



CTE Career Pathways in Action



CONNECTICUT STATE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

February 2023



TODAY'S SKILLS
TOMORROW'S CAREERS

February is CTE Month!

Celebrate CTE Month with schools around Connecticut and students engaged in career pathways.



CELEBRATE **TODAY,**
OWN **TOMORROW!**



TODAY'S SKILLS

TOMORROW'S CAREERS

Contents

[Killingly High School](#)

[New Britain High School](#)

[Danbury High School](#)

[Shelton High School](#)

[Middletown High School](#)

[Woodland Regional HS \(RSD 16\)](#)

[Wilby High School \(Waterbury\)](#)

[Waterbury Career Academy](#)

[Lyman Hall High School \(Wallingford\)](#)

[Enfield High School](#)

[Shepaug Valley Regional HS \(RSD 12\)](#)

[Fairfield Ludlowe High School](#)

[Brien McMahon High School \(Norwalk\)](#)

[Newtown High School](#)

[Southington High School](#)

[East Haven High School](#)

[Branford High School](#)

[Stratford High School](#)

[Granby Memorial High School](#)

[Valley Regional High School \(RSD 4\)](#)

[Connecticut Technical and Career System](#)

[Career and Technical Student Organizations](#)

Killingly High School

Killingly Robotics Wins 2023
Engineering Design Award in Tokyo,
Japan!

www.killinglyrobotics.org



New Britain High School

Once again, this year, New Britain High School students will be participating in Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs. VITA/TCE is available to help taxpayers who may not be able to afford the services of a paid tax preparer. New Britain students have been partnering with VITA/TCE for ten years and have been making a difference as they serve individuals and families in their community.

The logo for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) features the letters 'VITA' in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below the letters, the words 'Volunteer Income Tax Assistance' are written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font.

VITA
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance



Danbury High School

Danbury Public Schools high school model will transition into the Career Academy Model with its first cohort of students starting fall of 2023! With this wall-to-wall approach, students will utilize hands-on CTE lessons and concepts learned and apply them toward general education classes to unravel the relevance of today's content. Through various experiential learning activities, students will gain a foundational understanding in a career theme of choice earning industry credentials and early college credit to better prepare themselves for the workforce. The icing on the cake are business and community professionals guiding and supporting the development of the academies, while sharing the employability skills needed for high demand and high wage careers!

Shelton High School

Shelton CTE continues to create real-world experiences for students. SHS's award-winning 'Gael News' program, nationally recognized by the Quill and Scroll Society, is led by CTE teacher Carrie Frederick and will focus this month's programming on the benefits of CTE and career pathway development opportunities. SHS is also excited to announce the opening of our newly updated STEM lab, headed by Dr. Mackniak and Mr. Roy, which serves as the cornerstone of technological innovation for the district. Business teacher Mrs. Labov and her students prepare for the annual 'DECA Fashion Show', and collaboratively, Mrs. Adis and Curriculum leader Ms. Garrett foster financial education by hosting the first ever 'Funding the Future' presentation, to be held on campus this April. Culinary arts instructor Mrs. DelBuono will visit Lincoln Technical institute to support career interests with her hospitality students. Shelton Intermediate CTE instructors Mrs. DiMauro, Mr. David, led by and Mr. Williams, prepare for the first ever 'Go Baby Go' event on campus in April, supporting children with mobility challenges.



Middletown High School

- Middletown High School teacher Lee Schwartzman is now offering Introduction to Sports Management in partnership with Southern Connecticut State University. Students can earn three college credits towards this rapidly growing major. Congratulations are also in order for the Robotics Team. The Blue Dragon Robotics hosted their annual state qualifier on Saturday, January 28, 2023. This is the largest tournament in our region for the season with 80 teams competing. Our own team 9909W took the Triple Crown!
- **Excellence:** *top ranked team overall*
- **Tournament Champions:** *head-to-head match winner*
- **Skills Champion:** *individual robot challenges winner*



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Congratulations to our
Robotics Team 9909W
for winning the
**Triple Crown at the state
VEX Robotics Qualifier!**

[Check out the caption to learn more.]

