

Connecticut High School Choice

Know your options!

There are several high schools in our area that accept students from surrounding communities



What is high school choice?

- The Darien Public Schools are dedicated to providing students with an enriching educational experience. At the conclusion of 8th grade, most students attend Darien High School for grades 9-12.
- Students may, however, find that they have interests in disciplines highlighted by programs offered through Connecticut's Public High School Choice System.
- There are **three** types of high schools/programs that have seats reserved for Darien Public School Students:
 1. **Interdistrict Magnet Schools**
 2. **Technical/Trade High Schools**
 3. **AgriScience Programs**

The following slides have information from several programs - please go through each slide. **If you have any questions, please see your school counselor!!!**

Regional Center for the Arts (RCA)

InterDistrict Magnet HS

The Regional Center for the Arts is a part-time, public interdistrict magnet high school for Fairfield County students interested in the performing arts. RCA promotes voluntary integration by encouraging collaboration and cooperation among socioeconomic and ethnically diverse school districts. RCA is located in Trumbull.

Students who feel a passion for performance, with or without professional training, are welcome to apply to the program. Placement Auditions are on Saturdays in March.

Currently, 245 high school students in grades 9-12 from Bridgeport, Fairfield, Monroe, New Canaan, Norwalk, Newtown, Redding, Region 9, Ridgefield, Shelton, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport, and Wilton school districts attend.

[RCA's Website](#)

[Watch a video from Regional Center for the Arts](#)



Center for Global Studies @ Brien McMahon InterDistrict Magnet HS

The Center for Global Studies is an interdistrict magnet high school in Norwalk, CT where the focus is on teaching the languages, culture, history, and literature of China, Japan, and the Middle East.

Through the study of Arabic, Chinese, and Japanese, through our language and cultural immersion study tours overseas, and through our love of learning through experiences, we provide our students opportunities to become informed, active, and compassionate scholars and global citizens.

Students choose to come to CGS from all over Fairfield County from suburbs like Darien, Ridgefield, and Fairfield and cities like Bridgeport, Stamford, and Norwalk. They study world language, world literature, and world history, and they enroll in global studies-themed math, science, art, gym, health, and other electives.

Applications for 2023-2024 are due JANUARY 10, 2023. Admission is by lottery by district, but only complete applications will be entered into the lottery. It is the students' and parents' responsibility to fully complete this application. If you are accepted through the lottery, part of your registration process will include writing an essay. Once accepted, we will send the prompts to students via email. Students who do not complete the essay will not be registered to CGS, as their registration will be incomplete. Late applications are accepted from January 11 - September 10, 2023. Applicants applying late will be placed on the waitlist.

Link to their Website:
[Center for global studies](#)

Center for Global Studies @ Brien McMahon InterDistrict Magnet HS

#wearecgs

CGS students are athletes, scholars, actors, activists, musicians, dancers, authors, photographers, gamers, manga-lovers, chefs, and so much more. We come from 14 towns in Fairfield County and represent a melting pot of backgrounds, beliefs, personalities, and identities.

Destinations Beyond CGS

Immediately after graduating high school, 96% of CGS students attend such colleges as American, Brown, Bucknell, Colgate, Delaware, Georgia Tech, GW, Johns Hopkins, Housatonic, Knox, Marist, Mt. Holyoke, NCC, NYU, Quinnipiac, St. John's, UCONN, and UMASS Amherst.

Some of our graduates attend overseas colleges, such as Hokkaido University (Japan) Nagoya University (Japan), University of Edinburgh (Scotland), and University of St. Andrew's (Scotland).



To Join Us, Apply Online:

cgs.norwalkps.org

*We accept applications
from October 1 through January 10.*

*Late or incomplete applications may not be considered.
Get your parents' permission before applying.*

Challenging, Inquiry-Based Curriculum

At CGS, inquiry is the foundation of all learning. Giving students the opportunity to learn how to ask good questions paves the way for insightful thinking, research, and writing.

When students arrive as 9th-graders, they are enrolled in all honors-level courses; when they advance to 11th and 12th grade, they have the option of taking college-level courses.

All students take four years of Arabic, Chinese, or Japanese, and our graduates have gone on to win seals of bi-literacy and US State Department Critical Language Scholarships.

Active, Interdisciplinary Thinking

We believe that academic disciplines belong together, not in isolation, and so our students experience integrated classrooms, where they articulate the interactions between science and history, between culture and literature, between health and mathematics.

Immersion and Experiential Learning

Study tours

We run 6 two-week long immersion experiences every year, to international and national locations; we take 4 language immersion trips, which include homestays, and 2 cultural/historical immersion tours.

Field trips to regional cultural centers

We visit museums, temples, mosques, supermarkets, and restaurants.

In-school guests

We host dancers, speakers, actors, and comedians from Asia, Africa, Europe, and South America.

Virtual connections

We skype with high school students from around the world—from Jordan, China, Japan, Syria, and Palestine, among others—to trade perspectives and practice language skills.

