Award-Winning Schools & Teachers

CREC Magnet Schools

CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering





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CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School

Peace Day. This is when every critizen of our world Sends merr jes of peace to each other What does peace mean to you? How can you spread peace? Mrs. Parensers

Team Inquirer + [8] = 14 Team Integrit

Superintendent's Message

Dear Families,

It is with great pleasure that I introduce you to CREC magnet schools and tell you what it means to receive a CREC education. The mission of CREC magnet schools is to empower a diverse population of students to take ownership in meaningful learning and to be successful, lifelong learners in an ever-changing global society. CREC's 16 magnet schools serve over 8,400 students from over 90 towns throughout Connecticut. We believe that every student possesses unique interests and gifts, and a CREC education is designed to inspire and motivate students to succeed in their personal educational journey.

With rigorous theme-based programs, highly-qualified teachers, cutting-edge curricula, access to the latest technology, and state-of-theart buildings, CREC magnet schools are leading the way in public education. A CREC education offers students a unique, specialized learning experience through specific themes that allow students to identify, refine, and develop their talents and interests. It also offers diverse learning communities that prepare students for living and working as global citizens, career exploration programs that prepare students for higher education and the workforce, real-world experiences that deliver meaningful opportunities to apply new learning, and facilities that are designed to enhance each school's theme. Our themes include Montessori, Reggio Emilia, International Baccalaureate, public safety, science and innovation, aerospace and engineering, advanced mathematics and science, scientific discovery, museum studies, global studies, and the arts.

CREC attributes student growth and success to a strong, dedicated, and exceptionally talented community of educators who accelerate student learning. An intense commitment is put forth by all educators to motivate students to think critically and achieve at high levels. CREC magnet schools are designed to offer all students a well-rounded education, which includes:

- State-of-the-art facilities
- Early childhood education opportunities for 3 and 4 year olds
- Comprehensive core curricula that is driven by the magnet theme
- Key 21st century thinking and learning skills
- State-of-the-art technology in every classroom
- Interscholastic middle and high school athletics
- · Advanced Placement and early college opportunities
- Extensive internship programs in leading industries throughout Greater Hartford
- International field study and exchange programs
- Gifted programming for exceptional learners

Thank you for your interest in CREC magnet schools. It would be our pleasure to educate your child.

Sincerely,

Taglog

Tim Sullivan, Superintendent of CREC Schools

CREC Magnet Schools Essential Skills for Deeper Learning

Math



Connect • Motivate • Empower

EC Magnet School



How to Apply

Take time to explore CREC magnet schools and learn what makes a CREC education unique.

For questions regarding the lottery and your CREC options, contact CREC RSCO staff at 860-713-6972 or by email at schoolchoice@crec.org

www.chooseCREC.org



Admission to a CREC magnet school is determined by an annual lottery that is administered by the Connecticut State Department of Education Regional School Choice Office (RSCO).



Athletics

CREC's interscholastic athletic program is an extension of the district's goal to engage students in healthy lifestyle choices and to provide them with the opportunity to participate in team activities. Each year, the athletics program continues to grow to include additional opportunities for our students. Below is a list of current sports offered at CREC magnet schools.

2017-2018 Sport Offerings*

SEASON	HIGH SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL
FALL (September - November)	Cross Country Boys Soccer Girls Soccer Girls Volleyball Football	Cross Country Boys Soccer Girls Soccer Girls Volleyball
WINTER (December - March)	Boys Basketball Girls Basketball Indoor Track	Boys Basketball Girls Basketball Indoor Track
SPRING (March - June)	Baseball Softball Track and Field	Baseball Softball Track and Field

*Sports offered are subject to change

Transportation

The Connecticut State Department of Education's Regional School Choice Office partners with CREC to operate a regional transportation system that serves CREC magnet schools. The regional transportation system offers several options, including traditional school bus transport, vans, public bus passes, and parent stipends, where appropriate.

Every year, the Regional School Choice Office and CREC Transportation may alter bus schedules or bus stops. When making such changes, notice will be provided to parents and school personnel.

- Q. Do I have to pay for transportation services?
- A. There is no charge to families.
- Q. Which students are eligible to receive transportation services?
- A. Generally, transportation is available during regular school hours for kindergarten through grade 12 students in Greater Hartford who:
 - Reside in towns included in the Regional School Choice Office transportation zone
 - Attend out-of-district programs offered through the Regional School Choice Office, including magnet schools; the Hartford Region Open Choice Program; Connecticut Technical High Schools; and the Suffield Regional Agriscience Center

For students in grades Pre-K3 and Pre-K4, transportation is available to Hartford resident students who attend an out-ofdistrict program only. For non-Hartford resident Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 students, a parent or guardian must arrange transportation.



Elementary



(Pre-K3 to Grade 5)

CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering Elementary School

About the Theme

CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering Elementary School focuses on developing strong foundational knowledge for students in four interrelated domains of literacy: science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The curriculum provides students with significant and meaningful opportunities to conduct investigations, gather and use information, and solve problems using scientific methods of thinking and technology as tools. Engaging children in these practices helps them to develop a deep understanding of the world around them.

The STEM-based theme serves to ignite curiosity, promote exploration, and foster collaboration and scientific thinking through hands-on, inquirybased learning experiences. The interdisciplinary curriculum provides students with strong foundational knowledge and emphasizes an understanding of the world around them.

Technology in state-of-the-art classrooms supports and enhances learning. Teachers and students use iPads, Smart Boards, digital cameras, and other resources throughout the curriculum.

The STEM Experience

CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering Elementary School uses a thematic, interdisciplinary curriculum to emphasize inquiry-based learning. Students who participate in these avenues of learning gain the ability to perceive relationships among societal, scientific, and technological issues.