Photo by: Rebecca Lynn Photography

Woodland Regional HS (RSD 16)

- Woodland Regional High School (WRHS) recently formed an articulation agreement with Naugatuck Valley Community College (NVCC) whereby students enrolled in Woodland's Manufacturing class and/or Welding class are eligible to receive college credit from NVCC if they enroll in those programs. Also, many of the students in the manufacturing class have been placed in internships (UERP) at several local manufacturing companies and some have been hired as employees after completing their internship. In addition, a partnership between WRHS's Principles of Marketing class, the Advanced Manufacturing class, and the Precision Axes Company LLC. has been formed to create Woodland Metal Works LLC. This is an interdisciplinary student-operated & led small business specializing in Precision Throwing Axes & other custom metal products, that are being marketed and sold to the high school timber sports community across the U.S."



Wilby High School (Waterbury)

Wilby is excited to launch a Plant Systems Career Pathway leveraging the school's newly restored Greenhouse while Automotive students at Kennedy High School in Waterbury hone their welding skills.



Waterbury Career Academy

Cristy Roso, a senior student in the WCA Health Science Academy was selected to shadow a Physician Assistant in the Waterbury Hospital orthopedic department. She observed 2 hip replacements and 1 prosthetic femur procedure. "It was fascinating to see how the OR is set up and how the team made up of surgical technicians, PAs, the CRNA, RN, and surgeon collaborated to successfully perform the procedures. I was able to understand most of the terminology used in the OR due to the preparation I received in my Health Science classes. Overall, it was an amazing experience and I hope to return again over the summer!" Cristy has accepted a full QuestBridge Scholarship and is headed to Brown University in the fall as a Biological Science major.

WCA Drone Operator Prep students

learn to fly the photography drones. Instructor, Vincent Sapone plans this year are to have students learn the basics and fly the drones in marking period three while doing a few simulated tasks (e.g., acting as a contractor checking our roof for structural damage). "My hope is then to have them use the drones to make a video presentation of our school during marking period four."

WCA business students participated in a marketing class during a field trip to the Post University, Waterbury campus. The field trip was in conjunction with Waterbury Public School's dual enrollment classes where students can earn college credit while still in high school. The students spent an entire day touring a college campus, sitting in on a variety of classes, and experiencing a "day in the life" of a college student.



Lyman Hall High School (Wallingford)

The Principles of Engineering and Manufacturing (PEAM) students in Aaron Czarnecki's class at Lyman Hall High School are using Autodesk's Fusion 360 to create custom chocolate bars using Haas Mini Mills. With these bars they created custom food-safe silicone molds. The students are teaming up with the culinary classes in the FCS Department to make chocolate bars that will fill these molds and the students from graphics communications class to create custom wrappers in which to wrap the finished product.

