



# ELI WHITNEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Good Afternoon Whitney community,

This week may have felt like a quick one, but it has been filled with exciting opportunities for our students. From engaging classroom learning experiences to meaningful moments of growth, it has been wonderful to see our students continuing to challenge themselves and shine.



With Quarter 2 now finalized, we have officially reached the halfway point of the school year. This milestone provides a valuable opportunity for students and families to pause, reflect, and celebrate the many accomplishments achieved so far. It is also an ideal time to thoughtfully consider goals for the remainder of the year. Recognizing progress, both big and small, helps build confidence and motivation, while setting clear goals helps students stay focused and intentional in their learning journey.

This year, we have been utilizing a new format for our conferences called Student-Led Conferences (SLCs). These conferences are designed to place students at the center of the conversation about their learning. During an SLC, students take ownership by sharing their academic progress, highlighting their strengths, discussing areas for growth, and reflecting on personal goals.

The purpose of Student-Led Conferences is to:

- Encourage student ownership and accountability for learning
- Strengthen communication skills and self-reflection
- Build confidence as students articulate their progress
- Foster meaningful partnerships between home and school

Research and experience show that when students are actively involved in discussing their learning, they develop a deeper understanding of their strengths and next steps. SLCs empower students to see themselves as capable, responsible learners while creating a supportive space for families to engage in authentic, growth-focused conversations.

We are incredibly proud of the growth our students have demonstrated so far this year and are grateful for your continued partnership. Together, we can ensure the second half of the school year is filled with continued achievement, growth, and success.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school community.

# This Week In Shop



# This Week in Sports



HOOPS

# ☆ CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS ☆

## Quarter 2 Honor Roll Achievement

### • QUARTER 2 •

Congratulations to all our outstanding students who have demonstrated  
academic excellence and dedication!

HIGH HONORS	HONORS
118 Students	106 Students

### Achievement by Grade Level

Grade	High Honors	Honors
Grade 12	17	28
Grade 11	32	22
Grade 10	31	30
Grade 9	38	26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>106</b>

**224 TOTAL HONOR ROLL STUDENTS**

*Keep up the excellent work!*

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



# *Celebrating* **BLACK REVOLUTIONARIES**

## **Black History Month Young Minds and Family Programs**

### **Author Visit: Winsome Bingham**

**Wednesday, February 4, 4-5pm | Mitchell**

Let's kickoff Black History Month with a special visit from local author Winsome Bingham. She will read from her book *Fish Fry Friday*. A special activity will follow. This program is generously sponsored by the CT State Department of Education and CT Association of School Libraries.

### **Creation Station**

**Thursday, February 5, 4:30-5:15 pm | Ives**

Drop in for a weekly craft! This week, we're celebrating Black History Month by making a trumpet inspired by Louis Armstrong. Recommended for ages 4-8, with caregiver.

### **Take Your Child to the Library Day Story and Craft**

**Saturday, February 7, 11-11:30am | Ives**

Take Your Child to the Library Day falls on the first Saturday in February. Celebrate with a special Black History-themed story and craft! Recommended for ages 4-8, with caregiver.

### **Black History Month at Stetson Branch**

**Saturday, February 7, 12-4pm | Stetson**

Celebrate with Sheree Baldwin Muhammad of Divine Creations for family canvas painting, Mae Gibson Brown for storytelling and song, Iyaba Ibo Mandingo of Iyaba Arts with puppet making and a puppet show, and the Healing Drum Circle with Michael Mills for a Village Drum Circle for all ages.



# *Celebrating* **BLACK REVOLUTIONARIES**

## **Black History Month Young Minds and Family Programs Continued**

### **Black History Month Story Time**

**Wednesday, February 18, 10:30-11:30am | Fair Haven**

Join us for a special story time as we celebrate Black history, art and culture through stories and songs.

### **SWANA Black History Month Celebration**

**Saturday, February 21, 12-4pm | Wilson**

Join SWANA (Sisters With A New Attitude)! Activities include a Fusion Drill Team performance, Dance performance from Betsy Ross Arts and Design Academy, face painting, poetry, speakers, and more! Food will be provided, and all are welcome!

### **Celebrating the Life of Booker T. Washington**

**Saturday, February 28, 12-3pm | Stetson**

Join us in partnership with Booker T. Washington Academy as we celebrate the life and legacy of Booker T. Washington, with history by Judge Clifton Graves and a puppet show performed by Iyaba Ibo Mandingo of Iyaba Arts.

**Ives Main Library**  
133 Elm Street  
(203) 946-8130

**Fair Haven Branch**  
182 Grand Ave  
(203) 946-8115

**Mitchell Branch**  
37 Harrison Street  
(203) 946-8117

**Stetson Branch**  
197 Dixwell Ave  
(203) 946-8119

**Wilson Branch**  
303 Washington Ave  
(203) 946-2228

SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT  
**COLLEGE  
& CAREER**  
— FAIR —



**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2026 | 4:30PM TO 7:30PM**  
**LOCATION: HARTFORD HEALTHCARE AMPHITHEATER**  
**500 BROAD ST, BRIDGEPORT, CT 06604**

**ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!**

**FREE**  
Admission!

Meet Admissions Counselors & Representatives  
from over 195 Colleges, Universities, and Businesses  
from across the country and abroad!

Attend the Southern Connecticut College & Career Fair 4/22/26.

Scan the QR code  
for more info





**MONDAY 6PM-8PM**

Weight Lifting & Cooking

**TUESDAY 6PM-8PM**

Girls only club  
3v3 Basketball

- FREE FOOD
- FREE MEMBERSHIP
- SPORTS

**WEDNESDAY 6PM-8PM**

Keystone  
Volleyball/Soccer

- ARTS & CRAFTS
- VIDEO GAMES
- MENTORSHIP
- SAFE SPACE TO

**FRIDAY 6PM-8PM**

Teen Night (open runs,  
lash & Nail art, and video  
games)

HANGOUT



**BGGCNHTEENTAKEOVER**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

New Haven    Ulbrich-North Haven    Ulbrich-Wallingford

**253 COLUMBUS AVE NEW HAVEN, CT 06519**



SMART M L S

*Project*

# PROM DRESS

Join us Sunday, March 1st from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. &  
get a free prom dress at The SoNo Collection.

## PICK YOUR PROM DRESS

