sueleidycruz@achievementfirst.org

Grades: K–4 | Enrollment: 384 | Opening Date: Fall 2008 | Board Chairperson: Erwin Hurst, Sr. – ethurst@gmail.com

[Achievement First Hartford Academy Elementary](#) was established as a vital component of then-Superintendent Steven Adamowski's ambitious reform plan for Hartford Public Schools. At our school, a tremendous focus is placed on reading, with three hours of daily instruction dedicated to this subject, delivered in alternating blocks of small group sessions. Each school day starts with "Morning Motivation," a joyful time that acknowledges students exemplifying REACH values (Respect, Enthusiasm, Achievement, Citizenship, and Hard Work). Additionally, a schoolwide song is sung to set a positive tone, ensuring that every student embarks on a successful day of learning. At Achievement First Hartford Academy Elementary, the commitment to constant learning extends to the educators themselves. Each teacher is paired with a coach, with whom they meet weekly to pinpoint strengths and develop strategies for improvement.

Achievement First Hartford Summit

O'Raina Simmons, Principal—Middle School
305 Greenfield Street
Hartford, CT 06112
Telephone: (860) 695-6760
Email: orainasimmons@achievementfirst.org

Grades: 5–8 | Enrollment: 357 | Opening Date: Fall 2008 | Board Chairperson: Erwin Hurst, Sr. – ethurst@gmail.com

[Achievement First Hartford Middle](#) was established in 2008 as part of an ambitious reform plan led by then-Superintendent Steven Adamowski for Hartford Public Schools and now holds a place within the district's diverse school portfolio. The school's primary goal is clear: to ensure that every eighth-grade student leaves us equipped with both the academic readiness and character traits necessary for success in a demanding, college-preparatory high school program. Beyond its rigorous academic offerings, AF Hartford Academy Middle is deeply committed to character development. Students in Grades 5-8 receive explicit instruction in embodying the REACH values: Respect, Enthusiasm, Achievement, Citizenship, and Hard Work. Furthermore, the educational experience extends beyond regular school hours. After classes, students can participate in a wide array of activities, including sports teams, music, and arts opportunities, as well as various academic clubs.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Hartford | Achievement First Hartford Academy

Jumoke Academy Charter Schools

HARTFORD

Achievement First Hartford Academy

Laneka Thomas, Principal-High School
High School
305 Greenfield Street
Hartford, CT 06112
Telephone: (860) 695-6680
Email: lanekathomas@achievementfirst.org

Grades: 9–12 | Enrollment: 323 | Opening Date: Fall 2012 | Board Chairperson: Erwin Hurst, Sr. – ethurst@gmail.com

[Achievement First Hartford High School](#) located in Hartford, is a public charter high school. It operates in close collaboration with Achievement First Amistad High School in New Haven, the inaugural high school within the Achievement First network of high-performing public charter schools. Additionally, it shares insights and practices with Achievement First Brooklyn High School, which commenced operations in Brooklyn, NY, in 2009. One of the invaluable lessons drawn from the experience of Achievement First Amistad High School, established in 2006, is the critical importance of urban high schools dedicated to the explicit mission of closing the opportunity gap. Achievement First Hartford High School is committed to ensuring that students receive a consistent blend of academic rigor and character development, ultimately equipping them to navigate the path to college, career, and beyond.

Jumoke Academy Charter School, Inc.