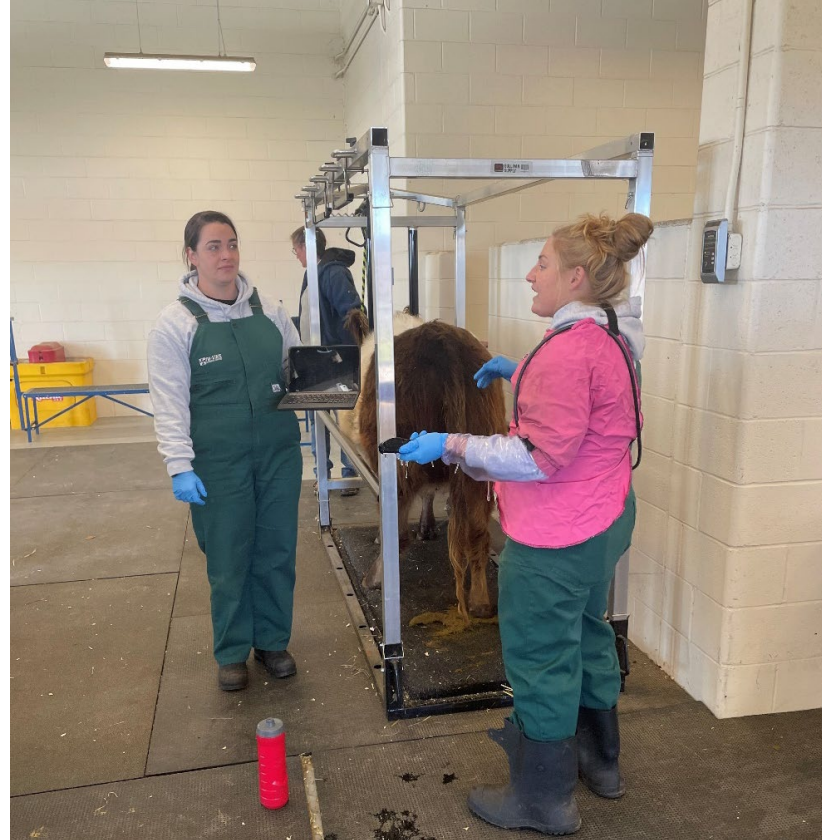


Enfield High School

Enfield Public Schools has been working to better prepare students for the Asnuntuck Community College – High School Pathways Advanced Manufacturing program. We continue to develop curricula and programs to teach advanced manufacturing skills, including 3D solid modeling, CAD/CAM, and manufacturing skills in Grades 8-12. This year Enfield High School Wood Technology 3 students began using a new automatic tool changer CNC router to begin learning multi-toolpath CNC basics. The first projects with this new tool are looking great and we hope it encourages more students to pursue post-secondary programs and careers in advanced manufacturing.

- **School:** Enfield High School
- **Teacher:** Matthew Grigely
- **Students:** Trevor Burk – Chicago Bears flag; Jackson Bouchard – UCONN sign; Andrew Halsey – Red Sox sign at ATC CNC Router





Shepaug Valley Regional HS (RSD 12)

Students in Shepaug's Equine Science program learn hands on skills by managing our 5 horses in our indoor riding arena. We currently have Legend, our quarter horse that is used to teach basic handling and riding skills to our students. We also have 4 mini horses that are used on all levels of students to teach handling, grooming, driving, and jumping.

This year students in the aquaponics course constructed the first aquaponics system at Shepaug's Agriscience Program. This system is being used to produce hydroponic vegetables that are being donated to local food banks (pictured) as well as supplement instruction in our food science course.



