

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians and District Partners,

We are very excited to continue our partnership with Hamden Public Schools for a fifth school year! We place high value on our partnership--not only with Hamden--but with parents, families, and community, and we invite you to be an active participant in assisting our students to achieve their full potential.

In our in-district classrooms, we specialize in meeting the educational needs of students with academic and social-emotional needs. From the start, our over-riding vision has been: "**Building Student Confidence and Competence through Personalized Academic and Behavioral Interventions**." We strive to make each and every student feel successful in the classroom, school community and the community at large through academic achievement and improved self-esteem. This is accomplished by building an individualized program for each student, selecting the teaching style that accommodates their learning style, and using research-based interventions matched to the student's needs and instructional levels.

In alignment with Hamden's policies, vision and mission goals, we offer a full, rich, and rigorous curriculum of academics in conjunction with school-based social-emotional support and behavior-management. All student's Individualized Education Plans' (IEPs) goals and objectives are monitored and followed over the course of the school year.

Over last year, our students experienced many successes:

- Significant academic gains and accelerated growth in math as a result of the implementation of individualized math instruction, involving multisensory activities, explicit teacher-led instruction and integration of technology
- One student's invention for the Invention Convention advanced to Hartford for the state convention
- Increased opportunities for inclusion, including the ability to join specials with general education peers, attend field trips, graduation ceremonies and other celebrations in addition to fun school-sponsored events throughout the year, including Field Day and the Dunbar Hill Dash
- Transitions back to mainstream environments and public settings, including an acceptance to Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)

This past school year, we were thrilled to have the opportunity to welcome families back into the school building safely (after 2 years of restrictions), for events like Open House, our annual Turkey Trot and Feast, Read Across America week and other celebratory events. Thank you to all our families--your ongoing support and involvement made all these events truly memorable.

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This upcoming school year, we are excited for our 7th and 8th grade classroom to relocate to Hamden Middle School (HMS). We look forward to working in partnership with the HMS team to provide the best experience for all students.

Please continue to visit our <u>website</u> for updates throughout the year and to meet our new staff members! If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully, *Jennie Serra*

Jennie Serra











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