Dr. Troy Monroe, CEO/Superintendent
999 Asylum Avenue, Suite 200
Hartford, CT 06105
Telephone: (860) 216-9634
Email: monroet@jumokeacademy.org

Executive Assistant to Dr. Monroe | Tanisha Whitter whittert@jumokeacademy.org
Telephone: (860) 216-9634

Chief Academic Dean | Dr. Marie Gordon-Hall gordonhall@jumokeacademy.org

Grades: PK–8 | Enrollment: 618 | Opening Date: Fall 1997 | Board Chairperson: James Michel - jmichel@centralcthd.com

[Jumoke Academy's](#) goal is to prepare children to compete in the global marketplace by achieving high academic and social excellence. Students are required to maintain full participation in a rigorous academic program that develops their critical thinking skills and mastery of grade appropriate math, reading, writing and science. Jumoke Academy maintains a strong partnership with its parents, community members and local universities. Among the school's objectives are teaching all children a foreign language, technology/library science and arts literacy.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Hartford | Jumoke Academy Charter Schools

HARTFORD

TED Elementary

Latoya Johnson, Principal
250 Blue Hills Avenue
Hartford, CT 06112
Telephone: (860) 216-9621 ext. 621
Email: johnsonl1@jumokeacademy.org

Grades: PK–4 | Enrollment: 409 | Opening Date: Fall 1997 | Board Chairperson: James Michel - jmichel@centralcth.com

[Jumoke Academy's](#) mission is to prepare children to compete in the global marketplace by achieving high academic and social excellence. Scholars are required to maintain full participation in a rigorous academic program that develops their critical thinking skills and mastery of grade appropriate math, reading, writing and science. Jumoke Academy maintains a strong partnership with its parents, community members and local universities. Among the school's objectives are exposing all children to a world language, technology, science, and arts literacy.

TED Elementary School's PreK program is accredited by the National Association for the education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Jumoke Academy Honors Middle School

Kashay Green, Principal
339 Blue Hills Avenue
Hartford, CT 06112
Telephone: (860) 904-7831, ext. 831
Email: greenk@jumokeacademy.org

Grades: 5–8 | Enrollment: 139 | Opening Date: 2010 | Board Chairperson: James Michel - jmichel@centralcth.com

Nicknamed "[JAH-SMaRT" middle school academy](#) is thematically centered on STEM education and promotes classroom and enrichment activities that facilitate scientific exploration. Our mission is to develop our students into mature, young adults who will make valuable contributions to the global society. Eighth graders will leave JAH-SMaRT with a desire to question the world around them and the 21st century skills necessary to change it for the better!

Scholars at JAH-SMaRT participate in the Amazon Future Engineers program and a rigorous academic program in language arts, math, science, and social studies. In addition to these subjects, scholars receive character development classes about how to navigate the transition to middle school life. Scholars also receive exposure to different career options in math and science through guest lectures and a host of science themed enrichment classes.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Hartford | Jumoke Academy Charter Schools

HARTFORD

Jumoke Academy Honors at the Hartford Conservatory

Heather Jacobi, Principal

875 Asylum Avenue

Hartford, CT 06105

Telephone: (860) 904-5864, ext. 864

Email: jacobih@jumokeacademy.org

Grades: 5–8 | Enrollment: 70 | Opening Date: Fall 2012 | Board Chairperson: James Michel - jmichel@centralcthd.com

[Jumoke Academy Honors at The Hartford Conservatory](#) is an honors middle school with an arts integrated focus. Our mission is to develop our scholars into mature, young adults who will make valuable contributions to the global society. Scholars will graduate with exceptional 21st century skills, an appreciation for the arts, exemplary character, an understanding of diverse cultures and a confident sense of self.

At Jumoke Academy Honors at the Hartford Conservatory (JAH-HC), scholars participate in a rigorous academic program in English Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. In addition to these subjects, scholars participate in extensive arts studies that include instrumental and vocal music, visual and multimedia arts, dance, and theater. The arts are also infused throughout the academic curriculum. Through experience in creative pursuits and performances, scholars will develop skills of leadership, self-motivation, collaboration, goal setting, planning, organization, and effective communication. We have created and value an environment that is engaging and responsive to adolescent development. Scholars at JAH-HC will be excited about learning, intellectually curious, and will act with thoughtfulness and compassion.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Manchester | Odyssey Community School

