



ELI WHITNEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL



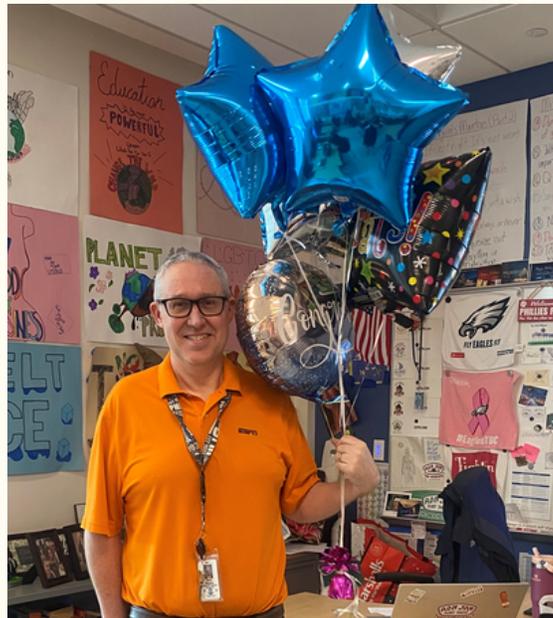
Good Afternoon Whitney community,

As we continue through the school year, we want to remind families that regular attendance is one of the most important factors in student success. Every school day provides valuable instruction, hands-on learning, and opportunities for collaboration that are difficult to replicate through make-up work. We ask families to please plan vacations during scheduled school breaks and avoid extending vacations into school days whenever possible so students do not miss critical learning experiences. If your student will be absent for any reason, please send a message through ParentSquare to Mr. LeSieur so we can stay informed and support your student in keeping up with their learning.

Hoots and Highlights

★ Celebrating Excellence: 2026 Teacher of the Year

We are proud to announce that Mr. Maguire has been named our 2026 Teacher of the Year! Mr. Maguire's dedication to student success, engaging instruction, and commitment to our school community make him truly deserving of this recognition. His impact is felt daily by students and colleagues alike, and we are grateful for the passion and expertise he brings to our school. Congratulations, Mr. Maguire!





Hoots and Highlights

Exploring Career Pathways

PMT Students Attend South Central Manufacturing Careers Roadshow 2026

Students in the PMT program had the opportunity to attend the South Central Manufacturing Careers Roadshow 2026, where they explored career pathways in modern manufacturing and engineering. Through demonstrations and conversations with industry professionals, students gained insight into the skills, technologies, and opportunities that exist in advanced manufacturing. Experiences like this help connect classroom learning to real-world careers and inspire students to think about their future pathways.





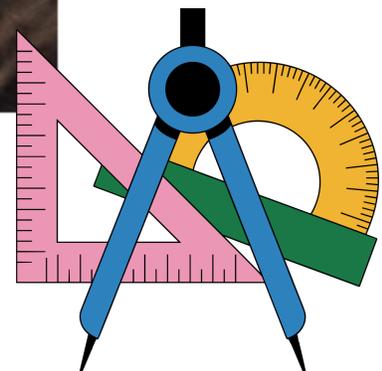
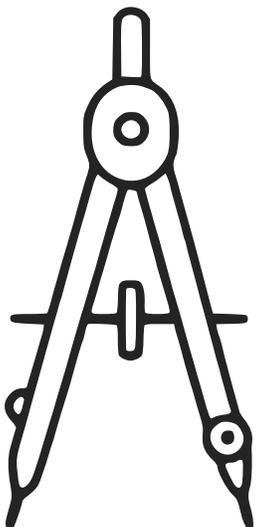
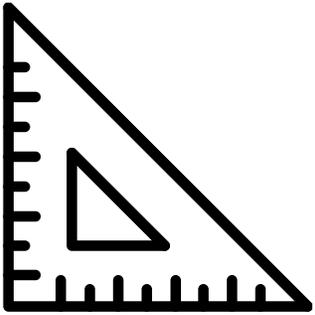
Hoots and Highlights

Engineering in Action

MDET Students Take on the “Cricket Wicket” Engineering Challenge

Students in the Mechanical Design Engineering Technology (MDET) program recently participated in the “Cricket Wicket” Engineering Challenge developed by Science Buddies. Working in teams, students designed and built devices using limited materials to launch a ping-pong ball and knock down a target. With a set time limit and a point-based material budget, teams had to design, build, test, and revise their prototypes. The challenge emphasized the engineering design process, encouraging students to test ideas, learn from failures, and improve their solutions.

Through this hands-on activity, students strengthened important skills such as problem-solving, collaboration, and iterative design, while exploring concepts aligned with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) related to evaluating design solutions and understanding energy transfer during motion.





Hoots and Highlights

School Spirit in Action

Battle of the Classes Volleyball Tournament

The Class of 2027 hosted an exciting Battle of the Classes Volleyball Tournament this week, bringing students together for a fun and spirited competition.

After an energetic series of matches between classes, the student champions earned the chance to face off against the teacher team in a crowd-favorite showdown. The event showcased not only athletic talent but also the strong sense of community and school pride shared by students and staff.



This week in Hairdressing



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