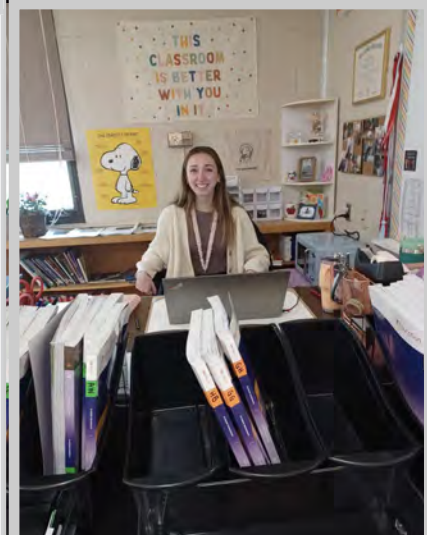
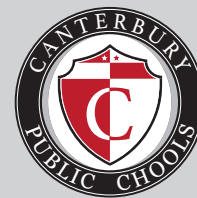


In This Issue...



- Focus on Ms. Ferragatta
- Curriculum Corner
- Designer of Tomorrow
- Dr. Helen Baldwin
- Staff Spotlight
- National Junior Honor Society
- District School Security Officer
- and More...



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.

Gazette Courtesy of District Central Office

Dr. Christopher Bitgood
Superintendent of Schools

Courtney Langlois
Director of Pupil Services

Sarah Cary
Principal, CES

Seth Danner
Principal, BMS

Claudia Danna
Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Dottie Horn
Assistant to the Superintendent

Lillian Blakeslee
Assistant to Director of Pupil Services

Claudia's Curriculum Corner (CCC)

Excellence in Teaching Spotlight #2: EL Education Conversation Cues/ Table Talk Starters

In an effort to engage students in conversations and deep thinking, EL includes, as part of its instructional practices, Conversations Cues/ Table Talk Starters.

Questions are designed to:

Help all students talk and be understood
I'll give you time to think ...(write or sketch) Can
you say more about that?
Can you give me an example?
So, do you mean ____?
One example is ____.
No, sorry, that's not what I mean, I mean
_____.

Help students listen carefully to and seek to understand:

Who can repeat what your classmate said? Who
can tell us what your classmate said in your own
words?

She said _____.
He was trying to say _____.

Help students to deepen their thinking:

Why do you think that?
What in the text makes you think so?
If you look at _____, it says _____, which means?
What if _____?
Can you figure out why _____?
I used to think _____, and now I think
_____.

I agree/disagree with _____ because _____.
Another idea could be _____.



For more information about the Science of Reading you
can contact:

Florida Center for Reading Research,
The Institute of Education Services, or
The Reading League Science of Reading: Defining Guide

For more information related to the EL Reading
Program: <https://curriculum.eleducation.org/>

TEAM Mentor Teachers vs. Cooperating Teachers

Category	Beginning Teachers (Certified – In TEAM Program)	College Seniors / Student Teachers (Non-Certified)
Role of Assigned Teacher	TEAM Mentor Teacher	Cooperating Teacher / Supervising Teacher
Primary Responsibility	Support induction into the profession, guide TEAM modules, provide feedback aligned to CT TEAM requirements	Model effective teaching, co-plan, co-teach, gradually release classroom responsibility, complete required university evaluations
Who Initiates Placement?	District HR / Certification Office assigns and registers mentor pairings (often coordinated by the District TEAM Facilitator)	College/University Field Placement Coordinator contacts the District Facilitator or HR to request placements
Who Approves or Confirms the Match?	District TEAM Facilitator (with Principal input)	District Facilitator or HR (with Principal confirmation)
Who Do They Contact for Day-to-Day Guidance?	Mentor ⇌ Mentee, with support from Principal and District TEAM Facilitator	Student Teacher ⇌ Cooperating Teacher for daily coordination; University Supervisor for academic oversight
Accountability / Documentation	TEAM Modules completion, Mentor meeting logs, State submission	University-provided evaluation forms, Classroom observation reports
Stipends or Compensation?	Typically, Mentors receive state or district stipend	Some districts offer cooperating teacher stipends , others do not—depends on local agreements

Staff Fall Focus

Monique Revellese

Mrs. Revellese would love to be an astronaut or an astronomer if she wasn't drawn to teaching and caring for the educational needs of children. She is all about science and especially the stories the stars tell us about the universe. There are so many unknowns and that is a mystery to her. Some things she would like to find out more about.

What makes her smile is the honesty of children. They will always tell you the straight truth. Sometimes it is laughable and brings a giant smile to her face. Even when some responses are inappropriate, they are honest and make her laugh inside.

If Mrs. Revellese could change the world, she would make sure that everyone has equal rights. There would be no poverty, lack of education, medical care or laws that are unfair.



Mrs. Mary Cox Para Educator

Mrs. Cox is new to our school this year. She works with students and motivates them to strive for the best they can be. I asked three questions to get a glimpse into who she is so that we can appreciate her on a daily basis.