MANCHESTER

Odyssey Community School

Dr. Philip O'Reilly, Executive Director
579 West Middle Turnpike
Manchester, CT 06040
Email: poreilly@odysseyschool.org
Telephone: (860) 645-1234 ext. 156

Co-Principal | Jessica Swann jswann@odysseyschool.org

Telephone (860) 645-1234 ext.147

Co-Principal | Michelle Bashaw mbashaw@odysseyschool.org

Telephone (860) 645-1234 ext.165

Grades: PK–8 | Enrollment: 373 | Opening Date: Fall 1997 | Board Chairperson: Miriam Lewis - mlewis@odysseyschool.org

[Odyssey Community School](#) (OCS) mission is to provide a positive elementary and middle school experience that emphasizes academic excellence, the ability to communicate effectively using traditional and technological media, and the development of strong character and self-confidence. Odyssey believes that students need to be intelligent consumers of information in this ever-changing information age. OCS provides a variety of technology tools to help students learn and teach students to use these tools to enhance their education. The academic curriculum is rigorous, with a strong focus on helping students become critical thinkers and problem solvers.

The CIRCLE values Courage, Integrity, Respect, Curiosity, Leadership and Excellence have been our guiding values since Odyssey's first days. Teaching students to incorporate these core values in their lives, in both formal and informal ways.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

New Haven | Amistad Academy Elementary School | Amistad Middle School

NEW HAVEN

Amistad Academy - Elementary School

Lauren Raimondi, Principal

130 Edgewood Avenue

New Haven, CT 06511

Telephone: (203) 772-7000

Email: laurenraimondi@achievementfirst.org

Grades: K–4 | Enrollment: 470 | Opening Date: Fall 2006 | Board Chairperson: Lorraine Gibbons - lgibbons@shehancenter.org

[Amistad Academy Elementary](#) opened in New Haven in 2006, as a long-anticipated expansion of the flagship Amistad Academy Middle School. During the inaugural year of the elementary school, a remarkable transformation occurred: at the start, only 4 percent of kindergarten students were reading at or above their grade level, but by the year's end, an impressive 99 percent had achieved this milestone. The key to the remarkable success of Amistad Academy Elementary lies in its foundation of a vibrant school culture characterized by values such as sharing, caring, hard work, reflection, and enjoyment of the learning process. Each morning, the music teacher leads "Morning Motivation" with an engaging chant, asking, "Are you going to have fun today?" Furthermore, a culture of mutual support and growth thrives among the educators, with regular collegial observations and a continuous exchange of best practices.

Amistad Academy – Middle School

Jasmine Watts, Principal

130 Edgewood Avenue

New Haven, CT 06511

Telephone: (203) 772-7000

Email: jasminewatts@achievementfirst.org

Grades: 5–8 | Enrollment: 375 | Opening Date: Fall 1999 | Board Chairperson: Lorraine Gibbons - lgibbons@shehancenter.org

[Amistad Academy Middle](#), the flagship institution of Achievement First, was established in New Haven in 1999, and marked its 20th year of operation in 2019. This renowned school gained significant recognition when it was featured in the PBS documentary titled "Closing the Achievement Gap" in 2004. It also earned the distinction of being named Connecticut's 2006 Title I Distinguished School due to achieving the most substantial performance gains among all middle schools in the state. The school has a strong sense of community, illustrated by its weekly "Morning Circle" gatherings. During these sessions, students receive recognition from both teachers and peers for their academic accomplishments and exemplary character traits. Additionally, "Town Meetings" occur every six weeks, fostering school spirit through music, skits, cheers, and awards. Amistad Academy Middle School also boasts a robust after-school enrichment program known as "Encore!" This program provides students with daily instruction in various areas, including theater, karate, dance, orchestra, volleyball, step team, graphic design, and other arts and athletic activities.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