The Academy of Aerospace and Engineering Continuum

Students attending CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering Elementary School have the unique opportunity to experience a STEMintegrated curriculum from preschool to grade 12. Students experience a pathway to CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering (grades 6 through 12). This continuum allows students to build on their knowledge as they travel through each academy, preparing them for higher education and advanced studies in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

- Science, technology, engineering, and math are integrated into all aspects of the curriculum
- Education Development Center: Cultivating Young
 Scientists
- Problem-based learning
- Hands-on materials
- Inquiry-based approach: 5E Model of Instruction
- Partnerships with Roaring Brook Nature Center; LEGO; The Children's Museum; The Eli Whitney Museum; Dinosaur State Park; The Peabody Museum; Auer Farm; New England Air Museum; Central Connecticut State University; and the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority
- Before and after care available for students
- Full-day preschool and kindergarten programming



Magnet schools are public schools of choice.

Per CT General Statutes, families of newly enrolled **preschool students** whose family income is above 75% of the state median income will be required to pay a tuition fee for the 2018-19 school year. The fee for preschool students will be determined annually, but will not exceed \$4,000 per child. *Families whose income is at or below 75% of the state median income will <u>not</u> be required to pay tuition.*

For More Information:

Gayle Hills, Principal 525 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 860-529-1652 www.crecschools.org



(Pre-K3 to Grade 5)

CREC Ana Grace Academy of the Arts Elementary School

Where Academics and the Arts Intertwine

Where About the Theme

CREC Ana Grace Academy of the Arts Elementary School features an integrated learning environment for students in preschool through grade 5, which combines a rigorous core curriculum that is enhanced by an artthemed focus. The arts curriculum provides students with the opportunity to explore vocal and instrumental music, visual arts, dance, theatre, creative writing, and interdisciplinary arts.

Arts-Infused Curriculum

CREC Ana Grace Academy of the Arts Elementary School utilizes research-based teaching and learning practices in reading, mathematics, science, technology, and the arts. Students make interdisciplinary connections, engage in project-based learning, and work with professional artists as they develop and refine new skills. Instruction in core academic areas, as well as participation in live performances and public showcases of their work, provides students with challenging learning activities that allow them to develop their ability to demonstrate creativity, communicate effectively, collaborate with others, and assume leadership roles.

Community Partnerships

CREC Ana Grace Academy of the Arts Elementary School collaborates with community partners to develop and enhance a curriculum that is developmentally appropriate, hands on, inquiry based, and arts infused. Local organizations support the integration of arts into the daily curriculum and provide field study opportunities and outreach in CREC's classrooms.

The CREC Arts Academy Continuum

Students attending CREC Ana Grace Academy of the Arts Elementary School have the unique opportunity to experience the arts-integrated curriculum from preschool to grade 12. Students experience a pathway to CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts (grades 6 through 12). This continuum allows students to build on their knowledge as they travel through each academy, and it prepares them for higher education and advanced curricula.

- Full-day preschool and kindergarten programming
- Before and after care available for students
- Comprehensive arts-infused curriculum
- State-of-the-art classrooms
- Instruction by well-trained and diverse staff
- Opportunities for field studies with community partners
- State-of-the-art facility is being developed
- Pathway to CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts (grades 6 through 12)
- Recognized as a School of Distinction by Magnet Schools of America



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For More Information:

Patricia Phelan, Principal 20 Security Drive, Avon, CT 06001 860-677-0380 www.crecschools.org



(Pre-K3 to Grade 5) CREC Discovery Academy

Where Discovery Equals Academic Success

About the Theme

CREC Discovery Academy develops strong foundational knowledge for students in four interrelated domains of literacy: science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The school provides students with meaningful opportunities to conduct investigations, gather and use information, and to solve problems using scientific methods of thinking and technology as tools. Children develop a deep understanding of the world around them through these engaging experiences.

The STEM Experience

CREC Discovery Academy integrates teaching methods and instructional strategies to emphasize thematic, inquiry-based learning. The 5E Instructional Model – engage, explore, explain, elaborate, and evaluate – fosters active participation in the learning process. Teachers set up problems and monitor student exploration, guide student inquiry, and promote new patterns of thinking. Differentiated curriculum increases achievement by addressing differences in students' prior knowledge, motivation, learning styles, product preferences, and interests.

Scientifically literate children learn to solve problems by thinking creatively and critically. Through outdoor investigation, students begin to understand their environment and its issues. Inquiry-based instruction is infused into language arts, mathematics, and social studies lessons. This comprehensive and integrated approach prepares students to achieve success in today's rapidly changing world.

Community Partnerships

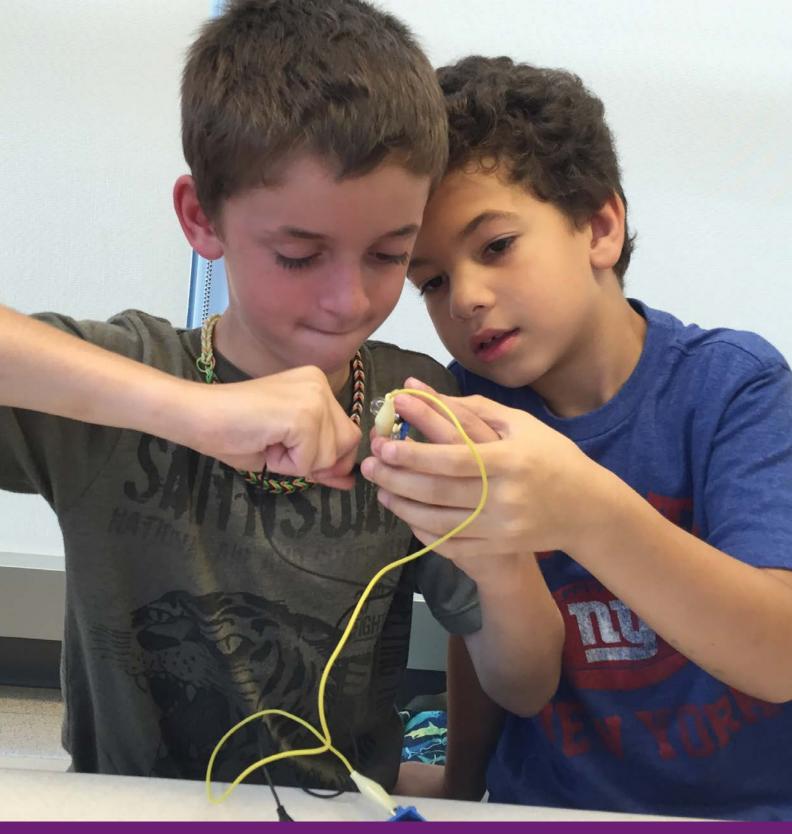
CREC Discovery Academy collaborates with community partners to develop a hands-on, inquiry-based, and developmentally appropriate STEM curriculum, including:

- The Connecticut Science Center
- The Children's Museum
- The Roaring Brook Nature Center
- Connecticut Invention Convention

These partners offer students high-quality science experiences as well as training programs to teachers on integrating science. Students participate in field studies at the partner locations, and outreach programs bring these field-learning opportunities and offerings into classrooms. Association with these groups enriches and deepens students' scientific experiences.