Bella Boutique



Grand Opening
12/8: 2:15 - 4:30

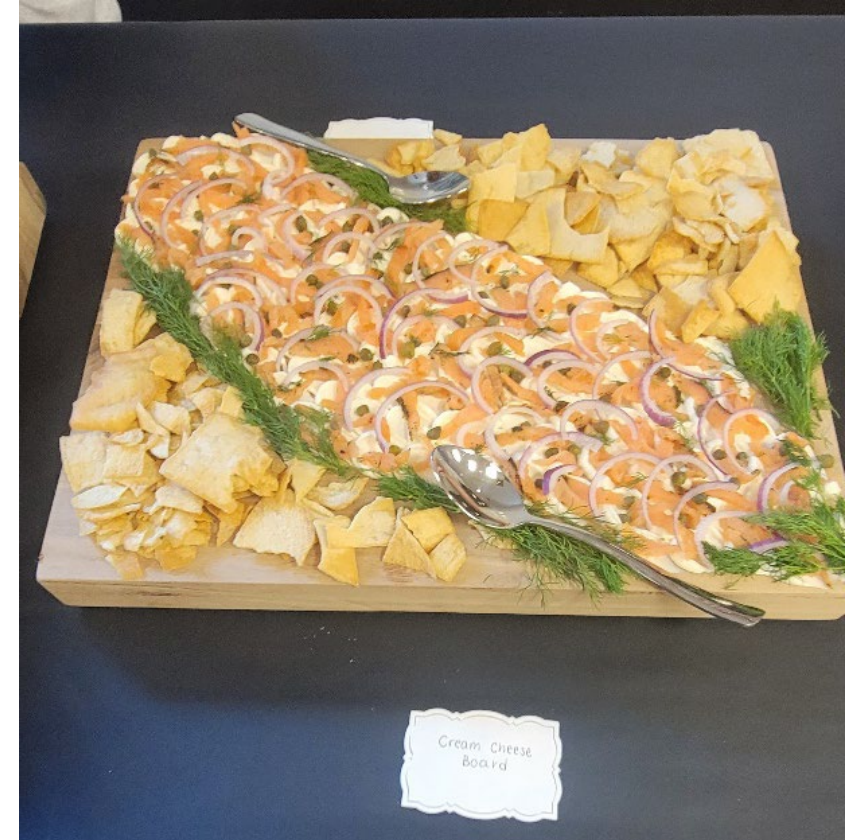
Open: 12/9-12/15

Regular Hours:
7:15 - 2:45

Portion of our proceeds
will be donated to
Dress for Success

We accept cash,
checks, and Paypal

Located in the FLHS
library



Fairfield Ludlow High School

The Fashion Industry Strategies I and II conducted their annual “Bella Boutique” which is a cumulative study experience for the class. Students research, buy or design and manufacture, market, and sell merchandise to be sold to the public. A portion of the proceeds are voted on and donated to causes that the class sees as viable and important. This year the students chose to donate \$250 to the Dress for Success organization.

Food Services students continue to sell lunches and take home dinners to faculty and staff, as well as sell celebration cakes. They have been working on increasing using local seasonal produce in all of their menus to promote Farm to Table in CT.



Brien McMahon High School (Norwalk)

On Friday November 4th, FinTron Investments from Stamford hosted a career fair at P-TECH Norwalk. Each department had a table and discussed with scholars their responsibilities and answered questions. All scholars visited the career fair for 30 minutes. The scholars then voted by QR code on their favorite departments. The winning departments were speaking to the founder and CEO, Wilder Rumpf and the IT department. In December, IBM volunteers visited juniors in Workplace Learning 3 classes to conduct a Resume Workshop. These volunteers worked with groups of 4-5 scholars to offer feedback and revisions to the scholars' resumes. This workshop served as preparation for scholars applying for the IBM Summer Internship.



Eva Bartush, Marine Science Academy Coordinator at Brien McMahon High School co-hosted a Marine Science Career Day for her scholars! In partnership with Beth Wilson-Jordan and the CT Maritime Association (CMA), scholars were very engaged in learning about maritime shipment, supply chain and operations. Presenters highlighted their own journey in school through the maritime industry and highlighted many maritime pathways and institutions of study such as maritime academies and programs. Some of the presenters are current scholars in the maritime industry currently participating in maritime internships.

Newtown High School

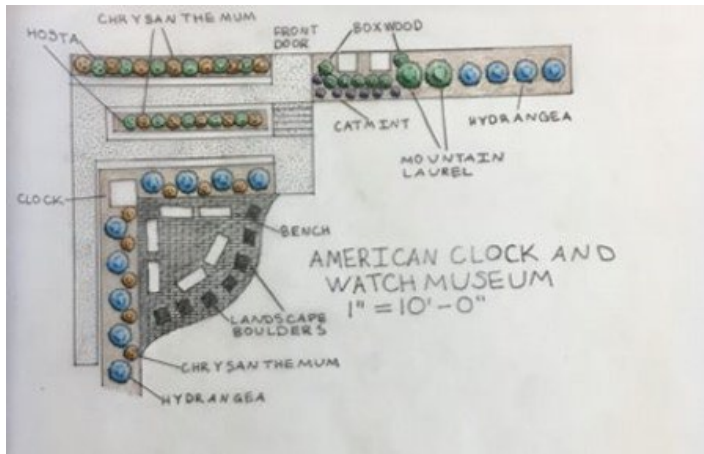
Newtown CTE programs saw upgrades in several areas in 2022. New computers were installed in several labs, one of which enables the Video Game Design course to run Unity. A new routing machine and training allows Drafting and Engineering students to work with current industry standard equipment and software tools. Aerospace Engineering and Drafting and Engineering Design teachers reviewed and revised curriculum and new drones and a Flight Simulator are being put to use in the Aerospace classroom so students can earn hours towards Pilot certification. CTE course enrollment continues to rise in Newtown.





Southington High School

Southington ASTE students have been learning landscape design from their instructor, Owen McLaughlin. Students combined their horticulture, measuring, drafting and rendering skills to complete a comprehensive landscape design. Here, student Abigail Redline has completed a landscape design and perspective for the upcoming American Clock and Watch Museum renovation in Bristol, Connecticut.