New Haven | Amistad Academy High School

NEW HAVEN

Amistad Academy – High School

Dr. Simon Obas, Principal

580 Dixwell Avenue

New Haven, CT 06511

Telephone: (203) 772-1092

Email: simonobas@achievementfirst.org

Grades: 9–12 | Enrollment: 666 | Opening Date: Fall 2006 | Board Chairperson: Lorraine Gibbons - lgibbons@shehancenter.org

Achievement First [Amistad High School](#) is a college and career preparatory public charter school in New Haven, Connecticut. We provide a life-altering education that prepares students for the opportunities and responsibilities they will face in college and beyond. The school was founded in 2006 based on one innovative premise: close the opportunity gap by providing a prep-school-quality education to urban students. Achievement First Amistad High combines rigorous courses and high expectations with a host of support services more common at affluent and private high schools, including SAT prep, intensive college counseling, tutoring and explicit character education. Achievement First Amistad High is recognized as a national model of education reform, proving what is truly possible when urban students receive a world-class education. In the classrooms at Achievement First Amistad High, all students are prepared to take responsibility for their own learning. As students' progress from grade 9 to 12, instruction shifts from a teacher-directed approach to student-led exchanges of ideas. Outside of class, students grow as athletes, volunteers, leaders and responsible community members through participation in the school's extracurricular, athletic and arts programs.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

New Haven | Booker T. Washington Academy

NEW HAVEN

Booker T. Washington Academy

Dr. Belinda Carberry, Ed.D Interim Director
804 State Street
New Haven, CT 06511
Telephone: (203) 691-6535
Email: belinda.carberry@btwanewhaven.org

Elementary School Principal | Charlene Antoine charlene.antoine@btwanewhaven.org

Middle School Principal | Adam Rosenberg adam.rosenberg@btwanewhaven.org
306 Circular Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514
Middle School Telephone – (203) 230-0071

Grades: K–8 | Enrollment: 450 | Opening Date: Fall 2014 | Board Chairperson: Kelcy Steele - pastorksteele@gmail.com

[Booker T. Washington Academy's](#) goal is to prepare scholars for college and beyond through a mission inspired by Booker T. Washington's Credo: Excellence is doing common things in uncommon ways.

BTWA is committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and challenging learning environment to ensure that every scholar has the capacity to read, write, think, discuss and problem solve, and that these transferable skills are effectively utilized to achieve their college and career objectives.

BTWA educates its scholars for leadership and responsible citizenship in society by developing the cognitive, moral, and social skills of children so they can compete academically and thrive in a diverse global community. BTWA's scholars will receive a rigorous and developmentally appropriate curriculum including activities that address the unique talents and backgrounds of each child in the areas of science, mathematics, language arts, social studies, technology, physical education, music, and art.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

New Haven | Common Ground High School

NEW HAVEN

Common Ground High School

Monica Maccera-Filppu, Executive Director, x1216
New Haven Ecology Project
358 Springside Avenue
New Haven, CT 06515
Telephone: (203) 389-4333 x1216
Email: monica.maccerafilppu@nhep.com

Assistant School Director | Dr. Shanequa Sturgis-Nash
shanequa.sturgis-nash@commongroundct.org

High School Director | Cherry Pacquette-Emmanuel
cherry.pacquette-emmanuel@nhep.com Telephone: (203) 389-4333 x1203

Grades: 9–12 | Enrollment: 230 | Opening Date: Fall 1997 | Board Chairperson: Alexis Smith – alexis.smith@nhep.com

[Common Ground High School](#) is the nation's oldest environmental charter high school, working to build the next generation of successful college students and powerful environmental leaders. The school uses its campus-20 acres of wetland, farm and forest at the base of West Rock State Park - and the city of New Haven to engage students and provide challenging, relevant learning experiences.

