

THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL

THE BRIDGE TO ADOLESCENCE



BUDGET PROPOSAL

2020-2021

KRISTIN REICHELT BERNIER

PRINCIPAL

JANUARY 27, 2020

AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE THOMASTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL SEEKS TO EDUCATE, CHALLENGE AND INSPIRE EACH INDIVIDUAL TO EXCEL AND BECOME A CONTRIBUTING MEMBER OF SOCIETY. A FOCUS ON MINDSET, SYSTEMS, AND RESOURCES SUPPORT THE TEACHING AND LEARNING GOALS FOR ALL LEARNERS. THE 2020-2021 THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL BUDGET PROPOSAL WAS CREATED WITH THOUGHTFUL CONSIDERATION OF OUR DISTRICT'S MISSION, STUDENT AND STAFF NEEDS. WE AT THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL WILL CONTINUE TO COLLABORATE WITH BLACK ROCK SCHOOL AND THOMASTON HIGH SCHOOL TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES FOR STUDENTS IN CONTENT AREAS. IN 2020-2021, BUILDING PRIORITIES INCLUDE:

- PROVIDING A DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE CURRICULUM THAT FOCUSES ON COMMUNICATION, CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS, KEEPING IN MIND THE TRANSITIONS FROM BOTH THE EARLY ELEMENTARY TO THE HIGH SCHOOL;
- APPRECIATING THE DIVERSITY OF LEARNING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES;
- CULTIVATING A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY PRIDE, SPIRIT, AND ALTRUISM AND CITIZENSHIP;
- FOSTERING AN ENVIRONMENT OF COLLABORATIVE LEARNING FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF;
- MAINTAINING SAFETY AND SECURITY FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF.

EACH REQUISITION HAS BEEN CAREFULLY REVIEWED WITH RESPECT TO DISTRICT AND BUILDING GOALS AS WELL AS THE PROJECTED ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2020-21 ACADEMIC YEAR. THE REQUESTED TOWN ALLOCATION FOR THE THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL BUDGET IS \$1,906,311, REPRESENTING A .95% INCREASE (\$17,964) FROM LAST YEAR'S BUDGET REQUEST OF \$1,888,347.

WHEN COMPARING THE ENROLLMENTS FOR 2019-20 AND 2020-21, WE ANTICIPATE APPROXIMATELY THE SAME ENROLLMENT FOR THE TWO ACADEMIC YEARS.

TCS ENROLLMENT:

	GRADE 4	GRADE 5	GRADE 6
2019-2020 (AS OF 1/13/2020)	65	68	64
2020-2021 (PROJECTED)	66	65	68

BELOW PLEASE FIND A SUMMARY OF THE 2020-2021 THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL BUDGET REQUEST BY OBJECT LINE:

OBJECT #111- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$1,244,517 IS AN INCREASE FROM THE 2019-20 TOWN ALLOCATION OF \$1,223,457 DUE TO CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS IN SALARY. THERE WAS ALSO A REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL .5 TEACHER IN THE AREA OF ART (\$36,289) IN ORDER TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMMING IN THE AREA OF ART. THIS WOULD HAVE BROUGHT THIS LINE TO A TOTAL OF \$1,280,806 BUT THAT WAS CUT FROM THE BUDGET REQUEST.

OBJECT #112- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$210,909 IS A DECREASE FROM THE 2019-20 TOWN ALLOCATION OF \$216,655 REFLECTIVE OF CHANGE IN PARAPROFESSIONAL SALARIES.

OBJECT #300- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$48,358 HAS DECREASED SLIGHTLY FROM \$50,458.

OBJECT #400- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$112,573 IS A DECREASE FROM THE 2019-2020 ALLOCATION OF \$130,694 DUE TO CONTRACTED SERVICE REPAIRS. ORIGINALLY, WE REQUESTED FUNDING FOR WINDOW WASHING, DRIVEWAY REPAIRS, AND BUILDING MAINTENANCE. THESE ITEMS WERE CUT FROM THE BUDGET AND THESE REPAIRS WILL BE DEFERRED UNTIL 2021-22. THE DRIVEWAY REPAIRS WERE REQUESTED IN THE 2020-21 CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST.

