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Dear Parents and Guardians,

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting the holistic development of all students, we are excited to continue to use the Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA). Over two decades of research has helped us understand the important role social-emotional skills play in each student's success in and outside of school and in life. Skills such as demonstrating self-control, persisting at challenging tasks, making good decisions, and working well in groups are all essential for success as students and, eventually, as adults.

As part of this process, our teachers will utilize a strength-based social-emotional observation tool called the DESSA 2 for grades K-8 and the DESSA-HSE (High School Edition) for grades 9-12. Teachers will use this observation tool to assess the degree to which each student has demonstrated specific skills and their growth over time.

Sample DESSA 2 questions include:

- How often did the student keep trying when unsuccessful?
- How often did the student show appreciation of others?
- How often did the student prepare for school activities or upcoming events?
- How often did the student cooperate with others to solve a problem?

Students in grades 6-12 will also be using the DESSA Student Self-Report (DESSA SSR), which encourages students to reflect on their own social-emotional strengths. Students complete the SSR on their own and receive immediate feedback. They can then use this feedback to choose the skill they want to improve and set goals for themselves. The ultimate goal is for students to learn new strategies that will help them succeed.

Sample DESSA SSR questions include:

- How often did you take steps to reach a goal?
- How often did you think of positive things?
- How often do you use good judgment?
- How often do you take an active role in your learning?

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and our district selected the DESSA System in part due to Aperture Education's strong commitment to respecting and protecting your student's privacy. Aperture Education will never share your child's data with a third party.

We have amplified our focus on this work for both students and adults, striving to support our students in developing essential skills that enable them to reach their greatest potential and fully thrive. If you have any questions or would prefer your child to opt out of this observational assessment, please feel free to contact Meredith Tukey at 860-779-6672.

Below are some resources for your review regarding the DESSA:

- [Aperture Education's Parent Portal](#)
- [DESSA Parent FAQ](#)

Sincerely,


Meredith Tukey
Director of Mental Health, Student Wellness, and Family Engagement
Killingly Public Schools



The American Revolution
Experience
Traveling Exhibit

Now On Tour!

For Immediate Release
09/14/2026

Contact: Claudette Stockwell cstockwell@killinglyct.gov
(860) 779-5383

LOCAL DAR CHAPTER HOSTS AMERICAN REVOLUTION EXPERIENCE TRAVELING EXHIBIT AT KILLINGLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

***Innovative Revolutionary War Exhibition is Collaborative Project of
the American Battlefield Trust and the National Society Daughters of
the American Revolution***

(Killingly, CT) — The Deborah Avery Putnam Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is excited to announce the opening of the American Revolution Experience Exhibition at Killingly Public Library on Saturday, September 19, 2026. The innovative pop-up exhibition includes display panels and interactive digital kiosks that use storytelling, illustration, technology and unique artifacts and primary accounts to connect modern audiences with the people and places that shaped the birth of our nation. Created through a collaboration between the American Battlefield Trust and the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, the exhibit is also made possible by generous matching funds from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program battlefield interpretation grants.

The exhibit will run September 19, 2026 through September 30, 2026 at the Killingly Public Library, 25 Westcott Road, Danielson, CT and is free to the public.

Hours:

Monday 9:30am - 5:00pm

Tuesday 9:30am - 6:30pm

Wednesday 9:30am - 6:30pm

Thursday 9:30am - 6:30pm

Friday 9:30am - 5:00pm

Saturday 9:30am - 2:00pm

The *American Revolution Experience* launched online in its first digital-only iteration during the summer of 2022 to rapid acclaim and received a [Bronze Award in the Education, Art, & Culture](#) division of the second annual Anthem Awards, an initiative of the Webby Awards celebrating purpose and mission-driven work. It was also a finalist in the "People's Choice" category of the Webbys themselves.

"The overwhelming response to the American Revolution Experience perfectly illustrates the passion of DAR members and chapters, as they look to introduce their communities to the remarkable men and women who rose to the challenges demanded of them along our path to liberty," said DAR President General Ginnie Sebastian Storage.

Killingly Public Library is the only library in Northeast, CT to bring this experience to our communities. Scores of libraries, historical societies and museums will host the American Revolution Experience through 2027.

About the Organizations

From a grassroots organization started by historians nearly 40 years ago, the **American Battlefield Trust** has grown into one of the most successful land preservation and education organizations in the nation. The Trust has protected more than 60,000 acres associated with the Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and Civil War, representing 160 sites in 25 states from Massachusetts to New Mexico. Its 350,000 members and supporters believe in the power of place and the continued relevance of our shared history to modern American society. Learn more at www.battlefields.org.

The **National Society Daughters of the American Revolution** was founded in 1890 to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. Its members are descended from the patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. With nearly 190,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters worldwide, DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations.



Sponsored
by New York
Pizza CO!

KPRD Fall Coloring Contest!

Open to kids in the following age groups:
Ages 5 & under ~ Ages 6-10 ~ Ages 11-15

1. Pick up your coloring sheet from KPRD, the library, or print it off at home!
2. Color it with any art materials you want!
Crayons, markers, paint, glitter, watercolor, etc.
3. Submit your final masterpiece by dropping it off at Killingly Library, the Community Center at 185 Broad Street or email it to : parks&rec@killinglyct.gov

Start Date :
September 8th

Last day to submit:
November 16th





Monthly Parent Socials



Find your village with NECC & Parent's Corner

WIN

EVERY FAMILY WHO
ATTENDS WILL BE ENTERED TO
WIN A WALMART GIFT CARD!

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- FREE children's book for each family attending
- Casual, judgment-free environment
- Light snacks & some children's activities provided
- Support from Parent's Corner & NECC Parent Ambassadors



4TH SUNDAYS THIS FALL:

9/27

10/25

11/22

@ 2-3PM



Hale YMCA
9 Technology Park Dr
Putnam

Children may attend, but must remain supervised by their parent/caregiver.

Any questions?
Email ambassador@neccouncil.org

Find our events
on Facebook:



Registration
required as
space is
limited.