



ELI WHITNEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Good Afternoon Whitney community,

It has been an incredibly busy week here at school, filled with a wonderful variety of fun and exciting activities that highlight the amazing talents and dedication of our students! I encourage you to take a look at all of these fantastic updates in our Hoots & Highlights section below.



As we move into June, it can be tempting to think that the school year is winding down. While summer is just around the corner, we want to remind all families that there is still plenty of school left, and every day of attendance remains important.

Teaching and learning continue right up until the final day of school. Throughout these last weeks, students are engaged in meaningful lessons, collaborative projects, assessments, and activities that build upon the learning that has taken place all year. Every instructional day provides valuable opportunities for students to strengthen skills, deepen understanding, and celebrate their growth.

Regular attendance helps students stay connected to their classroom community, maintain academic momentum, and participate fully in end-of-year learning experiences. Missing school can result in lost instructional time that is difficult to replace.

We encourage families to continue prioritizing daily attendance and on-time arrival throughout the remainder of the school year. Together, we can ensure that every student finishes the year strong and makes the most of every learning opportunity.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to student success. Let's work together to make these final weeks productive, engaging, and rewarding for all students.

ELI WHITNEY'S VISION STATEMENT

We aspire to graduate the most prepared skilled labor workforce in Connecticut.



Hoots and Highlights

This week, we celebrated our Top Shop winners as they enjoyed the rewards they earned through their outstanding performance and dedication throughout the year. Our Plumbing students took part in an exciting hiking and fishing adventure with Connecticut Aquatic Resources Education (CARE), while the Auto program celebrated its impressive 2nd-place finish with a well-deserved pizza party.

PMT students marked their 3rd-place finish with an ice cream social, enjoying time together and recognizing their hard work. Congratulations to all of our Top Shop winners on their achievements!





Hoots and Highlights





Hoots and Highlights

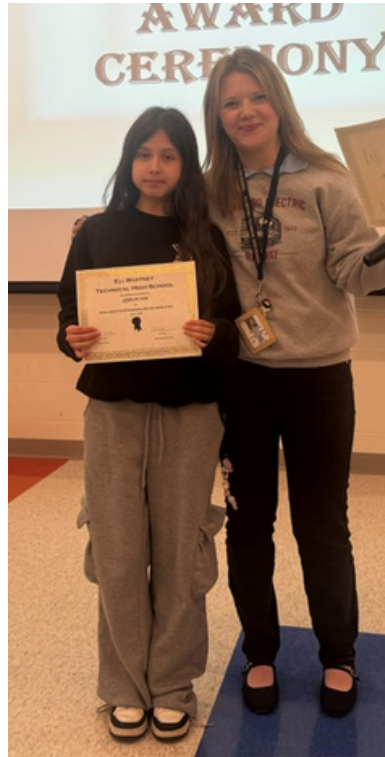
This week, we recognized our top-performing students on the NGSS test and SATs for their dedication and academic achievement. To celebrate their hard work and success, these students were treated to a special 5-Star Lunch prepared by our Culinary program. The event provided an opportunity to honor their accomplishments while enjoying a delicious meal crafted by our talented Culinary students.





Hoots and Highlights

This week, our Grade 9 students were recognized during their Awards Day celebration. Students received specialty awards honoring outstanding achievement in both academics and their trade programs.



GENERAL DYNAMICS

Electric Boat

FREE

the
boat
program



Connecticut

Kickstart your career in manufacturing with Electric Boat!

Join our two-night introductory program this May to explore three different trades each evening and discover if a future in manufacturing is right for you.

Tuesday, July 7th

5:30-8:30 p.m. @ MAC Grasso Tech

Thursday, July 9th

5:30-8:30 p.m. @ Westerly Education Center

Space is limited – registration is required! Please follow the dress code to participate.

Scan the QR code to register.

Email any questions to Kathy Sutton at ksutton3@gdeb.com.

SENEDIA

IBAS
Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainability Program

CT STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CGI

NEW ENGLAND
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

WESTERLY EDUCATION CENTER

Class of



2026!

Save the Date

Eli Whitney Technical High School

Graduation ceremony will
begin promptly at 5:00pm
Graduates **MUST** arrive
by 4:00pm

June
22

Location: The Lyman
Center @ SCSU
501 Crescent St, New
Haven, CT 06515

Ticket Required to attend- More information coming soon

Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)

Graduation Attire

Introduction

Graduation ceremonies are school-sponsored events that recognize the achievement of the graduating class as a whole, the success of the school community as an institution, and the mission of CTECS to prepare trade-bound students to meet the skilled workforce needs in Connecticut, as well as providing special recognition to each student's achievements and participation in school-related activities.

Graduation Attire

All students participating in a graduation ceremony at a CTECS school shall wear a school-issued cap and gown. Graduates may only wear cords, stoles, or medals that represent a school-awarded achievement.

Students may decorate the top of the cap with the following types of decorations:

- Expression of thanks
- Recognition of future education, military service, or employer
- Graduation year
- Flag of a country as recognized by the UN/Regalia of a Native American or Pacific Islander tribe/Regalia of cultural or religious significance
- Recognition of achievement (e.g. Eagle Scout, Gold Award, black belt)

Any cap decoration must be pre-approved by school administration. School administration reserves the right to withhold approval of any decoration that does not meet the above criteria or is deemed inappropriate for the commencement ceremony.

Any attire that violates this policy will not be allowed into the ceremony. Any items not meeting the requirements outlined above will be confiscated and can be picked up from the front office after graduation.

No exceptions shall be made.

Graduates are encouraged to wear personal accoutrements and/or practice any traditions before or after the ceremony.