Cultural events

We love to celebrate holidays with food, decorations, competitions, and special guests.

And food

We really love food. (We especially love that we make the food in our very own CGS kitchen.)

Financial Aid

We are a free public magnet school. We want every student to attend a study tour at least once, so we offer extensive financial aid. Full scholarships are available.

Transportation to Norwalk

Our students travel by bus, van, or train. Travel is paid for out of a state grant, so there is no cost to families for your child to travel to and from CGS every day.



Link to their Website:
[Center for global studies](#)

J.M. Wright Tech

Technical High School

J.M. Wright Technical High School is a comprehensive high school that delivers academic and trade technology education located in Stamford.

All students receive a relevant integrated education connecting science, technology, engineering and math to every area of learning as it pertains to each curriculum in the following career clusters:

Automotive, Carpentry, Plumbing, Culinary, Electrical, Digital Media, Health Tech, Hospitality, IT

Upon successful completion of all graduation requirements, every qualified student is awarded a high school diploma, a trade specific certificate and a variety of additional industry certifications and/or credentials relevant to their trade technology area of study.

The online application will be available on November 1, 2022. The priority deadline is December 15, 2022

Wright Tech Website

HOW WE LEARN

At Wright Tech, talented academic and career technology teachers collaborate to design high-tech lessons. Our unique educational program prepares Wright Tech graduates for immediate employment, entry into apprenticeship programs or admission into a two- or four-year college

EACH STUDENT GRADUATES WITH A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND A CERTIFICATE IN THEIR CAREER TECHNICAL FIELD.

Ninth-grade students participate in all of the technical programs offered at Wright Tech through the Exploratory Program. This experience allows students to engage in the various career path opportunities before choosing one that will set the framework for their education in grades 10-12. Students take academic and career technology courses on a nine-day rotating cycle, which provides ninety days of instruction in academics and ninety days of instruction in career technology courses.

Students have the opportunity to participate in the College Career Pathways (CCP) program with local community colleges and the Early College Experience (ECE) program through UCONN. Through these programs, students earn college credit while in high school and prepare for advanced coursework required by colleges.



HOW WE WORK

At Wright Tech, Work-based Learning (WBL) is offered as a way for students in grades 11 and 12 to gain real-world experience, work in teams, solve problems and meet employers' expectations. It takes place during the school day and students not only receive credit toward their career technology, but they also get paid. Through partnerships with local companies, students work on real projects, gaining hands-on career development experience. Students also participate in Production Work where outside customers hire the schools. From building a house to salon services, the work helps prepare students for transition from high school to the workforce.

Our Career Technologies include:

- Automotive Technology
- Carpentry
- Culinary Arts
- Digital Media
- Electrical
- Facilities Management
- Health Technology
- Information Systems Technology
- Plumbing & Heating
- Tourism, Hospitality & Guest Services Management

STUDENTS RECEIVE CREDIT TOWARD THEIR CAREER TECHNOLOGY, AND ALSO GET PAID.

HOW WE PLAY

Wright Tech students have a variety of sports and activities to choose from:

Athletics: Cross Country, Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, Softball



WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT



Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) graduates are prepared for working and learning environments that constantly change. By adapting to new standards in emerging technologies, students acquire the necessary skills to succeed in the college classroom and in the work place.

By integrating STEM education into our academics and career technologies, along with guidance from industry leaders, Wright Tech students graduate with industry certifications or licenses, post-secondary certificates or degrees that employers use to make hiring and promotion decisions. These graduates are empowered to pursue future schooling and training as their educational and career needs evolve, positioning them to be the country's next leaders and entrepreneurs.

VISIT WRIGHT.CTTECH.ORG

ArgiScience @ Westhill HS

CT AgriScience Program - Stamford Regional

The Agriscience program is not only focused on agricultural education, but also on allowing students to explore their passions and interests.

Agriscience Program: An agricultural education program made up of three integrated parts: Classroom Instruction, FFA and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). The program is housed at Westhill High School in Stamford. Interviews will be held in January. Rolling Admissions.

[AgriScience Tour Video](#) ← Please click link to watch video

[AgriScience Prospective Student Questionnaire](#) ← Please click if you are interested in this program or want more information

[Website](#)

Commonly Asked Questions [Link](#)

Academy of Information Technology and Engineering (AITE)

Interdistrict Magnet HS

- The **Academy of Information Technology & Engineering** is an inter-district, public, magnet high school located in Stamford, Connecticut.
- With a maximum enrollment of 700 students, AITE draws students from throughout western Fairfield County.
- AITE offers a dynamic college preparatory environment that integrates 21st century learning expectations, world language acquisition, emphasis on global competencies, advanced information technology skills and knowledge, introductory courses in pre-engineering and architecture, and service learning.

Applications due Tuesday, January 17,
2023 at 4:00p.m

[Website](#)

**If you are interested in
applying to any of these
schools or have additional
questions...**

Contact your school counselor