- Comprehensive STEM curriculum
- Opportunities for field studies with community partners
- A pathway to a CREC secondary school
- Full-day preschool and kindergarten programming
- Before and after care available for students

- Instruction by a well-trained and diverse staff
- State-of-the-art facility
- Recognized as a Magnet School of Excellence in 2014, 2015, and 2016 by Magnet Schools of America
- STEM-specific design lab and curriculum
- Roof-top garden



Magnet schools are public schools of choice.

Per CT General Statutes, families of newly enrolled **preschool students** whose family income is above 75% of the state median income will be required to pay a tuition fee for the 2018-19 school year. The fee for preschool students will be determined annually, but will not exceed \$4,000 per child. *Families whose income is at or below 75% of the state median income will <u>not</u> be required to pay tuition.*

For More Information

Kurt Stanco, Principal 176 Cumberland Ave., Wethersfield, CT 06109 860-296-2090 www.crecschools.org



(Pre-K3 to Grade 5)

Glastonbury-East Hartford Magnet School

A NASA Explorer School

About the Theme

Students at Glastonbury-East Hartford Magnet School explore science, global studies, and technology through daily, hands-on learning experiences. The school provides a rigorous environment that encourages academic achievement and a love of learning.

Taking advantage of young children's exceptional language learning ability, children are taught Mandarin Chinese and Chinese customs, which encourage them to be sensitive, effective, and thoughtful communicators.

The STEM Experience

Teachers use a variety of teaching methods and instructional strategies to integrate thematic, inquiry-based science into the daily curriculum. The school's model for learning encourages innovation and high-level thinking skills that are aligned with both state and national standards in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math.

The "Science Lab for Young Children" is a learning environment that inspires an excitement for science. The specially designed laboratory space provides students and their teachers with the tools and materials needed to explore biological, physical, and earth-space sciences along with engineering. Through the use of state-of-the-art equipment, students are well equipped with the science and technology tools necessary to become inquisitive and productive 21st Century learners.

Outdoor field studies are an important part of the science curriculum. Students get to work as scientists to answer questions about the world around them. Students investigate life and seasonal changes in their local schoolyard and in pond and river ecosystems, or they use the school's planetarium to learn about the universe. Other trips involve travel to local rock quarries to study rocks and minerals, or to Long Island Sound to study inter-tidal life.

Community Partnerships

In an effort to enhance the science and technology curriculum, Glastonbury-East Hartford Magnet School partners with NASA; Hamilton Sundstrand; Talcott Mountain Science Center; Connecticut Invention Convention, New England Air Museum; and the National Sea Grant Program.

As a NASA Explorer School, Glastonbury-East Hartford Magnet School students participate in a variety of video conferences and learning sessions with astronauts, rocket scientists, and engineers from NASA and other industry partners.

- Community partnerships
- Full-day preschool and kindergarten programming
- NASA Explorer School
- Comprehensive science, technology, engineering, and math curriculum
- State-of-the-art technology in classrooms
- New, theme-specific building with a planetarium
- Chinese instruction for students in grades 1 through 5
- Before and after care available for students
- Instruction by a well-trained and diverse staff
- Pathway to a CREC secondary school
- Recognized as a 2014 and 2015 School of Distinction by Magnet Schools of America



Magnet schools are public schools of choice.

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For More Information:

Ryan Donlon, Principal 95 Oak Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033 860-633-4455 www.crecschools.org





(Pre-K3 to Grade 5)

CREC International Magnet School for Global Citizenship

An About the Theme

International Baccalaureate School

CREC International Magnet School for Global Citizenship prepares students to become global citizens, appreciate diversity, and perform academically at the highest level. The school's emphasis is on the learner profile, a set of attributes designed to create internationallyminded students who develop the skills needed to flourish as learners and members of a global community.

Global and International Studies

The world-standard curriculum at CREC International Magnet School for Global Citizenship nurtures students to become thoughtful and inquiring learners. Students study how the world works and the impact of "one" on an ever-changing society. The interconnectedness of the world is studied through the arts, foreign language, and multicultural education, and the school's focus on the whole child prepares students to be successful 21st Century citizens.

CREC International Magnet School for Global Citizenship takes pride in its inquirydriven approach to teaching and learning. Students are encouraged to explore their own interests and are taught the concepts and skills necessary to delve deeper into content. Within the curriculum, there is a strong emphasis on student action, collaboration, and communication. There is also a focus on research and the use of current technology. Instruction is differentiated to meet the needs of all learners. Extended-day programs provide support and enrichment opportunities.

International Baccalaureate

CREC International Magnet School for Global Citizenship is an authorized International Baccalaureate School, offering the Primary Years Programme.

This unique approach to curricula integrates learning in all content areas through six themes of global significance:

- Who we are
- Where we are in place and time
- How we express ourselves
- How the world works
- How we organize ourselves
- Sharing the planet

- Authorized International Baccalaureate Primary
 Years Programme
- Full-day preschool and kindergarten programming
- Before and after care available for students
- Instruction by a professional and diverse staff
- After-school enrichment program
- New, state-of-the-art facility

- Full instrumental music and choral program
- Accessible technology for all students
- Community partnerships
- World language instruction begins in preschool
- Pathway to a CREC secondary school
- Recognized as a 2014 Magnet School of Distinction and a 2015 Magnet School of Excellence by Magnet Schools of America



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For More Information:

Nguyet T. Tinh, Principal 625 Chapel Road, South Windsor, CT 06074 860-291-6001 www.crecschools.org



(Pre-K3 to Grade 6) CREC Montessori Magnet School

Connecticut's First Public Montessori School

About the Theme

CREC Montessori Magnet School provides an authentic Montessori education for students in preschool to grade 6, as inspired by Dr. Maria Montessori. She observed that children learn best in prepared environments with multi-age groupings, given access to tasks and chores that build their confidence." With its wellrecognized early childhood and elementary school program, the school's Montessori philosophy of individualizing instruction for all children attracts students throughout Greater Hartford.