Michael Crocco, Superintendent
Issued: March 2026

ATTENTION GRADE 12 STUDENTS

SAIL

DONATIONS ACCEPTED



**HELP US RESTOCK SAIL WITH
SHOP & ACADEMIC UNIFORMS**

**ANY GRADE 12 STUDENT THAT
DONATES TO SAIL CAN DRESS DOWN
THE LAST CYCLE JUNE 10-22
(MUST BE SCHOOL APPROPRIATE)**



26-27 Student Athlete Participation Requirements

Any student interested in trying out for an Eli Whitney Athletic Team must have the following forms completed **before** they can participate in tryouts.

- Parent/guardian completed electronic forms in the Parent Power school parent portal. Please contact Ms. Phyllis in the main office with support.
- An **updated** Physical on file in the nurse office. We suggest completely physical compliance now.
- Academically eligible by the previous quarter grades officially posted

If these requirements are not met before the tryout date, you cannot try out. Please contact the coach of the sport to get tryout dates and other information.

Does Your Child Need A Sports Physical? Your School-Based Health Center Has You Covered!



**June 1-
August 31**

**Only
\$40**

**When you
Enroll Your Child in
SBHC Services!**



**SCAN TO
ENROLL**

sbhc1.com

Our School-Based Health Center is offering summer sports physicals at a **reduced cost** for those who enroll their child(ren) in SBHC medical, dental and behavioral health services from June 1 - August 31.

Schedule Today! Call: 475-231-6978

*A sports physical (administrative physicals) is not a replacement for the comprehensive annual physical with your primary care provider.

School-Based Health Care is operated by Community Health Center, Inc.

ELI WHITNEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY

Building Success Through Consistent Presence

90%

Attendance rate needed for academic success

18

Days of school missed = chronic absence threshold

10%

Learning time lost with just 2 absences per month

WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS

- ✓ **Technical Skill Mastery:** Hands-on learning in shops and labs requires daily practice and sequential skill building
- ✓ **Academic Achievement:** Students with better attendance earn higher grades and test scores
- ✓ **Life Skills:** Regular attendance builds responsibility, time management, and work ethic
- ✓ **Career Readiness:** Technical careers demand reliability—attendance builds the habits employers value
- ✓ **Safety & Certification:** Consistent presence ensures proper training in shop safety and industry certifications

UNDERSTANDING CHRONIC ABSENCE

Missing just 2 days per month (18 days per school year) equals chronic absence. This can happen with excused or unexcused absences, including illnesses and suspensions. Chronic absence significantly impacts a student's ability to keep pace with grade-level standards.

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE REQUIRES CONSISTENCY

At Eli Whitney, hands-on learning and technical skills development happen every day in the shop and classroom. Missing school means missing critical skill-building experiences that can't be replicated at home.

HOW FAMILIES CAN HELP

- ✓ Establish consistent bedtime and morning routines
- ✓ Schedule medical appointments outside school hours when possible
- ✓ Communicate with school counselor about potential barriers to attendance
- ✓ Emphasize the importance of school attendance at home
- ✓ Monitor your student's attendance and intervene early if issues arise

ELI WHITNEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Helping Your Child Succeed: Parent Support & Student Responsibility for Better Grades

Working together to help your child to be successful is important in the school/home partnership. This sheet provides interventions that can be used, along with other resources, as strategies your child is shown to talk with you about things that may not be going as well.



TIPS FOR FAMILIES

These are strategies for **parents** so that you can best support your child:

- Check your Parent Portal (PowerSchool) account: Regularly
- Check in with your child on owed missed work
- Ask your child to show you their Google Classrooms for each of their classes.
- Email your child's teachers with concerns or questions
- Ensure that your child is getting to school each day.

ACTIVE/ENGAGED LEARNING

These methods focus on engaging with the material more effectively, which can make studying feel automatic:

- Review Notes Daily: Spend 10 minutes each day reviewing class notes.
- Utilize Practice Problems: For math, don't just read the examples; work on many practice problems.
- Use Flashcards: Create physical or digital flashcards for key vocab, terms, formulas, or things to know for an exam or exam prep.
- Eliminate Distractions: Turn off your phone and block distracting websites before starting your homework, or study time.
- Teach the Material: Teach the concept to a friend or parent.

PLANNING & ORGANIZING

These strategies help students gain better control over their time and tasks:

- Establish a Dedicated Study Schedule: Set aside specific, non-negotiable times for homework and studying each day.
- Prioritize Tasks: Use a planner or calendar to list assignments, due dates, and tests. Focus on the tasks with the earliest deadlines.
- Break Down Large Projects: Divide big assignments or projects into smaller steps with their own due dates.
- Organize Study Materials: Keep your organized binders, folders, or digital folders for each subject. |
- Attend and Be Prepared for Class: Consistent attendance is crucial, and it's even better if you come prepared with materials and having completed or reviewed the previous day's notes before the lecture starts.

UTILIZING SCHOOL RESOURCES

The school provides resources specifically for struggling students—make sure to use them:

- Stay After School/Utilize Teacher Office Hours: Schedule one-on-one time with teachers to get extra help on tough topics or to review a test you performed poorly on.
- Use Study Halls: Use unscheduled time at school to stay ahead, study, or set aside extra time to work on homework or get assistance from the supervising teacher.
- Get a Study Buddy: Find a reliable classmate and form a study group.
- Email your teachers: Ask questions or let them know if you need extra help or turned in a late assignment.
- Use Your Classroom: Regularly check Google Classroom and your email for missing assignments, downloadable notes, or extra resources