Mrs. Cox

What book are you loving right now?

I love all books by Kristen Hannah. I've read all of them and each one wraps me up and makes me feel like I can't wait to read the next one. They are all interesting and vary in theme. I love them all.

What is something that kids do that makes you smile?

I love it when students get a light-bulb moment and all the pieces or a section of a problem in learning come together. The light comes on full blast and the world is wonderful. They smile, I smile and it makes our day.

Did you have a favorite teacher when you were in school?

Yes, I did. His name was Mr. Martin, my 7th Grade teacher. Why is he so special to me? That's easy. He was interested in all of his students and we knew and felt that. He made each of us feel important and valued. One time there was a field trip to Boston and I couldn't go because of circumstances. He made it possible for me to go and be a part of the trip. I will never forget that. His kindness reverberates in my memory even today. In his words, those that inspire me today- "It's a good feeling to do kind things for others." I believe that and strive to do that every day.



Jennifer Ferragatta: Girl Power!!!

Mrs. Ferragatta is highlighted in this week's Gazette. When interviewed she spoke of her love of kids and teaching and how she was inspired to be the great teacher she is by watching and learning from her high school Phys. Ed teacher/wrestling coach.

Question 1. Did you have a favorite teacher in high school who inspired you?

Yes, my Physical Education teacher and wrestling coach inspired me to want to be like him and have and build the relationships with students that foster the love of learning and staying healthy.

Question 2. If you were not a teacher, what would you be?

I'd be a photographer or a writer or maybe combine the two into a perfect career of sharing my creativity in a new way. I could put my stories to life through photos. Those are of high importance and interest to me.

Question 3. What is one activity you really enjoy doing?

I love to decorate for Halloween and Christmas and create charcuterie boards full of junk foods (-) These two times of the year stir up creative juices that make me want to decorate to my heart's content. They are both fun holidays. My friends and family look forward to what I do each year to show the wonder of each season.

Both students speak of Mrs. Ferragatta's love of teaching, exciting lessons and her enthusiasm with everything kids do in Physical Education.



When students were interviewed they said:

Sophie O (Grade 5 student), Mrs. Ferragatta is a great teacher because she is fun and makes everything we learn fun to do. She treats everyone with fairness and shows she cares about all of us. She is bubbly and accepts kids for who they are.

Caliana (Grade 5 student) speaks highly of Mrs. Ferragatta when she speaks to the great costumes Mrs. Ferragatta wears to liven up a special day. She is always cheerful and gets involved in trends like 6-7- she is, "cool".

Welcome Mr. Robertson!

Mr. Robertson is our newest addition to the Canterbury family. He is our School Resource Officer who participates at both CES and Dr. Helen Baldwin School. When asked what makes him smile, he responded that it's always the honesty of kids. "They give it to you straight!" He finds this honesty refreshing. He is a big asset to both schools and plans on building strong relationships and offering guidance to everyone.

A fun fact about Mr. Robertson is that last summer he and a buddy rode across the country starting from the Outer Banks of South Carolina and made it all the way to Oregon. That's a 6,200 mile journey on a motorcycle. It took 23 days. The path he and his buddy took was called the Trans America Trail. He has many pictures of interesting sights and stories about the places he went and folks he saw along the trail. Of course, when you travel by motorcycle, you have to be prepared for all eventualities. His bike was well packed with the necessities and comfortable to ride all day long. This was a life-long dream come true in 23 days and 6200 miles.

Who was Mr. Robertson's favorite teacher. The first name that came to mind was that of Mrs. Sokolowski from Moosup Elementary School, his second grade teacher. She made a difference in his life. She demonstrated kindness and respected all of her students. No one was ever left out or made to feel uncomfortable. Every child was important. That made a difference to Mr. Robertson as a child. He promotes trust, kindness, and respect for all as the School Resource Officer.



Who was Dr. Helen Baldwin?

Dr. Helen Baldwin was born in Canterbury on November 14th, 1865, and was a pioneering female physician. She was born into a multi generational local medical family, she pursued advanced education at a time when few women entered the medical profession. After earning her medical degree from New York Infirmary Medical school, and did her post graduate work at Johns Hopkins and was one of the first female medical students there. Dr. Baldwin practiced medicine in New York City and became known for her skill, compassion, and professionalism. Her colleagues regarded her as a dedicated physician and a respected public health advocate, and she was elected to the American Public Health Association in 1939.

Despite her work beyond Connecticut, Dr. Baldwin remained closely connected to her hometown. Following her passing in 1946, the town honored her legacy of service, scholarship, and community pride by naming its new consolidated school after her.

The Dr. Helen Baldwin School opened on September 1st, 1947. The school was the first in the state to receive funding from the newly created CT State Building program. Additions and renovations were added in 1957 and 1978. Her name continues to represent excellence, care for others, and dedication to learning for the students of Canterbury.