A Public Montessori Education

Students progress academically and socially through an integrated curriculum that combines the Montessori philosophy with highly-effective instructional strategies. Lessons that focus on interdisciplinary and global connections allow students to learn at their own pace and to acquire knowledge that extends beyond the school environment.

This unique approach to learning pairs high individual expectations with nurturing support. Each classroom has a unique spirit. All are grounded by the core goals of concentration, coordination, independence, and order. CREC Montessori Magnet School is a diverse community of students and educators, and the school features state-of-the-art facilities on the beautiful Learning Corridor campus, which is located across the street from Trinity College, a collaborative partner.

Grace & Courtesy

Grace refers to the way you control your body movements, concentration, and respect for environment. Courtesy is showing politeness in your attitude and behavior toward others, as well as showing respect for your and others' work and opinions. Grace and Courtesy lessons are integrated into daily classroom lessons.

Community Partnerships

CREC Montessori Magnet School partners with both Trinity College's art and community program and Trinity's urban education initiatives program, which allows college students who are studying to be teachers and artists to mentor students in the areas of art, writing, and reading. In addition, the school is affiliated with Association Montessori Internationale. Montessori experts from throughout the world work at CREC Montessori Training Center Northeast to train teachers.

- Full-day kindergarten programming
- Comprehensive Montessori curriculum
- State-of-the-art facility and technology
- Each classroom teacher holds a Montessori diploma as well as a State of CT teaching license
- String or wind instrumental lessons provided for students in grades 2 through 6
- Computer science for all students

- Before and after care available for students
- Instruction by well-trained and diverse staff
- Partnered with the Montessori Training Center Northeast
- Pathway to a CREC secondary school
- Named a 2017 Magnet School of Distinction by Magnet Schools of America
- Ranked a Top 100 Elementary School in Connecticut by the Niche website of school rankings in 2016



CREC Montessori Magnet School's newest partnership is with the Bushnell Center for Performing Arts. Through this partnership, students have the opportunity to connect books and lessons to live theatrical performances through workshops that take place in the classroom.

In addition, the school enjoys a partnership with Community Farms in Simsbury. A major component of the Community Farms program is to build raised bed gardens at each of the partner schools, including CREC Montessori Magnet School. The garden initiative provides an excellent way for students to learn by participating in academic, nutrition, and community service activities. Students explore the process of growing organic food, and they gain an understanding of healthy food choices.

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Magnet schools are public schools of choice.

- Recognized by Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now as a "2014 Success Story School," an award that honors CREC Montessori Magnet School for providing a high-quality education to Connecticut's most underserved students regardless of race, wealth, or zip code
- Reaccredited in 2017 by the Association Montessori International, the most esteemed affiliation in the Montessori community
- All upper elementary students receive their own laptops

For More Information:

Dr. Antonio Napoleone, Principal Violet Sims, Assistant Principal 1460 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06106 860-757-6100 www.crecschools.org



(Pre-K3 to Grade 5) CREC Museum Academy

Where Students Examine, Experiment, and Exhibit

Where About the Theme

CREC Museum Academy provides a comprehensive and challenging museumsbased learning environment to students in preschool through grade 5. This approach enables students to learn naturally in environments that support guided exploration and discovery, encourages meaningful apprenticeships, and fosters interactions between peers while creating hands-on artifacts.

The Museum Approach to Learning

CREC Museum Academy classrooms, like museums, become learning environments where students are immersed in educational experiences, filled with primary resources and high standards of presentation. Students participate in academic experiences where problems are stated, evidence is cited, and solutions are presented. CREC Museum Academy is a project-based school that educates the whole child through partnerships with museums; expeditions and field studies; integrated curriculum; Visual Thinking Strategies; and student-led exhibitions.

Community Partnerships

CREC Museum Academy's theme draws on the splendors of Connecticut's capitol city and surrounding museums to make history, science, literature, and the arts come alive. Museum partners are utilized as springboards to meaningful exploration in all areas of the curriculum. Our partners include the Connecticut Historical Society; the Wadsworth Atheneum; the Artists Collective; the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art; and Roaring Brook Nature Center.

Awards and Distinctions

- Recipient of the 2017 Magnet School of America Merit School of Distinction Award
- Recipient of the 2016 Magnet School of America Merit School of Distinction Award
- Recipient of the 2015 Magnet School of America Merit School of Presidents Award
- Recipient of the 2015 Magnet School of America Merit School of Excellence Award
- Recipient of the 2014 Magnet School of America Merit School of Distinction Award
- Recipient of the 2013 Magnet School of America Merit School of Distinction Award

- Opportunities for field studies with community partners
- Full-day preschool and kindergarten
 programming
- Before and after care available for students
- Pathway to a CREC secondary school

- Staff trained in museum methodologies, projectbased learning, and visual thinking strategies
- Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics opportunities
- World language for all students
- Departmentalized approach in grades 3 through 5



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Magnet schools are public schools of choice.

- Museum artifact building
- Museum magnet theme standards
- Specialized museum apprenticeship for grade five students
- STEAM Lab
- State-of-the-art facility

For More Information

Shandra Brown, Principal 11 Turkey Hill Road, Bloomfield, CT 06002 860-231-7800 www.crecschools.org



(Pre-K3 to Grade 5)

CREC Reggio Magnet School of the Arts

Endless Opportunities for Expression

About the Theme

At CREC Reggio Magnet School of the Arts, each day brings endless opportunities for exploration and discovery. The curriculum is designed to respect a child's point of view, and students are empowered to direct their learning. The teacher acts as a guide in supporting and challenging students, as inspired by the Italian Reggio Emilia Approach. This philosophy encourages student learning to be expressed in a variety of ways, making student work the central focus. Photographs, artwork, and stories adorn the walls and document the learning and creativity of all students.

