

Welcome back to Canterbury Public Schools!

What's new for 2024-2025?

This year we welcome four wonderful new staff members:

Brittany Eber will be teaching Second Grade at Canterbury Elementary School this year. We're looking forward to having her share her skills and talents to bring out the best in all her students.



Brittany Eber

Timothy Jordan will be teaching Technology classes at Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School as well as assisting with district communications and technology projects.



Timothy Jordan

Ashlan Murphy joins Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School as the Music and Choral teacher. We will await concerts and choir presentations this year.



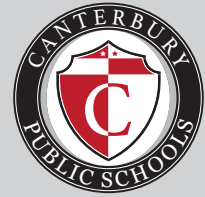
Ashlan Murphy

Connie Sharp is joining us in Grade 3 at Canterbury Elementary School. We look forward to watching her build an excited community of learners eager to be challenged and find success.



Connie Sharp

Every new opportunity in life is a chance to blossom in the new surroundings, celebrate the joyful minutes ahead, and share the gifts we've been given. Welcome to Canterbury!



**CANTERBURY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Mission Statement

In collaboration with our community, the Canterbury Public Schools will develop, foster, and cultivate all students to their highest potential, through rigorous academics within a safe, nurturing, and respectful environment.

*Newsletter Courtesy of
District Central Office*

Dr. Christopher Bitgood
Superintendent of Schools

Dottie Horn
Executive Assistant, Superintendent

Courtney Langlois
Director of Pupil Services

Lillian Blakeslee
Assistant to Director, Pupil Services

Claudia Danna
Curriculum & Instruction Consultant

Timothy Jordan
Communications & Marketing

*45 Westminster Road
Canterbury, Connecticut 06331*

*Superintendent Office: 860-546-6950
Pupil Services Office: 860-546-1040*

It's been a busy summer for many folks at CPS!

Curriculum has been written along with the creation of pacing charts, organizing new spaces, working on building initiatives, cleaning, and making sure that everything will be ready for teachers, staff and students this new year. A great many people have been making sure things will be right on schedule. A special thank you to:

Bill Kolodziej and the summer school teachers and staff. A great time was had by all learning and being among friends doing their best this summer.

Polly Dean, Kristie Morocco, Glenn Blonshine, Rachel Hagios, Erin Doran, Bernadette Messier and **Cindy Pisowloski** for your work with the new reading curriculum.

Kristin Sweeney for stepping in to make sure that both libraries are ready for students to begin the school year. We said goodbye and thank you to **Amy Arnio** for her work and dedication to the students and staff in Canterbury Elementary School. Amy took a job in Manchester as the Family Consumer Science Teacher. We wish her many happy days ahead in her new role.

Jennifer Ferragatta for her work writing new Health Curriculum.

Kelly Davidson for her work with AVMR at Canterbury Elementary School.

Lexi Garcia for creating more Leader in Me lessons and informative instructor website for this year.

If you notice a fresh coat of paint on the walls, this can be explained by **Connor Hill** and his fellow painters:

Al Gibson, Gabby Smith, Victor and **Janiya** from EASTCONN, and **Brody Langlois**. It looks marvelous and new all over again. The custodial staff also



Summer school staff posing for a fun photo opportunity

did their part moving furniture, waxing, cleaning and working on the façade to spiffy up the buildings.

Not to be forgotten, the Administrative Assistants, Business Office Staff and all those who kept the district going over the summer: **Dottie Horn, Jill Smith, Jenn Shafer, Carolyn Craig, and Robin Ebrahimi, Michelle Demicco, Robin Blake** and **Alison Nieminen** who have helped to keep everything running smoothly and help the newest staff get a good start.

New parents, students and teachers have been greeted and welcomed with a smiling face and a helping hand. They set the stage for a great beginning to the Canterbury school experience.

Professional Development Dates

*September 25, October 15,
November 20, January 15,
March 7, and May 21*

Teacher Review Process

The New Teacher Evaluation process- now called the *Teacher Review Process* will be posted on the Schools Web page for Curriculum and Instruction. See your building administrator for more information.

EL Learning

We have a new K – 8 reading and language arts program called *EL Learning*. More will come on that as we get the school year going.

Parent Book Club Evenings

A book club for parents is being proposed for the fall. The topics will be *Bullying - Weak Fish* by Michael Dorn is a story of a young boy who was bullied all of his life. The author is the now- grown-up boy, Michael Dorn.

Queen Bees and Wannabees by Rosalind Wiseman helps with ideas for navigating relationships at the middle school level.

If you are interested, please send an e mail to: cdanna@canterburypublicschools.org

She will get back to you with the titles and dates. The club will last for 6 weeks beginning in October and be running until Thanksgiving.



Popsicles and bubbles with the principal at CES

Family Reading

Here are some great books to do read alouds with when you are planning an evening -before bed-story time.

