



ELI WHITNEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Good Afternoon Whitney community,

A Strong Start to the School Year! 🎉

We are excited to share that the new school year is off to a fantastic start! The energy throughout the building has been both positive and productive. Classrooms and shops are already buzzing with learning, and it has been especially heartwarming to see our upper-grade students stepping up as leaders offering support, guidance, and encouragement to our incoming Grade 9 students.



Important Reminders for a Smooth School Year:

✅ PowerSchool Paperwork – Action Required

If you have not yet completed the annual forms in PowerSchool, we kindly ask that you do so as soon as possible. These forms are essential for maintaining accurate emergency contact information and ensuring your child's safety.

If you need assistance accessing PowerSchool, please contact Ms. Maria.

Uniform Expectations

Thank you for supporting our commitment to a professional and respectful school environment.

Skirt & Short Length: All skirts and shorts must be school appropriate length.

Cooler Weather Guidelines: As fall approaches, students may wear a non-hooded zip-up, crewneck, or sweatshirt with the official Whitney logo.

- Official school apparel is available on the Darter website.
- Students may also purchase an iron-on Whitney logo for plain zip-ups or crewnecks.

📅 Attendance Matters – Every Day Counts

Consistent attendance is crucial to academic success. Students who miss school also miss valuable instruction and classroom engagement.

- Parents may excuse up to the first 9 absences.
- Excessive unexcused absences may result in credit denial for certain courses.
- Please ensure your child arrives on time daily. If you're facing any challenges related to attendance, don't hesitate to reach out, we're here to help.

🚫 Vape Detectors in Bathrooms

To support a safe and healthy learning environment, vape detectors have been installed in school bathrooms. These devices deter the use of harmful substances and enable staff to respond promptly, promoting accountability and student wellness.

Connecticut Technical Education and Career System

Vision of a Graduate

A CTECS Graduate is...

A Problem Solver

- Collaborative
- Practices creative, outside of the box thinking
- Can persevere and adapt
- Able to determine the root cause of issues
- Identifies multiple solutions and selects the most sensible approach
- Always follows through



An Effective Communicator

- Clearly and concisely conveys information for shared understanding
- Able to use multiple modes of communication
- Command of the language; written and verbal
- Actively listens



Respectful

- Embraces cultural diversity
- Practices kindness and consideration
- Understands and respects organizational structures
- Demonstrates professionalism
- Communicates with care and professionalism



Skilled Socially

- Uses effective verbal and non-verbal communication skills
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Interacts with diverse audiences in a manner appropriate for the setting
- Empathizes with and values others



A Critical Thinker

- Applies unbiased analysis and evaluation
- Evaluates sources of information for reliability
- Innovates
- Willing to adapt to new information and question things
- Makes rational decisions based on application of evidence and observation



Work Ready

- Motivated to continue learning
- Possess the knowledge and skills for industry area
- Models employability skills; i.e. punctual, dressed appropriately, dependable, good attitude and time management
- Strong work ethic



WHAT is SKILLSUSA?

SkillsUSA is the path to connect with valuable professional opportunities that will enable you to become career ready! SkillsUSA is a national partnership of students, teachers and industry working together. This partnership allows you to receive a direct connection with business and industry leaders and allows partners a connection to career-ready students!



WHAT DO WE DO?



Community Engagement



Financial Management



Leadership Development



Partner and Alumni Engagement



Workplace Experiences



Advocacy and Marketing

SkillsUSA chapters complete activities focused around six categories called the SkillsUSA Program of Work.

WHY JOIN SKILLSUSA?



- Join a community of like-minded peers from diverse backgrounds.
- Grow your Personal, Workplace and Technical Skills.
- Achieve a sense of accomplishment and belonging.
- Lead and participate in chapter activities.
- Explore various career paths and practice hands-on application of skills.

WHAT CAN I GAIN?



- Test skills and earn recognition through SkillsUSA's local, state and national career competition programs.
- Gain access to exclusive scholarship opportunities.
- Life changing connections as you network with business and industry leaders and obtain work opportunities.
- Strengthen your resume through participation in professional development opportunities.

Learn more about SkillsUSA!

GO SEE IN



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Hoots and Highlights



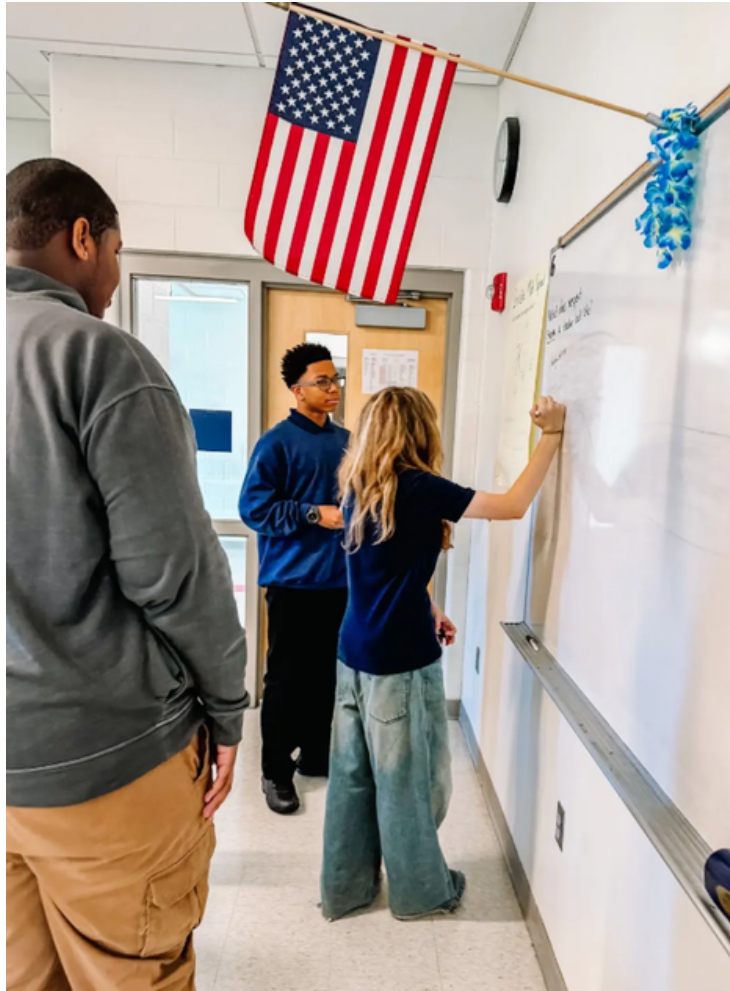


Hoots and Highlights





Hoots and Highlights





Hoots and Highlights





Hoots and Highlights





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.

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

SOCIAL MEDIA

• Gaming & • ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE Educational Seminars

FOR SCHEDULING
PLEASE SCAN
THE QR CODE