Common Ground mission is to serve as a center for learning and leadership, inviting people of all ages and identities to connect to their urban environment, build community, grow to their full potential and contribute to a just and sustainable world.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

New Haven | Elm City Montessori School | Highville Charter School

NEW HAVEN

Elm City College Preparatory-Elementary School

Lauren D'Addario, Interim Principal

407 James Street

New Haven, CT 06513

Telephone: (203) 772-7010

Email: laurendaddario@achievementfirst.org

Grades: K–4 | Enrollment: 323 | Opening Date: Fall 2004 | Board Chairperson: Dick Ferguson - dickferguson2000@aol.com

[Elm City College Preparatory Elementary](#) which opened its doors in New Haven in 2004, marked a significant milestone as the first Achievement First school to introduce an elementary program. Even years after its establishment, the school maintains a steadfast focus on its elementary reading curriculum. Central to this curriculum is a dedicated three-hour reading block, considered a cornerstone of the educational approach. This block revolves around a phonics-based literacy program and the creation of text-rich classrooms. Through immersion in the world of sounds and words, students quickly acquire a strong foundation for more advanced reading. At Elm City College Preparatory Elementary, educators employ creative methods to foster and acknowledge hard work among students. These initiatives include taking students on field trips to local bookstores and organizing "Funtastic Friday" celebrations, adding an element of excitement to the learning experience.

Elm City College Preparatory-Middle School

Tanesha Forman, Principal

403 James Street

New Haven, CT 06513

Telephone: (203) 772-5332

Email: tanashaforman@achievementfirst.org

Grades: 5–8 | Enrollment: 125 | Opening Date: Fall 2008 | Board Chairperson: Dick Ferguson - dickferguson2000@aol.com

In the 2008-09 academic year, a significant milestone was reached at [Elm City College Preparatory Middle School](#). It marked the first instance in the network where fifth graders transitioned from an Achievement First elementary school to an Achievement First middle school. This shift was as noteworthy, as historically, incoming fifth graders had typically lagged by two years in terms of grade-level proficiency. However, many of these students now found themselves not only catching up but also surpassing their grade-level expectations by more than a full year. Elm City College Preparatory Middle takes pride in cultivating a particularly nurturing yet demanding culture. Here, respect, teamwork, and unwavering dedication to hard work serve as the gold standard.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

New Haven | Elm City Montessori School | Highville Charter School

NEW HAVEN

*LOCAL CHARTER

Elm City Montessori School

Julia Webb, Principal

495 Blake Street

New Haven, CT 06515

Telephone: (475) 220-4100

Email: julia.webb@elmcitymontessori.org

Director of Finance and Operations | Florisca Carter florisca.carter@elmcitymontessori.org

Grades: PK-8 | Enrollment: 319 | Opening Date: Fall 2014 | Board Chairperson: Michael Van Leesten - mvanleesten@gmail.com

[Elm City Montessori School](#) (ECMS) is a public school offering a fully implemented Montessori curriculum to New Haven families. Currently enrolling children between the ages of three and five years old, Elm City Montessori School will grow to serve 350 students in grades PK3-8 over the next 8 years. Serving a racially, economically, and socially diverse population, ECMS faculty and staff guide students as they develop within themselves the power to shape their lives and the world around them.

Elm City Montessori School is unique in that it is the only Local Charter School in the state of Connecticut. This means that, although the school has its own board of directors and substantial flexibility with regard to curriculum, ECMS works closely with the school district to ensure its students are taught by unionized, highly qualified teachers and have access to the supports they need to succeed. ECMS students are evaluated using the same tools and are held accountable to the same standards as all students attending New Haven Public Schools.