East Haven High School

Here at East Haven High School, we like to incorporate art and food! Students did a project where they were asked to make a holiday wreath with food for the community to enjoy. Students had to plan out the food that they were going to use, coordinate the ordering of ingredients and then make sure it was ready to go for the night of our community CTE event.

Branford High School

During the fall 2022 semester, over 50 students in Mindy Baker's Principles of Food classes at Branford High School passed the ServeSafe exam. This certification is an industry-recognized food handler's certification and is highly valued in the restaurant industry. Many of her students plan to pursue careers in Culinary Arts. Certified artisan baker Chef Chris French, an instructor at Manchester Community College, came to Branford High School to demonstrate pizza making for the Intro to Baking and Pastry classes. Chef French discussed the importance of water temperature for ideal flavor and fermentation. He demonstrated several techniques for turning a typical residential oven into a professional pizza oven using quality pizza stones. Students then enjoyed generous pizza samples.





Stratford High School

The Stratford HS preschool learning lab had an open house for prospective applicants during CTE Month! The Vicki Soto Early Learning Center at Stratford High School is a learning resource lab for our high school students provided through a part-time preschool model that serves children ages 3-5 on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The program will run February 7th - May 25th between 9:00 am - 11:45 am. The learning lab provides a light snack and school readiness activities created by students and guided by the classroom teacher as part of Early Childhood and Child Development courses within the Education and Training CTE Career Cluster.

Granby Memorial High School

Granby Memorial High School is very excited to announce the opening of our brand-new kitchen, wood shop and broadcast studio this year that will help to support instruction in the areas of career and technical education. Our brand new professional culinary classroom was a long-awaited update to our current facilities. This state-of-the-art space will provide new opportunities for our students to experience hands-on real-world learning opportunities. The new shop is a bright and inviting workplace for our students to develop and hone their woodworking skills. Students will produce their own personal products including cutting boards, lap desk and pens. In addition, they will develop construction skills and learn about the major components of the house; framing, plumbing, electrical and sheet rocking. Our news studio will allow students to work with state of the art equipment in the communication field. They will be producing live broadcasts including morning announcements and news stories about our school and community. This news studio was built with funding from the Granby Education Foundation.





Valley Regional High School (RSD 4)

Valley Regional High School students will be producing their 500th live broadcast this month! Valley TV Live is an afterschool activity, established in 2003 by Chris LeQuire and Brad Pitman. A 38-student crew runs the club, and they have over 1.16K YouTube subscribers. Valley TV provides students with hands-on opportunities to get involved in all aspects of broadcasting including film, production, directing, and announcing for live sporting events. In addition to athletics, Valley TV covers concerts, musicals, town parades, guest speakers, and other school and community events. Valley Regional High School students have the opportunity to participate in a Manufacturing course where they experience all the facets of local manufacturing. In the classroom, students learn about CNC programming and machining, how to read blueprints, identify electrical components, and measure with precision. Students continue their learning off site at local manufacturing and automotive facilities where they are exposed to career options that exist for them after high school. The hands-on experiences provided at Whelen Engineering in Chester, CT, allow students to experience all phases of production of a Whelen light product, including training in ISO 9001 certification. Valley students are an integral part of the Whelen production process, their work is inventoried and eventually shipped to customers. Students who move on to the Advanced Manufacturing class receive a State of Connecticut 200 hour pre-apprenticeship certificate. Valley Regional High School FCCLA members attended the fall conference in Middletown, CT. This photo features a State Executive Council Member, a proud Valley student. Culinary Arts students participated in a Top Chef competition for their career-based final assessment.