OBJECT #510- THE TOTAL LINE OF PUPIL TRANSPORTATION FOR \$120,998 IS AN INCREASE FROM THE 2019-20 TOWN ALLOCATION OF \$114,701 DUE TO TRANSPORTATION COST CHANGES.

OBJECT #560- THIS TUITION LINE REMAINS AT A ZERO REQUEST.

OBJECT #590- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$2500 REFLECTS AN INCREASE FROM THE ALLOTMENT IN THE 2019-20 YEAR BECAUSE FIELD TRIP TRANSPORTATION WAS ORIGINALLY IN ANOTHER LINE.

OBJECT #611- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$54,428 IS AN INCREASE FROM THE 2019-20 TOWN ALLOCATION OF \$42,366 DUE TO ADDITIONAL SOFTWARE LICENSES.

OBJECT #641- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$5,753 REMAINS STEADY FROM 2019-20.

OBJECT #642- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$7,072 REFLECTS AN INCREASE OF THE 2019-20 REQUEST OF \$6,052 AS SOME OF THE SUBSCRIPTION COSTS INCREASED.

OBJECT #690- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$71,298 HAS INCREASED FROM THE 2019-20 OPERATING BUDGET OF \$70,852 DUE TO SLIGHT INCREASES IN CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES.

OBJECT #730- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$3,806 REFLECTS A DECREASE FROM THE 2019-20 BUDGET ALLOTMENT OF \$7,074. ORIGINALLY, THE REQUEST INCLUDED 3 ADDITIONAL TOUCH BOARDS, WHICH WOULD HAVE BROUGHT THIS LINE TO APPROXIMATLY \$13,500.

OBJECT #739- THE TOTAL LINE \$9844 OF REFLECTS AN INCREASE FROM THE ALLOTMENT OF \$7700 DURING THE 2019-20 YEAR. WE WOULD LIKE TO ONCE AGAIN HAVE FUNDS TO PAINT CLASSROOMS AND PURCHASE ADDITIONAL WALKIE-TALKIES TO SUPPORT OUR SAFETY AND SECURITY MEASURES AS WELL AS PURCHASE FILTERS FOR OUR FILTERED WATER, WATER-BOTTLE FILLER TYPE DRINKING FOUNTAIN.

OBJECT #890- THE TOTAL LINE OF \$14,255 REFLECTS AN INCREASE FROM \$11,635 TO ACCOMMODATE CONTINUED ENRICHMENT AND FIELD TRIP PROGRAMS, INCLUDING A TRIP TO THE THOMASTON OPERA HOUSE. THESE PROGRAMS WILL DIRECTLY BENEFIT ALL STUDENTS AT CENTER SCHOOL.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION OF THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL'S BUDGETARY REQUESTS.



PROGRAM & ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES
AT
THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL



ACADEMIES

ACADEMIES ARE NON-GRADED, ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS FACILITATED BY STAFF AND STUDENTS SELECT THEIR CHOICE OF PROGRAM. THE ACADEMY PROGRAM OFFERS STUDENTS A CHANCE TO LEARN NEW SKILLS, HONE A PARTICULAR TALENT, AND SHOWCASE CURRENT KNOWLEDGE. ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES GEARED TOWARD STUDENTS' INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE INTERESTS.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- PROGRAM CHOICES HAVE EVOLVED OVER THE YEARS, BASED ON STUDENT CHOICE AND FEEDBACK
- PROGRAM FOSTERS COLLABORATION AND TEAMWORK
- PROGRAM AFFORDS EACH STUDENT AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE AREAS OF CURIOSITY WITH OTHER STUDENTS FROM DIVERSE GRADE LEVELS AND PROMOTES CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS
- PROGRAM OFFERINGS INCLUDE ART, GARDENING, TECHNOLOGY, SPORTS, LEADERSHIP, MATHEMATICS, AND PROBLEM-SOLVING



YOGA



SNACK ATTACK!