The Reggio Emilia Approach

Children learn through their experiences. Through the use of their senses and by working with their peers, students explore the world around them. The environment plays a role in student learning by transforming, educating, and inspiring the viewer. The physical structure of both the school and classroom serve to engage interest, inspire creativity, and invite collaboration. The centrally located piazza and atelier serve as a gathering space for students where they can showcase their projects and perform.

Educators at CREC Reggio Magnet School of the Arts assess each child's level of development when they enter the school to design a customized program that ensures accelerated learning and future success. The school's philosophy includes an arts-integrated approach to acquiring reading, math, and science skills. The school's curriculum pairs high challenge with loving support. Parents are involved in every aspect of the curriculum as they continue their important role as their child's first teacher.

Project-based learning inspires problem solving, critical thinking, and creativity, and a unit of study is developed through a collaborative exchange between the teacher and a child. The cooperative nature of project-based learning teaches students to dialogue, critique, compare, negotiate, and hypothesize.

- Gifted program for high-level learners
- Full-day preschool and kindergarten programming
- Reggio-aligned Common Core Standards curriculum
- State-of-the-art technology
- World language for all students
- Before and after care available for students

- Instruction by a well-trained and diverse staff
- State-of-the-art facility
- Pathway to a CREC secondary school
- Recognized as a Magnet School of Distinction by Magnet Schools of America for seven consecutive years



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For More Information

Josephine Di Pietro Smith, Principal 59 Waterville Road, Avon, CT 06001 860-674-8549 www.crecschools.org



(Pre-K3 to Grade 5)

CREC University of Hartford Magnet School

Building on Each Child's Strengths

g About the Theme

CREC University of Hartford Magnet School boasts a unique curriculum inspired by Dr. Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences. Dr. Gardner's theory encourages students to explore their learning through the eight intelligences: bodily-kinesthetic; interpersonal; intrapersonal; linguistic; logicalmathematical; musical; naturalistic; and visualspatial. At CREC University of Hartford Magnet School, staff work together to identify and teach to each child's individual talents and strengths to ensure that all students are challenged and supported.

To enhance the theme, the school building features rooms designed to support the multiple intelligences curriculum.

The Multiple Intelligences Approach to Learning

CREC University of Hartford Magnet School focuses on identifying and teaching to each child's individual talents and strengths based on Dr. Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences. The school is founded on the belief that each type of intelligence has importance in a child's life and can lead to greater learning. Students receive ongoing instruction in traditional subjects, as well as expanded instruction in the eight intelligence areas, both in their classrooms and during their essentials classes. Students in kindergarten through grade 5 have two periods of visual-spatial, music, and bodily-kinesthetic classes each week and one period of library and media. Increased exposure to and experience with the intelligence areas provides opportunities for CREC students to know more about themselves as learners and individuals.

Through CREC's relationship with the University of Hartford, students visit the college campus to judge a science fair, attend sporting events, and meet with the university president. Students also have the opportunity to participate in a variety of university-sponsored programs, including band and strings lessons, dance, the Flying Magnets Running Club, and mentoring.

- Unique location on the University of Hartford campus
- Full-day preschool and kindergarten programming
- Comprehensive Multiple Intelligences curriculum
- State-of-the-art facility and technology

- Before and after care available for students
- Pathway to a CREC secondary school
- Instrumental Program during the school day
- After school dance program
- After school Band and Strings Program
- 5th Grade Student Senate

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For More Information

Tim Barber, Principal 196 Bloomfield Ave., West Hartford, CT 06117 860-236-2899 www.crecschools.org

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Secondary

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(Grades 6 to 12)

CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering

A STEM Education

A STEM About the Theme

CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering staff believe it is their duty to help every student explore, develop, and mature to their highest potential. They are passionate about creating a school that sees every student as an individual, and they also help students see themselves as a part of a school community of active, caring, and innovative learners. They do this by creating a unique curriculum that challenges students through theme-based experiences. Curriculum is taught by a dynamic staff in a rigorous and encouraging learning environment. Growth happens through the continuous improvement of students, staff, and the school.

CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering draws on inspiration from the finest traditions and practices embodied in Connecticut's aerospace, engineering, mathematics, science, and technology industries. The academy helps students develop both the skills, and the confidence, to succeed in the demanding global marketplace of the 21st Century. The mission is aided by the academy's unique affiliation with the nation's leading aerospace, engineering, medical, and biotechnical companies and institutions that provide students with opportunities for guest speakers, mentors, project engineering support, independent research, financial support, and summer employment through summer internship programs.

Middle School Program (Grades 6-8)

In the middle school program, students develop an understanding of both the academy's theme and its culture. Through numerous collaborative activities, field trips, guest speakers, activities in core curriculum subjects, and projects, students explore all aspects of aerospace, engineering, biomedical technology, and mathematics. Simultaneously, staff members help students to internalize the school's values of respect, growth, and active learning.

Rigorous instruction is an essential aspect of both the curriculum and culture. All students receive rigorous instruction in the humanities and core curriculum classes. The humanities encourage creativity, inventiveness, and persistence, further preparing students for advanced honors courses at the high school level.

CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering fosters a number of community partnerships that provide middle school students access to hands-on experiences and real-world exposure in the fields of aerospace and engineering. The school has unique partnerships with Birken Aerospace, which gives all students a tour of their facility, and the Kaman Corporation, which offers grade 8 students mentorship opportunities within Kaman's aerospace, business, finance, and data divisions. Partnerships with UConn's engineering ambassadors, St. Joseph's College engineering program, and other academic institutions offer students opportunities to work with mentors in the area of robotics, and they allow students to participate in programs that focus on women and minorities in engineering.

A special relationship with the New England Air Museum gives middle school students access to the facility and resources. It also connects students to the museum's docents, mentors, and experts. These, and other assured experiences, bring to life the belief that, "Students have to see it, to know that they can be it."