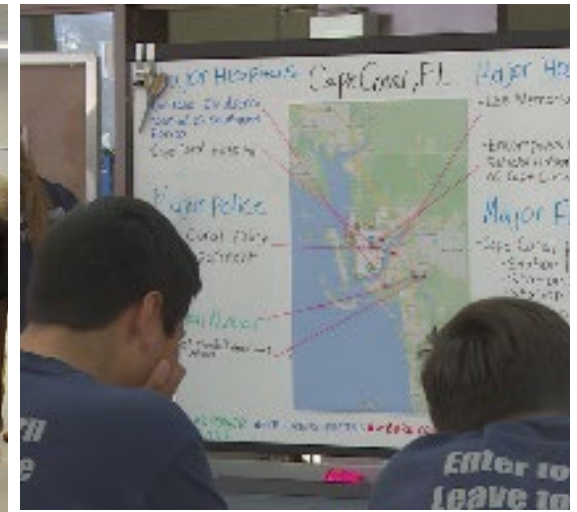
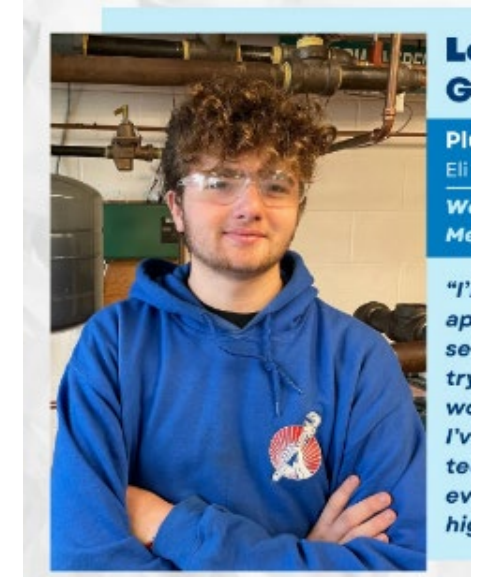
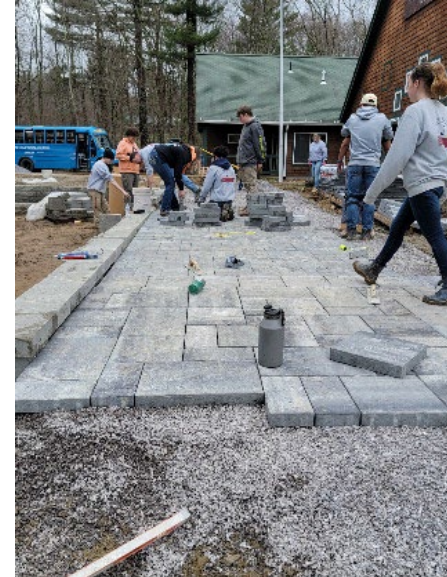


Connecticut Technical and Career System

Norwich Technical High School stayed true to CTECS' mission to prepare trade-bound students to meet the skilled workforce needs in Connecticut. This January, 28 seniors received job offers from General Dynamics Electric Boat across multiple trade areas! These jobs will be waiting for them upon graduation. CTECS has over 160 registered pre-apprentice high school students in plumbing, electrical, HVAC and manufacturing. *Eli Whitney Technical High School* student Logan Ruggiero, a senior in the Plumbing & Heating program, shared his experience as a pre-apprentice. "I'm very proud to be a pre-apprentice. An employer will see this and know that I am trying...know that I want to work and I have good habits. I've learned a lot more at a technical high school than I ever would have at a regular high school." Logan currently works for Quality Mechanical Corporation in East Haven, CT.

Vinal Technical High School's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is the only school-based EOC in the country. When Hurricane Ian hit Florida this past fall, the EOC was activated and students provided real-time briefings each morning to deployed Disaster Medical Assistance team federal responders.

CTECS Student Workforce is a business run by students and faculty at CTECS. We offer services at each school, and we have the unique ability to complete construction jobs off campus. In school year 2021-2022, Student Workforce earned \$856,203 in revenue. Pictured, masonry students from Ellis Technical High School work on a large hardscape project at Camp Woodstock, CT.



Career and Technical Student Organizations

- [DECA Inc.](#)
- [FFA - Preparing Members for Leadership and Career Success](#)
- [FBLA Home - Future Business Leaders of America \(fbla-pbl.org\)](#)
- [Homepage | FCCLA \(fcclainc.org\)](#)
- [HOSA – Future Health Professionals](#)
- [Front Page - SkillsUSA.org](#)
- [Technology Student Association \(tsaweb.org\)](#)