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS AFFORD STUDENTS THE OPPORTUNITIES TO RECEIVE EXTRA SUPPORT IN VARIOUS AREAS. PROGRAMS ARE FACILITATED BY CERTIFIED STAFF AND OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS. DUE TO THE AVAILABILITY OF AN AFTER-SCHOOL LATE BUS THAT RUNS THREE DAYS PER WEEK, STUDENTS ALSO HAVE THE OPTION TO RECEIVE TRANSPORTATION HOME AFTER THE PROGRAM.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- BEGINNING BAND STUDENTS MEET AFTER SCHOOL IN SPECIALIZED SECTIONS
- AFTER SCHOOL MATH SUPPORT AND LITERACY SUPPORT HAS BEEN CONSISTENTLY OFFERED TO STUDENTS
- DRAMA CLUB AND YEARBOOK CLUB OFFERED IN SPRING SEMESTER
- PROGRAMMING CHANGES, DEPENDING ON STUDENT INTEREST AND TEACHER AVAILABILITY; CURRENT PROGRAMS INCLUDE LITERACY GAMES AND SUPPORT, SPELLING CLUB, AND MATH SUPPORT



AFTER SCHOOL MATH



DRAMA CLUB



BAND PRACTICE

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT FOR A DAY

“JA FOR A DAY”

IN A PARTNERSHIP WITH JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF SOUTHWEST NEW ENGLAND, THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL AND BLACK ROCK SCHOOL OFFER JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAMMING FOR GRADES KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE SIX. STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT LOCAL AND GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIPS, ECONOMICS, AND BUSINESS. LESSONS ON CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ARE ALSO HIGHLIGHTED. LESSONS ARE PROVIDED BY JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT AND ARE DELIVERED BY LOCAL VOLUNTEERS, TYPICALLY PARENTS OF STUDENTS.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- PROGRAM IS RUN ENTIRELY THROUGH VOLUNTEERS AT ***NO COST TO THE DISTRICT***
- FOURTH GRADE STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND HOW ENTREPRENEURS USE RESOURCES TO PRODUCE GOODS AND SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY; STUDENTS ANALYZED HOW ENTREPRENEURS USE RESOURCES AND WORK WITH EACH OTHER TO PRODUCE GOODS AND SERVICES IN A COMMUNITY AS WELL AS RECOGNIZE THE SKILLS, TASKS, AND CONCEPTS AN ENTREPRENEUR MUST MASTER TO START A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS
- FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE “JA OUR NATION” PROGRAM TO LEARN PRACTICAL INFORMATION ABOUT BUSINESSES’ NEEDS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO CAN MEET THE DEMANDS OF THE JOB MARKET; AS A RESULT OF THESE LESSONS, STUDENTS UNDERSTOOD THAT BUSINESSES NEED INDIVIDUALS WITH CERTAIN SKILLS THAT ARE IN THE WORKPLACE
- SIXTH GRADE STUDENTS GAINED PRACTICAL ADVICE ABOUT PREPARING FOR THE WORKING WORLD WHILE STILL IN SCHOOL; DURING THESE LESSONS, STUDENTS EXPLORED POTENTIAL CAREERS, DISCOVER HOW TO PLAN FOR A JOB, AND LEARN HOW TO MAINTAIN A JOB, AND DEVELOP A PERSONAL BRAND
- LESSONS DESIGNED THROUGH THE JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM AND ARE DELIVERED TO STUDENTS IN ONE DAY
- LESSONS ALSO CORRESPOND WITH CAREER READINESS COMPONENTS OF OUR DEVELOPMENTAL GUIDANCE PROGRAM



ONE SCHOOL, ONE BOOK

THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY OF THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL SHARES A COMMON EXPERIENCE BY READING A SET OF NOVELS TOGETHER. DURING THE 2019-20 ACADEMIC YEAR, THE TCS COMMUNITY WILL READ A NOVEL THAT COMPLEMENTS OUR THEMES OF PROMOTING DIVERSITY, RESPECT, AND KINDNESS. THE ONE SCHOOL, ONE BOOK PROGRAM PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH GREATER OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE LITERACY EXPERIENCES WITH FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY AROUND A COMMON THEME. **THIS PROGRAM WAS FUNDED THROUGH THE THOMASTON PTA.**

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- FOSTERS AND ENCOURAGES A LOVE OF READING AND PROMOTES LITERACY THROUGH A COMMON, SHARED EXPERIENCE
- STUDENT ACTIVITIES ARE CENTERED AROUND NOVELS READ
- FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE INVOLVED, INCLUDING THE THOMASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
- ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF WERE PROVIDED WITH A FREE NOVEL TO READ, ENJOY, AND KEEP