- Instruction by a staff of leading scientists and engineers
- Partnerships with the nation's leading aerospace, engineering, and biotechnical industries
- Theme-based career pathways and internship program
- Traditional and uniquely themed Advanced Placement courses
- Field study experiences in advanced science and mathematics
- Relationships with career mentors and guest speakers
- Hands-on learning experiences



The High School Program (Grades 9-12)

The high school program builds upon the strong academic and cultural foundation of students' experiences in middle school by ramping up both the rigor and the variety of unique, thematic studies and opportunities available to maturing students. The academy's high-level elective courses are designed to offer students compelling alternatives to a traditional secondary experience. Students in advanced math and science classes can be paired with industry internships that focus on their areas of interest. Other courses are offered in the areas of medicine, photonics, nuclear chemistry, computer science, engineering design, leadership in science, engineering, and medicine. There are a variety of biological science courses and advanced mathematics electives beyond calculus that are also available. Throughout all courses the focus is on continuous improvement.

Students are further prepared for future career challenges by participating in unique programming, such as robotics, drone construction labs and the RV-12 project, where students build a passenger plane. They also learn by conducting independent and Capstone research projects in state-of-the-art student labs. CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering students gain fundamentally important experience by regularly applying classroom lessons to real-world situations during these intensive programs.

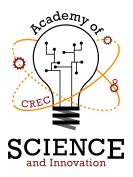
CREC Academy of Aerospace and Engineering offers industry partnerships, theme-based career pathways, and a rigorous core curriculum for students. Students gain skills and experiences in science, technology, and engineering, and math that prepare them for college and high-demand professional careers. Focused student success plans allow students to enter competitive undergraduate programs that match their aptitudes, interests, and goals.

Magnet schools are public schools of choice. Families do not pay tuition to attend magnet schools.

- State-of-the-art facility
- Interscholastic athletics for students in grades 6 through 12
- 2014 U.S. News and World Report No. 1 secondary school in Connecticut and No. 15 secondary school in the nation

For More Information:

Adam Johnson, Principal 1101 Kennedy Road, Windsor, CT 06095 860-243-0857 www.crecschools.org



(Grades 6 to 12)

CREC Academy of Science and Innovation

Academic and Hands-on Preparation for Careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

About the Theme

CREC Academy of Science and Innovation immerses students in rigorous coursework and instruction that is designed to prepare students for successful futures. The school's state-of-the-art facility and ample resources support student learning in today's technological world, and students gain strong foundational content knowledge and skill sets that will enable them to succeed in the areas of biotechnology, environmental engineering, and robotics. Furthermore, students apply their learning in real world, cutting edge, professional environments through community partnership and internship programs.

College Preparation: CREC Academy of Science and Innovation

CREC Academy of Science and Innovation's rigorous science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) theme provides students exposure to the fields of biotechnology, environmental engineering, and robotics in both state-of-the-art laboratories and in professional settings throughout Greater Hartford. Students are inspired and prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st Century through a robust academic program where collaboration, innovation, and problem solving skills ensure that students are college and career ready.

The curriculum in grades 6 through 8 focuses on interdisciplinary units of study and hands-on learning in both core and theme-based classes. Students receive three years of scaffolded, inquirybased instruction that provides them will full laboratory-based exposure to the STEM pathways that are offered. This approach to learning prepares students to choose their high school pathway to graduation in grade 10.

Beginning in grade 9, students participate in theme-specific classes that provide them with broad exposure to their chosen theme. All grade 9 students will have the opportunity to take two science courses and one computer science course. Students then choose a major in grade 10, which will be their area of focus through graduation. Their pathway will provide them with extensive course opportunities that can be customized to fit their academic interests. Students benefit from the wide variety of Advanced Placement and UConn Early College Experience offerings beginning in grade 9.

- Advanced course pathway in mathematics
- Rigorous course offerings in biomedical research, engineering, and computer science
- Wide range of Advanced Placement and college credit classes beginning in the ninth grade
- Online and virtual learning opportunities
- Internship opportunities with area community partners
- One-to-one laptop computer environment
- Field study experiences that relate to the school's pathways to graduation
- Trans-disciplinary learning environment



About Our Building

CREC Academy of Science and Innovation is housed in a new, state-of-the-art, theme-specific building that features:

- Dedicated, theme-related instructional spaces, including biotechnology research laboratories, engineering design suites, materials resource laboratories, advanced manufacturing laboratories, and computer programming and robotics laboratories
- State-of-the-art technology, including laptops for all students in grades 9 through 12, laptop carts for students in grades 6 through 8, SMART boards, document cameras, 3D printers, and iPADS
- Large lecture hall with full screen video conferencing capabilities
- Full-size gymnasium, outdoor soccer field, and basketball courts

Magnet schools are public schools of choice. Families do not pay tuition to attend magnet schools.

- State-of-the-art, theme-specific building
- Interscholastic athletics for students in grades 6 through 12
- Partnerships with the area's leading science and technology industries

For More Information:

Robert McCain, Principal 600 Slater Road, New Britain, CT 06053 860-223-0726 www.choosecrec.org



(Grades 6 to 8)

CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts Middle School

Arts-Infused Curriculum

About the Theme

CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts Middle School features an integrated learning environment for students, which combines a rigorous core curriculum with intensive instruction in the arts.

The Arts-Integrated Experience

Students are taught through a unique balance of a challenging core and arts curriculum. To further explore the arts, students have the opportunity to participate in vocal and instrumental music, dance, theater, musical theater, creative writing, digital arts, theater design and production and visual arts. The experiences children develop at the middle school prepare them for more advanced level work at CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts High School, which strives to prepare students for college and a professional career in the arts. Unique to the CREC Arts Academy experience is the opportunity for students to participate in at least 80 minutes of art instruction daily from artist instructors, who are experts in their fields of study. There are also opportunities for continued instruction during the day and after school. Beyond this, students receive a rigorous set of core classes to help prepare them for higher education. All students are encouraged to achieve at the highest level both artistically and academically through quality instruction and a culture of collaboration. The goal is to prepare students to become 21st Century leaders.