BMS National Junior Honor Society



Our goals this year as President and Vice President of the National Junior Honor Society is to be leaders inside and outside of school. We will strive to include everyone's ideas and try to create a better environment for everyone at our school. As leaders in this club, our job is to lead meetings and make sure that everything is running smoothly along with making sure everyone is pitching ideas to make our school and community a better place. This year we plan on doing a hygiene drive and donating the funds to a shelter to help others in need. Also, in the spring we are planning to have a community service day where we help out around the town. These duties include yard work at the town hall, cleaning the fire station, and helping out around the local churches. As President and Vice President, we will work to ensure that everyone's ideas are heard while trying to make our community a better place.

Sincerely,

Rosalyn Adamec - President

Hannah Perkins - Vice President

Jakob Otto Designer of Tomorrow

Introducing Jakob Otto, a designer of tomorrow. Jakob loves to create animations and their “cells” or slides. What he is showing in the video is his creation of Dimension Conquerors, a video of characters that will go out to alien dimensions and destroy the enemies there. He designs the characters through digital interactions. In the movie, his creations “conquerers” travel to different dimensions

His goal is 1000 slides that could take up to 3 hours of viewing time. It will take him a bit of time to create all of the animations, but there is no rush. Jakob is clever and creative. These attributes enable him to bring designs to life. His first movie, Dimension Conquerors, is 209 slides long. He loves spending time with his creations. He also likes old computer units - seeing what’s inside and how he can make them function. Perhaps when he grows up, he’ll continue to make movies and become the next “Star Trek” producer. He’s clever enough for sure!





*The Canterbury Board of
Education wishes all the
families and students a
happy holiday season!*

Canterbury Board of Education
Members

Laurie Marquis, Chair

• *Jamie Kleinman John Smedley*
Matthew Pritchard • Christine Winton

Student Spotlight

Baldwin Middle School Artists



Abigail Byer



Hannah Perkins



Alaina Pescatelli

Want to spotlight your students in a future issue?

Send any photos and information to cdanna@canterburypublicschools.org

A Message From Ms. Kupis

The holidays can be both wonderful and stressful. Community support is available if needed. Local resources are included in the digital pamphlet below, as created by Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School's social work intern, Kaylee Buckland.



Here is additional information, as provided by the United Way of Connecticut.

Call 211

Community Resources
Food
Utility Assistance
Healthcare Services

Transportation

Legal Services
Housing/Homelessness
Support Groups

Call 988

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
Thoughts of Suicide
Mental Health Crisis
Substance Use Crisis
Emotional Distress

Call 911

Emergencies
Medical
Fire
Crime
Illegal Activity
Domestic Violence



PROVIDING PRACTICAL TRAINING & COACHING FOR EDUCATORS



Recently, Dr. Mahri Wrightington from PD Monster came to Canterbury to spend the morning with teachers. She shared insights and strategies for working with students who have behaviors related to executive functioning that need to be addressed. Executive functioning is a set of mental skills that help people plan, organize, manage their time, and reach goals. It acts as the brain's "management system" to control impulses, focus attention, remember information, and adapt to new situations. The core components include working memory, flexible thinking, and inhibitory control.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on how you can book Dr. Wrightington call (781) 254-6368 or email info@pdmonster.com



WINTER WORD SEARCH

FIND THE WORDS!



A	Y	G	X	D	V	Q	O	S	O	O	L	H	R	R	S	C	A	R	F
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G	N	I	D	D	E	L	S	I	T	O	R	L	H	Y	K	A	W	S	W
V	F	E	B	R	U	A	R	Y	I	Z	O	F	R	E	E	Z	I	N	G
N	P	A	Q	Q	H	S	T	L	P	K	I	B	L	U	D	Q	Z	C	B
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BOOTS
COLD
FREEZING
HAT
SCARF
SLEDDING
SNOWFLAKE

CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER
FROST
ICE
SHOVEL
SNOWANGEL
SNOWMAN

COAT
FEBRUARY
GLOVES
JANUARY
SKIING
SNOWBALLS
WINTER

**The First Selectman's Office and
Canterbury business community
wish you and your families a
happy holiday season!**

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 Roofin

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

School Calendar 2025-2026

Canterbury Public Schools 2025-2026 School Calendar

July 0 days	August 3 total	August 20-21 Newly Hired Teachers 25 Convocation/PD 26 Professional Development Day 27 First Day of School																																																																																											
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*This calendar represents 181 instructional days. Any instructional days that are cancelled may be added to the scheduled last day of school.

Professional Development - No school
Holiday or Vacation
Early Dismissal
First Day of School

Trimesters End:
November 25, March 5, Last Day

Report Cards:
December 5, March 13, Last Day

Progress Reports - BMS:
October 9, January 23, April 24

Draft: BOE Approved 02/12/2025

*This calendar represents 181 instructional days. Any instructional days that are cancelled may be added to the scheduled last day of school.

Professional Development - No school
 Holiday or Vacation
 Early Dismissal
 First Day of School



Draft: BOE Approved 02/12/2025