Highville Charter School

Che Dawson, Principal

1 Science Park

New Haven, CT 06511

Telephone: (203) 287-0528

Email: cdawson@highvillecharter.com

Principal's Assistant | Elizabeth Fernandez efernandez@highvillecharter.com

Director of Business Operations | Ebony West ewest@highvillecharter.com

Grades: PK-12 | Enrollment: 502 | Opening Date: Fall 1998 | Board Chairperson: Linda Baylor - lbaylor@highvillecharter.com

Located in the heart of Newhallville, [Highville Charter School](#) provides Greater New Haven and its surrounding towns a caring community with strong parent involvement. Highville prepares and instills a desire for all learners to confidently use technology, think globally and develop into globally conscious citizens. Students will gain the confidence necessary to chart their course through an ever-changing society and utilize their global knowledge to make informed decisions. Such a globally conscious citizen will be values-oriented, wellness conscious, career directed, competent in communications and problem-solving, skillful in creative and critical thinking, culturally sophisticated, and acutely aware of global interdependence.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

New London | Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication

NEW LONDON

Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication – (ISAAC)

Dr. Nicholas Spera, Executive Director
190 Governor Winthrop Blvd.
New London, CT 06320
Telephone: (860) 447-1003
Email: nspera@isaacschool.org

Executive Assistant | Mildred Rivera mrivera@isaacschool.org

Principal | William Linski wliniski@isaacschool.org

Assistant Principal | Tanya Collins tcollins@isaacschool.org

Grades: 6–8 | Enrollment: 276 | Opening Date: Fall 1997 | Board Chairperson: Richard Muckle - rmuckle@isaacschool.org

[Interdistrict School for Arts & Communication \(ISAAC\)](#), established in 1997, is a public charter middle school operated by a board of directors. Students are accepted through an open, non-merit-based lottery that currently draws from 13 different towns and cities in southeastern Connecticut. In 2014, ISAAC was awarded the State Department of Education School of Distinction Award for the Highest Progress. In 2020, ISAAC received initial candidacy accreditation with the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). ISAAC offers an extensive array of arts and communication-themed programs and opportunities, as well as academically rigorous high school preparatory classes that meet the needs of all students. Sixth graders are heterogeneously placed in high school-prep only courses. In seventh grade, advanced levels of study are offered in Honors Pre-Algebra and English Language Arts. In 2021, ISAAC was awarded the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant that allows students the opportunity to participate in after-school programming such as: cooking club, environmental club, video game club, leadership club, along with a full array of seasonal athletics including cross country, fencing, boys' and girls' basketball and girls' volleyball.

ISAAC is a diverse middle school in which arts and communication act as the heartbeat. We believe that all students can succeed with hard work and grit. Our stakeholders support the development of each student's journey in becoming critical thinkers, lifelong learners by developing the academic, civic, and social skills needed to be difference makers as active citizens in our communities.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Norwich | Integrated Day Charter School

South Norwalk | Side By Side Charter School

NORWICH

Integrated Day Charter School

Dr. Ellen Retelle, Director
68 Thermos Avenue
Norwich, CT 06360
Telephone: (860) 892-1900
Email: ellenr@idcs.org

Assistant Director | Debby Allard deba@idcs.org

Grades: PK–8 | Enrollment: 364 | Opening Date: Fall 1997 | Board Chairperson: Allie Martin – [alliem@idcs](mailto:alliem@idcs.org)

The [Integrated Day Charter School](#) in partnership with its children, families and community, provides a safe, flexible, and academically challenging learning environment that meets the unique social, emotional, academic, and physical needs of each child. IDCS students will become confident, socially responsible citizens and lifelong learners who apply their knowledge to improve themselves and the world around them.

Specific areas of concentration include individual research, parental involvement, social curriculum, multi-age grouping, personal goal setting and assessment, community building and an extended schedule.