The CREC Arts Academy Continuum

Students attending CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts Middle School have the unique opportunity to experience an artsintegrated curriculum from preschool to grade 12. Students experience a pathway from CREC Ana Grace Academy of the Arts Elementary School and a pathway to CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts High School. This continuum allows students to build on their knowledge as they travel through each academy, and it prepares them for higher education and advanced art curricula.

- A caring environment that emphasizes positive behavior in a professional learning community
- Proper arts training that balances technique and creativity in professional quality arts facilities
- Challenging core curriculum classes for academic progress
- Highly individualized scheduling tailored to a student's needs as well as their interests
- Unique opportunity to learn from both artist instructors and certified teachers
- Personalized instruction in our daily College Preparation periods



A Dedicated Community of Lifelong Learners

At CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts Middle School, students and staff foster each other's learning through a professional learning community, and the focus is on three big ideas: high levels of learning for staff and students, a culture of collaboration, and results. The students and staff at the academy inspire each other to be lifelong learners in all areas of study.

Magnet schools are public schools of choice. Families do not pay tuition to attend magnet schools.

- A Solution Tree Model Professional Learning School and Success Story
- Direct pathway from CREC Ana Grace Academy of the Arts Elementary School and a direct pathway to CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts High School

For More Information:

Bo Ryan, Principal 75 Van Dyke Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106 860 724-0685 www.crecschools.org



(Grades 9 to 12)

CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts High School

Where Students Seek a Path and Explore Opportunities in the Arts

re About the Theme

CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts, provides a rigorous college-preparatory academy education and pre-professional arts education in an equitable, culturally competent environment. This diverse community of students is committed to intense training in creative writing and media arts; dance; instrumental and vocal music; musical theater; theater; technical theater and design; and visual arts. The full-day curriculum at CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts features a unique infusion of college preparatory core academic classes and classes focused on the arts. Half-day students join their full-day peers, Monday through Thursday from 1 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., for 13 hours of arts instruction.*

College Preparation: The High School Experience

For more than 30 years, the focus of CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts has been to develop the fullest academic and artistic potential in all students, encouraging them to be creative, engaged citizens and preparing them to pursue careers in the arts. Working daily with professional artists and a diverse faculty, students explore their creative abilities, are challenged to produce works of art, and are asked to perform at high levels. An artist-in-residence program brings outstanding artists to the academy for master classes and for presentations that enrich the curriculum and provide a realistic perspective on careers in the arts.

Students enroll in either a full-day or a halfday program, and the programs are located on two campuses in Hartford: the Learning Corridor (adjacent to Trinity College) and the Colt-Gateway complex. The full-day program provides students with a rigorous academic curriculum and training in the arts. Students have the opportunity to participate in college preparatory, honors, and Advanced Placement courses. After students audition and are placed in a major, they have the opportunity to take a variety of courses in their art form, as well as other electives.

* Hartford residents who are interested in attending the half-day program must be enrolled at Bulkeley High School.

- Offering Uconn's Early College Experience classes in both academic and arts programs
- Theme-based career pathways
- Instruction by highly-trained artists and faculty
- State-of-the-art classrooms and performance spaces
- Advanced Placement courses

- Field study experiences in the creative arts
- Relationships with career mentors and guest speakers
- Hands-on learning experiences
- Direct pathway from CREC Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts Middle School



Magnet schools are public schools of choice. Families do not pay tuition to attend magnet schools.

- Recognized as a School of Distinction in 2014 and 2015 and a School of Excellence in 2016 by Magnet Schools of America
- Named the 2016 No. 1 Connecticut Magnet School by Hartford Magazine Reader's Poll

For More Information:

Nick Chanese, Principal

15 Vernon Street, Hartford, CT 06106 160-172 Huyshope Ave., Hartford, CT 06106

860-757-6300

www.crecschools.org



(Grades 6 to 12)

CREC Metropolitan Learning Center for Global and International Studies

An Education for the 21st Century

An About the Theme

With the world as their classroom, students at CREC Metropolitan Learning Center for Global and International Studies prepare for success in both college and careers in the global workplace. The school's specially-designed, global-systems curriculum emphasizes cross-cultural awareness; knowledge of the global dynamic; state of the planet awareness; and understanding of the consequences of human choice. Using state-ofthe-art technology, students interact with their peers, individuals, and leaders throughout the world.

The International Studies Experience (Grade 6-12)

Students gain and develop knowledge and conceptual understanding while becoming adept in the skills of research; analysis; interpretation; and communication in all disciplines. This contributes to the development of the student as a whole as they move from the middle to the high school curriculum.

At CREC Metropolitan Learning Center for Global and International Studies, learning extends beyond the classroom through the school's extensive short- and long-term field study programs. These programs have brought students to five continents and several countries. Learning is enhanced by hosting international visitors and foreign exchange students. Students apply their classroom experiences to service learning field studies, service as action experiences, International Baccalaureate personal projects and extended essays, and senior capstone projects.

With global learning as the main focus, students take initiative and enhance their studies through clubs and co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, such as Connecticut Invention Convention, Action Club, Model United Nations, Student Abolitionists Stopping Slavery, and National History Day. Students develop the capacity to examine the world, their place within that world, and they learn what they can do to make the world better.

International Baccalaureate

CREC Metropolitan Learning Center for Global and International Studies is an authorized International Baccalaureate World School[®], and it offers the Middle Years Programme in grades

- The only public school in Connecticut that is authorized to offer both the International Baccalaureate Middle Years and Diploma Programmes
- College credit available for all International Baccalaureate, College Board Advanced Placement, and UConn Early College Experience courses
- An interdisciplinary, integrated curriculum that is based on international standards
- An International Baccalaureate Middle Years
 Programme personal project
- Offers an International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme theory of knowledge, extended essay, creativity, activity, and service



6 through 10 and the Diploma Programme in grades 11 and 12. International Baccalaureate World schools share a common philosophy—a commitment to rigorous high quality programmes of international education. CREC Metropolitan Learning Center for Global and International Studies believes that this powerful vision is reflected both on-campus and beyond through the success of its students. For more information, visit www.ibo.org.