Books to read for both the young and young at heart:

The Wonky Donkey and The Dinky Donkey
by Craig Smith

Big Shark, Little Shark, and the Spooky Cave
by Anna Membrino

Burt the Beetle Doesn't Bite
by Ashley Spires

*Percy Jackson and the Olympians-
The Chalice of the Gods*
by Rick Riordan

Beyond the Secret Lake
by Karen Inglis

Other books for those looking for something enjoyable:

The Women
by Kristin Hannah
(women who supported the soldiers in Vietnam)

The Spectacular
by Fiona Davis
(story of Radio City Music Hall in New York City)

FUN FACT!
*Pre-K students are the
Class of 2033!*

District Newsletter Summer 2024

**The First Selectman's Office and
Canterbury business community
wish you and your families a
wonderful school year!**

Canterbury Selectman's Office
Christopher Lippke, First Selectman
Mark Weeks, Second Selectman
Jonathan Lane, Third Selectman

A & H Transport Services
Affordable Vacations by Donna
AM Associates, LLC
Amaryllis Lactation Supports, LLC
B-C Large Animal Clinic, LLC
BZB Farm, LLC
Baldwin Brook Farm
Bergeron Limited
Berkshire Bank
Better Val-u Supermarket
Booze Barn
Bounce-A- Rama Inflatables
Brennan Brokerage
Canterbury Children's Academy
Canterbury Cutz Hair Salon
Canterbury Family Practice
Canterbury Liquors
Canterbury Mini Storage
Cat Hospital of Canterbury
Canterbury Senior Citizens
China Garden
Cumberland Farms
CT Homegrown
D & G Pizza and Pub

Dunkin Donuts
Hart's Greenhouse and Florist
Ed's Garage
Footprints Doula Services
Guaranteed Roofing
Hart's Greenhouse and Florist
Jet CPA, LLC
Joe's Stump Grinding
Journey with Stephanie, LLC
Kay's Cafe
Knollbrook Village
LaFramboise Sand and Stone
Little River Bread Co.
Mark O. Weeks, Inc.
Ninja Tree Service
Northrop East Farm
Our Kids Farm
Painted Gardens
Ponies, Inc.
Quinebaug Kennels
R & R General Repairs
R & R Floor Covering
Randall Stump Grinding
Rawson Materials, LLC
Rivers Construction and Landscaping
Ryan's Place
Staged by Eliza
Timothy Brennan Construction
TJM Hydraulics
Veteran's Aerial Media, LLC
Walgreens Pharmacy
Westview Tractors
Wiggle Waggles Pet Grooming
Wright's Mill Farm

The Canterbury Board of Education wishes all the families and students a wonderful school year!

Canterbury Board of Education Members

Laurie Marquis, Chair

Andrew Bessette • Jamie Kleinman • John Smedley

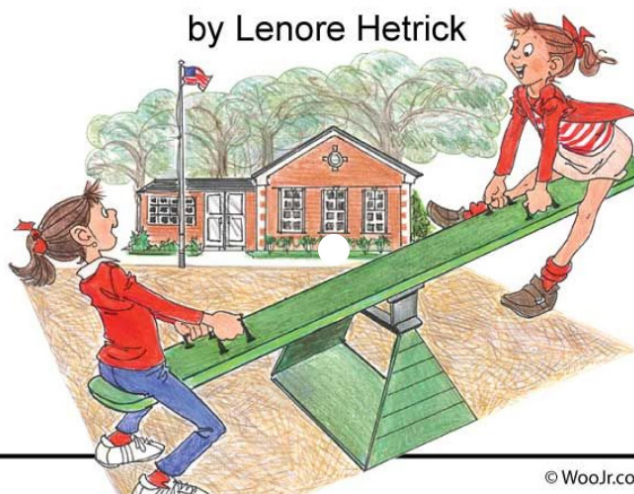
William Sweeney • Matthew Pritchard • Christine Winton

Memories

We may complain about our school work,
Perhaps we think our lessons hard.
We'd much prefer to be out playing,
And running in the big schoolyard.
But with the passing of the years
The dearest memories we'll call
Will be of hours that we have spent
Within the old gray schoolhouse wall.