SOUTH NORWALK

Side By Side Charter School

Matthew Nittoly, Executive Director
10 Chestnut Street
South Norwalk, CT 06854
Telephone: (203) 857-0306
Email: mnittoly@sbscharter.org

Assistant Director | Mary Newbery mnewbery@sbscharter.org

Grades: PK–8 | Enrollment: 236 | Opening Date: Fall 1997 | Board Chairperson: Larry Cafero – lcafero@caferolaw.com

The mission of the [Side by Side Charter School](#) is to create a multiracial learning environment for urban and suburban children and their families that ensures every child succeeds and every voice is heard. The school addresses all factors that affect achievement. As a professional development model school, Side by Side is committed to perfecting the art and craft of teaching. Its philosophy of social justice drives its interdisciplinary curriculum. As a training site for interns, it serves as a model for child-centered, interactive instruction in a diverse setting.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Stamford | Stamford Charter School for Excellence

Waterbury | Brass City Charter School

STAMFORD

Stamford Charter School for Excellence

Kevin Fischer, Executive Director

1 Schuyler Avenue

Stamford, CT 06902

Telephone: (203) 989-0000

Email: KFischer@stamfordexcellence.org

Assistant Principal | Shantay Primus sprimus@stamfordexcellence.org

Director of Operations/Finance | Monica Rios mrrios@stamfordexcellence.org

Grades: PK-8 | Enrollment: 560 | Opening Date: Fall 2015 | Board Chairperson: Debra Logan-Rabb - Therabbs@hotmail.com

[Stamford Charter School for Excellence](#) is a public charter school based on a proven, nationally-recognized school model, practiced by the Bronx Charter School for Excellence, that can boost student achievement and prepare more Stamford students for college and the jobs of tomorrow. The Key Elements of the Model Proposed for the Stamford School High academic standards focused on preparing kids for college and jobs, extended school days, broad liberal arts education that stresses teaching critical thinking skills, data-driven instruction, rigorous parent engagement and open collaboration with the community.

While there are charter and high schools, there are no charter elementary schools in Stamford. SCSE offers another high performing academic option for families.

WATERBURY

Brass City Charter School

Dr. Barbara L. Ruggiero, Executive Director

289 Willow Street

Waterbury CT, 06710

Telephone: (203) 527-5942

Email: bruggiero@brasscitycharter.org

Principal | Dr. Jeanine Pocoski, Ed.D. jpocoski@brasscitycharter.org

Dean of the Lower School | Carrie Skaggs cskaggs@brasscitycharter.org

Coordinator, Upper School | Kristin White kwhite@brasscitycharter.org

Grades: PK-8 | Enrollment: 360 | Opening Date: Fall 2013 | Board Chairperson: Annie Scott – Annscott622@aol.com

[Brass City Charter School](#) (BCCS) provides a rigorous academic and holistic social-emotional learning program that will eliminate the achievement gap for underserved students. BCCS enables students to soar academically, develop as people of character, and lead meaningful and productive lives both for themselves and for their community. BCCS is a highly relational school. We celebrate a dedicated staff who believe deeply in the potential of each child, small class size, a structure that is highly supportive of teachers and their development, and community involvement. Parents are expected to play a significant role in their child's education.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Winsted | Explorations Charter School

WINSTED

Explorations Charter School

Jill Johnson, Principal
The Brian J. O'Neil Building
71 Spencer Street
Winsted, CT 06098
Telephone: (860) 738-9070
Email: jill@explorationscs.com

Assistant Principal | Joseph White joseph@explorationscs.com

Assistant Principal | Bill Hallam bill@explorationscs.com

Grades: 9–12 | Enrollment: 92 | Opening Date: Fall 1997 | Board Chairperson: Robert Peterson – spiah2012@gmail.com

The mission of [Explorations Charter School](#) is to provide an environment that cultivates a positive attitude toward lifelong learning in an experiential, non-traditional educational setting.

Explorations' program emphasizes activities which foster the acceptance of responsibility and the development of positive decision-making and problem-solving skills. We encourage students to develop a healthy attitude toward their school, community, work, family, and, most importantly, toward their own sense of self. Through family and community involvement, our students realize how each of us takes ownership in contributing to a better future for all.

It is the goal of EXPLORATIONS Charter School to develop students into adults who will be good citizens, good and productive role models, and individuals who will make a positive contribution to society.