CONNECTICUT KID GOVERNOR PROGRAM

CONNECTICUT'S KID GOVERNOR IS A NATIONAL AWARD-WINNING STATEWIDE CIVICS PROGRAM FOR FIFTH GRADERS CREATED BY THE CONNECTICUT PUBLIC AFFAIRS NETWORK AT CONNECTICUT'S OLD STATE HOUSE IN 2015 AND IS DESIGNED TO COINCIDE WITH ELECTION DAY IN NOVEMBER. GRADE FIVE STUDENTS AT THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL LEARNING ABOUT OUR POLITICAL PROCESS FIRSTHAND THROUGH THEIR PARTICIPATION IN CONNECTICUT'S KID GOVERNOR PROGRAM. CLASS LESSONS LEADING UP TO THE ELECTION DAY INCLUDE TOPICS SUCH AS CHOOSING AND CREATING A PLATFORM, UNDERSTANDING LOCAL AND STATE ISSUES, AND THE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT. STUDENTS TAKE PART IN A SPECIAL PRIMARY FOR KID GOVERNOR AND ULTIMATELY VOTE FOR THE CONNECTICUT KID GOVERNOR

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- AWARD WINNING PROGRAM, OFFERED THROUGH THE CT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CT PUBLIC AFFAIRS NETWORK, **AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT**
- STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT THE ELECTORAL PROCESS AND CIVICS IN A HANDS-ON MANNER
- STUDENTS WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH OTHERS AND DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS
- OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK WITH DIGITAL MEDIA CLASS AT THOMASTON HIGH SCHOOL
- THOMASTON HAD TWO SEMI-FINALISTS IN THE FOUR YEARS WE COMPETED



2018 KID GOVERNOR FINALIST FROM TCS



FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS REVIEWING VIDEOS OF FINALISTS, PRIOR TO VOTING

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING/DEVELOPMENTAL GUIDANCE PROGRAMMING

OUR DEVELOPMENTAL GUIDANCE PROGRAMMING OFFERS SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO ALL STUDENTS. OUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR TEACHES MONTHLY LESSONS AND, WITH THE SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION FROM OUR SOCIAL WORKER, FACILITATES MEDIATIONS TO RESOLVE CONFLICTS. OUR GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT PROVIDES IN-SCHOOL COUNSELING TO OUR STUDENTS AND PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR OUR THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL FAMILIES AS WELL.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

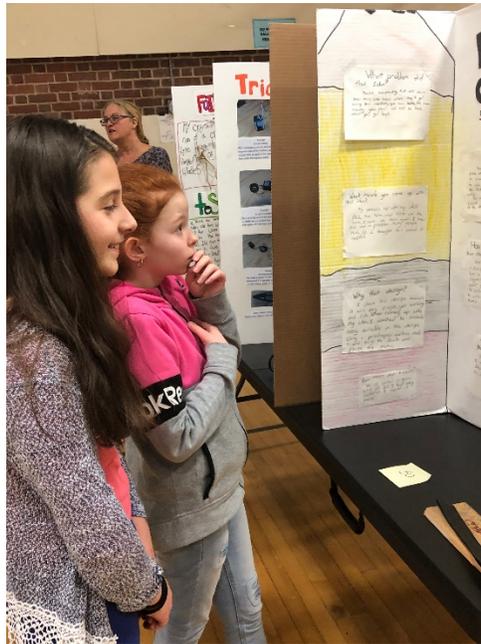
- MONTHLY CLASS LESSONS IN EACH GRADE LEVEL INCORPORATE SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL, CAREER, AND ACADEMIC TOPICS; LESSONS ARE BASED ON THE ASCA (AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION) STANDARDS
- LESSONS ALSO INCORPORATE ISSUES OF DIVERSITY, TOLERANCE, PEACE, MINDFULNESS, EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION, BULLYING, COPING SKILLS, AND PERSONAL ACADEMIC MANAGEMENT FOR INDIVIDUAL SUCCESS
- GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT TEACHES MEDIATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN BOTH FORMAL AND INFORMAL SETTINGS
- GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT VOICE AND CONCERNS TO BE HEARD AND ADDRESSED
- GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT FACILITATES ALL IN-SCHOOL COUNSELING FOR STUDENTS WITH 504 PLANS, INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLANS, OR IN THE SCIENTIFIC, RESEARCH-BASED INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SRBI) FOR BEHAVIORAL CONCERNS AS WELL AS FOR STUDENTS IN GENERAL EDUCATION WITH SPECIFIC IN-SCHOOL COUNSELING NEEDS; SCHOOL COUNSELOR ALSO CO-LEADS SOCIAL COMMUNICATION GROUPS WITH MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION (SPEECH AND LANGUAGE) DEPARTMENT
- GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT CREATES AND COORDINATES BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION PLANS FOR STUDENTS IN THE SRBI PROCESS WITH BEHAVIORAL CONCERNS
- GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT FACILITATES WEEKLY GUIDANCE MEETINGS WITH TEACHERS TO SHARE AND COLLABORATE ON STUDENTS' EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS
- GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT CHAIRS BUILDING LEVEL ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE AS WELL AS SERVES ON THE DISTRICT ATTENDANCE REVIEW BOARD
- GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT COLLABORATES WITH PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES IN OTHER SCHOOLS TO BUILD PROGRAMMING AND COHESION AMONG THOMASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- SCHOOL COUNSELOR COORDINATES THE TRANSITION PROGRAMS FOR BOTH STUDENTS ENTERING TCS FROM GRADE THREE AND STUDENTS LEAVING TCS IN GRADE SIX
- ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS SUCH AS NO ONE EATS ALONE, CHARACTER COMMITTEE AND LOOK FOR THE GOOD, START WITH HELLO, AND ZONES OF REGULATION ARE INCORPORATED THROUGH THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT; THESE PROGRAMS BENEFIT ALL STUDENTS
- SELECTED STUDENTS PARTICIPATE ANNUALLY IN THE ELEMENTARY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR STUDENTS SPONSORED BY THE CT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS

