



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** Superintendents of Schools

**FROM:** Irene E. Parisi, Chief Academic Officer

**DATE:** April 20, 2021

**SUBJECT:** TeachRock Partnership – Invitation to Apply

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) in partnership with TeachRock, invite districts to apply to participate in a unique learning opportunity as a TeachRock partner.

TeachRock is a standards-aligned, arts integration curriculum that uses the history of popular music and culture to help teachers engage students. Innovative lesson plans developed by experienced educators and top experts in the field foster genuine learning in areas including social studies, language arts, geography, science, STEAM, general music and more. TeachRock has crafted engaging and meaningful material for every classroom and developed exciting professional development workshops to share it with teachers.

Once selected, [TeachRock](#) will work with participating school districts, on the integration of classroom lesson plans that connect history, music and culture in a way that is designed to resonate with students. Up to 10 districts will be selected to participate in the first cohort (maximum 50 participating teachers).

If selected to participate, districts will receive:

- TeachRock led professional learning to create integrated curriculum maps and instructional materials.
- TeachRock led virtual classroom walkthrough support with TeachRock founder Steven Van Zandt, the TeachRock team and CSDE staff.
- Access to TeachRock staff through recurring office hours open to both district and school staff.
- Opportunities to be recognized as partner schools and districts in Rock and Roll Forever Foundation newsletters, on the TeachRock website, social media platforms, and Foundation events.

To take advantage of this unique learning opportunity and resource, please complete and return the attached application by **May 4, 2021**. Selected districts will be notified by May 10, 2021. Contact [Irene.Parisi@ct.gov](mailto:Irene.Parisi@ct.gov) with questions or requests for assistance.

IEP:ln

cc: Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Acting Commissioner of Education  
Desi D. Nesmith, Deputy Commissioner of Academics and Innovation