**CSDE and TeachRock Partnership Application for Participation**

**Directions:**

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) invites districts to complete this application to participate in a unique partnership with TeachRock. TeachRock is a standards-aligned, arts integrated curriculum that uses the history of popular music and culture to help teachers engage students. TeachRock was founded by Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Steven Van Zandt. More information about TeachRock is at the bottom of this document.

The purpose of this partnership is to integrate the Arts in the curriculum, and design engaging and meaningful daily lessons so that students make connections, express ideas, feelings, and human experiences through a variety of media.

**For the 2023-24 school year and Cohort 3, TeachRock seeks Social Studies and Music teachers who will teach the TeachRock “Rock and Soul of America” history course in its entirety or incorporate units from the course within their existing curriculum map.**

TeachRock’s “Rock and Soul of America” is a Modern US History course for high school students approved by the State of California and currently running in several states, including CT. Many districts also offer a general music credit to enrolled students. Most teachers run it as a one-semester course, but others have made it a full year that covers Reconstruction to the near present.

[More information about the scope and sequence of the course, the standards addressed, and feedback from educators who have implemented the course is viewable here.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qazMzAvdnLKrSACjrZBCQK_ehc2LuseP/view?usp=sharing)

TeachRock staff will offer support to educators who wish to:

* Run the one-semester course.
* Implement the full-year version (which will require additional curriculum mapping to align lessons).
* Incorporate units of “Rock and Soul of America” within their existing History or General Music course.

TeachRock staff welcomes social studies and music teachers from all grade levels, but non-high school teachers should be prepared to scaffold material. TeachRock will provide material scaffolded for English Language Learners, special education needs, and varied reading levels when available as well.

Selected district superintendents will be invited to attend a virtual kickoff event with Stevie Van Zandt and TeachRock staff the week of April 17th (exact date TBD). The event will introduce the TeachRock team, provide an overview of the implementation plan and what this partnership can provide for your teachers, students, and community, and provide new cohort members the ask questions.

Please complete this application to participate in the CSDE TeachRock partnership to be considered for Phase 3 implementation for the school 2023 - 2024, and submit this form to Irene Parisi, Chief Academic Officer, at [Irene.Parisi@ct.gov](mailto:Irene.Parisi@ct.gov) by **Thursday, March 23, 2023**.

**Part I: District Contact Information**

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| **District Name** |  |
| **Superintendent** |  |
| **E-mail Address** |  |
| **Telephone #** |  |
| **District Website** |  |

**Part II: Proposed School and/or Teacher Teams**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **School Name** |  | |  |
| **Supervisor:** | **Director:** | **Supervisor E-mail:** |  |
| **Teacher Participants** | **Grade** | **Content** | **Teacher Participant Emails:** |
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**Part III: Background Information**

Please describe the current efforts underway for integrating the arts into the daily instruction both in the nominated school and in the classes of the intended teacher nominees.

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How might you envision the TeachRock partnership as a strategy to elevate or scale your vision for integrating the arts in instruction across multiple content areas?

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Why do you want to be a TeachRock partner?

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There are multiple opportunities for professional development as part of the TeachRock partner program. Please use the space below to share days and times when your team would be available for these sessions.

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**Requirements as a Partner District:**

Participating teachers will be asked to complete the following:

1. Participation in a summer Professional Learning Module to develop an understanding of TeachRock model lesson implementation.
2. Participation in 4 virtual professional development sessions throughout the year.
3. Completion of Feedback Surveys to assess implementation and impact.
4. Participation in Virtual Walkthrough/Classroom Visits with the CSDE and TeachRock staff, including the Rock and Soul Forever Foundation Founder if he is available.

**About The Rock and Soul Forever Foundation and TeachRock**

Launched by Stevie Van Zandtwith the Founders Board of Bono, Jackson Browne, Martin Scorsese, and Bruce Springsteen, **Teachrock.org** has provided free, standards-aligned resources to help teachers, students, and families succeed for more than a decade.

TeachRock improves students’ lives by bringing the sound, stories, and science of music to all classrooms. From The Beatles to Beyoncé, from kindergarten to AP History, in the classroom or remotely, TeachRock offers meaningful lesson plans all at no cost to teachers, students, and families, inspiring deeper learning and understanding through the power of music.

TeachRock.org is an open educational resource of hundreds of unit and lesson plans, Student Editions, and musician bios. TeachRock’s “Rock and Soul of America” high school history course is taught throughout California, Colorado, New Mexico, Ohio, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and elsewhere.

More than 60,000 educators in all 50 U.S. states, England, Spain, Norway and elsewhere are registered with Teachrock.org, and 20,000 access the resources each month.

TeachRock’s Partner School program includes a multi-year collaboration with the Connecticut State Department of Education, ongoing projects with New York City Department of Education, Los Angeles Unified School District, Chattanooga, TN public schools, as well as with individual schools in Chicago, Cleveland, Milwaukee, and several others.

Stevie Van Zandt founded TeachRock to keep music and arts in the DNA of school systems and empower teachers to engage a generation with the internet in their pockets. Stevie saw music as the way to present positive representations of all learners, make real-life connections between the classroom and student experiences, and inspire student success.

TeachRock functions as part of the *501(c)(3)* The Rock and Soul Forever Foundation and is endorsed by the National Council for the Social Studies, the National Association for Music Education, the National Council for Geographic Education, and has collaborated with and partnered on projects with The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, The Grammy Museum, Scholastic, CNN, PBS, ABC News, among others.