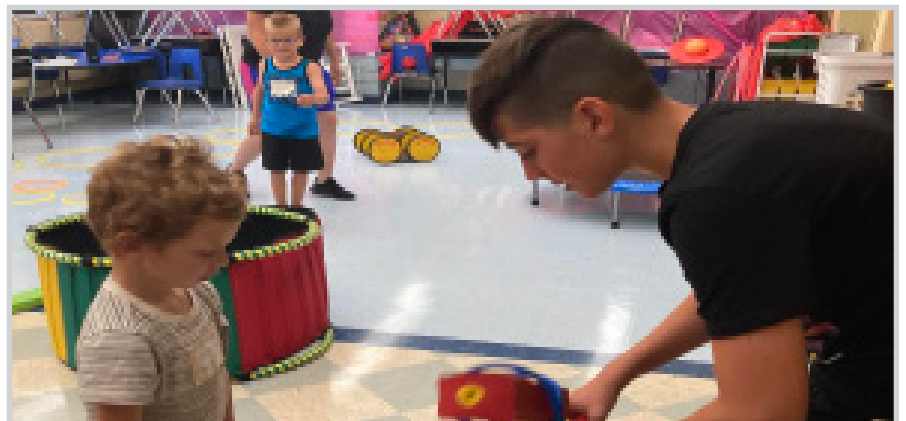
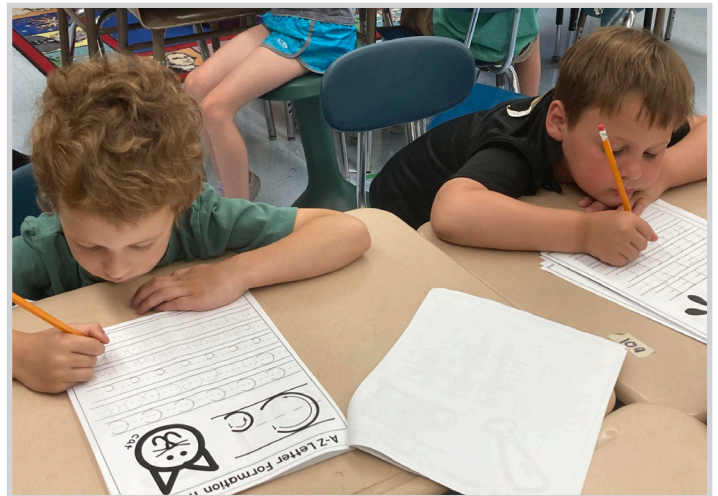
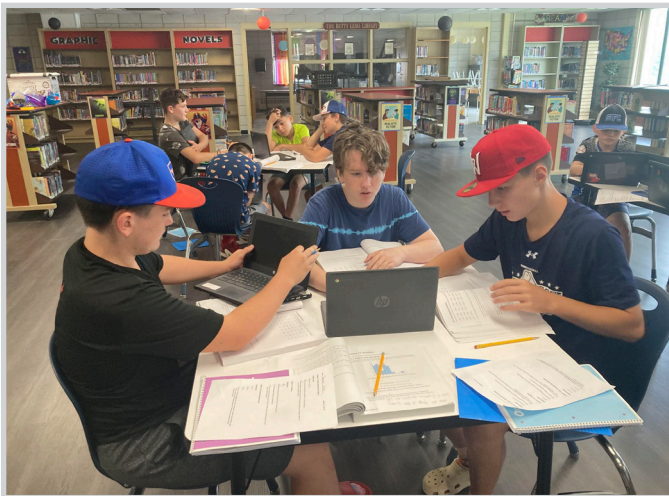
We may consider it a trial
To have to add and multiply,
And lessons in geography
Bring many a long-drawn, anxious sigh,
But with the passing of the years
When time has cast its purple haze,
The memories that we will treasure
Will be of long-gone, old school days.

by Lenore Hetrick



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The Scenes of Summer





School Calendar 2024-2025

July							August							August	
0 days							days 3 total 3							21-22 Newly Hired Teachers	
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	26 Convocation/PD	
1	2	3	4	5	6		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	27 Professional Development Day	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	28 First Day of School	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	September	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	H 2 Labor Day/No School	
28	29	30	31											ED/PD 25 Early Dismissal/Professional Development	
September							October							October	
days 20 total 23							days 21 total 44							H 14 Indigenous Peoples' Day/No School	
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	ED/PD 15 Professional Development	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	C/ED 24-25 Parent Conferences/Early Dismissal	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	November	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	H 11 Veterans Day-Celebrated/No School	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31			ED/PD 20 Early Dismissal/Professional Development	
29	30													TB 27-29 Thanksgiving Break/No School	
November							December							December	
days 17 total 61							days 15 total 76							ED 20 Early Dismissal	
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	H 23-31 Holiday Break	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	January	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	H 1 New Year's Day/No School	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	ED/PD 15 Early Dismissal/Professional Development	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	H 20 MLK Jr. Day/No School	
January							February							February	
days 21 total 97							days 18 total 115							H 17 Presidents' Day/No School	
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	H 18 Winter Break/No School	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	March	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	PD 7 Professional Development/No School	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	C/ED 20-21 Parent Conferences/Early Dismissal	
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		April	
March							April							April	
days 20 total 135							days 17 total 152							H 18 Good Friday	
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	SB 14-18 Spring Break/No School	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	May	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	ED/PD 21 Early Dismissal/Professional Development	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	H 26 Memorial Day/No School	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				June	
30	31													ED 11 Projected last day of school/Early Dismissal	
May							June							June	
days 21 total 173							days 8 total 181							ED 11 Projected last day of school/Early Dismissal	
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	(June 16-20 - Snow Day Make-Up If Necessary)	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Early Dismissal 1:00 pm:	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Sep 25; Oct 24, 25; Nov 20; Dec 20; Jan 15; March 20, 21;	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	May 21; Last day of school	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Trimesters End:	
							29	30						November 26, March 6, Last Day	
*This calendar represents 181 instructional days. Any instructional days that are cancelled may be added to the scheduled last day of school.														Report Cards:	
Professional Development - No school														December 6, March 24, Last Day	
Holiday or Vacation														Progress Reports - BMS:	
Early Dismissal														October 14, January 24, April 25	
First Day of School														Draft: 2/6/2024 BOE Approved Feb 13, 2024	
**** Early Dismissal 1:00 pm															