SIXTH GRADE INVENTION CONVENTION PROGRAM

THE TCS INVENTION CONVENTION IS MODELED AFTER THE CONNECTICUT INVENTION PROGRAM. LAUNCHED IN 2017 AT THOMASTON CENTER SCHOOL, THE INVENTION CONVENTION INITIATIVE AFFORDS STUDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY DEVELOP CRITICAL-THINKING AND CREATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS THROUGH INVENTION AND INNOVATION, INSTILLING THE SPIRIT OF INGENUITY IN OUR STUDENTS.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH INCORPORATES SCIENCE AND LIBRARY-MEDIA CLASSES
- 100% OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATE
- 7 STUDENTS WERE INVITED TO COMPETE IN THE 2019 FINALS AT UCONN
- PROGRAM OFFERS STUDENTS TO HONE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SKILLS



WIN BLOCK

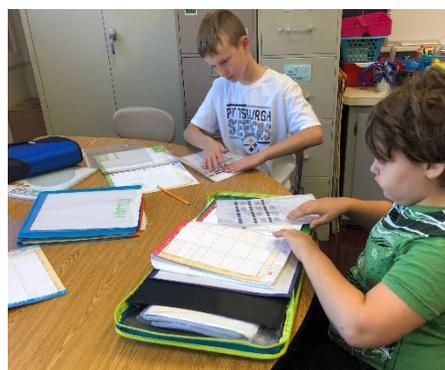
WIN IS AN ACRONYM FOR “WHAT I NEED” (OR WHAT INDIVIDUALS NEED). THIS BLOCK OF TIME AFFORDS STUDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE IN EXTRA PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASSES, ART CLASSES, TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CLASSES, MEDIA CENTER CLASSES, AND PARTICIPATE IN BAND OR CHORUS. SOME STUDENTS RECEIVE COUNSELING SERVICES OR SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES DURING THIS TIME. OTHER STUDENTS RECEIVE MATH OR LANGUAGE ARTS SUPPORT.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- EACH SCHEDULE IS UNIQUE TO THE CHILD AND CREATED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL STUDENT.
- THIS YEAR THE WIN BLOCK OF TIME OCCURS AT THE SAME TIME EVERY DAY FOR ALL STUDENTS, AFFORDING GREATER AVAILABILITY FOR TEACHERS TO SUPPORT CHILDREN.
- WIN SCHEDULES CHANGE APPROXIMATELY EVERY 8 WEEKS
- PLACEMENT IN WIN CLASSES ARE BASED ON IEPs/504's, STUDENT INTEREST, AND RECENT ASSESSMENT DATA



CHORUS PERFORMANCE



STUDY SKILLS



MATH PROBLEM SOLVING