CREC Metropolitan Learning Center for Global and International Studies was recognized as one of the top eight magnet high schools in America by the U.S. Department of Education, and it was named as a Magnet School of Excellence by Magnet Schools of America.

Magnet schools are public schools of choice. Families do not pay tuition to attend magnet schools.

- Opportunities for international field study
- Senior capstone project
- State-of-the-art facility and technology
- Interscholastic athletics for students in grades 6 through 12

For More Information:

Sasha Douglas, Principal 1551 Blue Hills Avenue, Bloomfield, CT 06002 860-242-7834 www.crecschools.org



(Grades 9 to 12) CREC Public Safety Academy

Focused Preparation for College and Careers in Public Service

Focused About the Theme

As a values-driven school community, CREC Public Safety Academy prepares servant leaders of the community for success in college and careers with focused and rigorous training in professions that ensure the safety, security, and wellness of the community. The academy offers students exploratory opportunities followed by student-designed public service pathways that are developed in collaboration with advisors, counselors, and teachers. This helps to develop students' leadership potential and to prepare students to conquer all of the challenges they may encounter in college and throughout their lives.

Preparation for the Future: The CREC Public Safety Academy Experience

At CREC Public Safety Academy, individual student commitment promotes community achievement. Aligned with public safety career expectations and workplace cultures, the school culture is structured to promote the development of interdependent student camaraderie, selfdiscipline, ethical leadership, and devotion to community. In their academics, field experiences, and community leadership, CREC Public Safety Academy students constantly exhibit an esprit de corps that celebrates tenacity, accomplishment, courage, community wellness, and the triumph of justice.

In addition to core academics, CREC Public Safety Academy offers students in their first year at CREC Public Safety Academy access to exploratory theme classes in various public safety and service focus areas. Courses, such as "You and the Law;" "Crime & Justice;" "First on Scene;" and "Leadership in Public Service" enable students to discover the diverse opportunities available to them in the public arena. At the end of ninth grade, each student, with the help of their counselor, advisor, and teachers, develops a public service pathway that exceeds Connecticut's coursework requirements for earning a high school diploma and prepares them for college and career.

Within these student-developed learning pathways, students have access to high-level, areafocused courses, including college-level courses at partner universities and Advanced Placement course opportunities. Topics include EMR and EMT certification, criminal justice, forensic science, EMS systems, effective communication for public personnel, crime scene and accident reconstruction, and fire science.

Special Features

- Partnerships with the area's leading law, forensic, and public safety agencies
- Opportunities to obtain relevant public safety career certifications, including, but not limited to, CPR and first aid certification; IS-100 Certification (Introduction to Incident Command System); IS-200 Certification (ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents); IS-700

Certification (National Incident Management System, an Introduction); emergency medical responder certification; and emergency medical technician certification

- College-level courses at partner universities
- Advanced Placement courses
- Field-based internships in student-selected areas of public safety



About the State-of-the-Art Facility

CREC Public Safety Academy is housed in a state-of-the-art building in Enfield. With unique features and educational spaces that bring the theme to life, students are able to participate in hands-on experiences in fire sciences, emergency management, emergency medicine, homeland security, law enforcement, and law and government. These theme-specific learning spaces include:

- Crime scene lab and mock-up rooms
- Fire sciences lab
- Specialty wet lab
- Fire sprinkler test booth
- EMS lab with an ambulance

Magnet schools are public schools of choice. Families do not pay tuition to attend magnet schools.

- Career mentorship opportunities with experts in the field
- State-of-the-art equipment, technology, and learning environments
- Interscholastic athletics for students in grades 9 through 12

For More Information:

Jeffrey Larson, Principal 1617 King Street, Enfield, CT 06082 860-253-0274 www.crecschools.org



(Grades 6 to 8) CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)

About the Theme

CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School is a dynamic and diverse science and technology-based learning community with an environmental theme. The school is committed to providing an engaging, rigorous, and relevant program of study through the infusion of environmental science and engineering into the core curricula. Through cutting edge learning opportunities, students explore, engage, and learn what it means to be an environmental leader. Students are both inspired and prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st century through a robust academic program where collaboration, innovation, and critical thinking skills ensure that students are college and career ready.

The STEM Experience

CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School has been a STEM school since its inception. Science, technology, engineering and math are the foundations of our instruction. Our school uses a blended learning model, where students are given the opportunity to direct their own learning. We utilize technology to personalize instruction for all students in order to help them succeed. The principles of engineering design are also utilized—students learn to solve problems by testing theories and designs, and adjusting as needed.

CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School offers encore classes that are science and technologybased courses such as exploratory science, think tank, pre-engineering, sustainability, environmental ethics, hydroponics, game design, animation, production videos, and high-level technology skills. Students also have a hands-on experience as they explore the properties of simple machines in a robotics and pre-engineering course. Through the use of LEGOs and other building materials, students create, learn, and problem solve. In addition to an emphasis on science and technology, students have a full middle school program available to them, including art, music, physical education, technology education, and foreign language.

Community Partnerships

At CREC Two Rivers Magnet Middle School, community partnerships play a significant role in providing unique opportunities for students. The school shares an exciting partnership with

- Partnerships with the area's leading science industries
- Field study experience
- Hands-on learning experiences
- State of the art technology, including one to one Chromebooks
- Interscholastic athletics for students in grades 6 through 8
- Platinum award winning drama program, full band, orchestra and chorus
- National Green Leaf School of Excellence



the Connecticut Science Center. Through that partnership, students have the opportunity to engage in STEM–related activities that build on their foundational knowledge of energy and energy transformations and move to an understanding of alternative energy sources, energy efficient communities, and fuel cell technologies. Students conduct hands-on activities at the school and the science center, participate in facilitated activities with energyrelated exhibits and building functions at the science center, and visit other select energy-related STEM companies as part of the experience.

Magnet schools are public schools of choice. Families do not pay tuition to attend magnet schools.

For More Information:

Jill E. Wnuk, Principal 337 East River Drive , East Hartford, CT 06108 860-290-5320 www.crecschools.org



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111 Charter Oak Avenue Hartford, CT 06106

www.choosecrec.org 860-524-4096