



# Weston Intermediate School



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## Weston Intermediate School

Weston Intermediate School takes pride in fostering a caring, responsive community of learners that encourages an appreciation of individual differences and each student's developing abilities. We strive to build the essence of community each day in every classroom. Learning experiences are created that challenge each student to pursue personal excellence in all aspects of their lives. We focus on enhancing students' ability to think critically and creatively, and to be innovative problem solvers and proficient communicators; helping our students speak and write effectively and clearly across all subject areas.

The FY 21 Operating Budget proposal supports our highest priority needs. This year we will begin the first phase of the curriculum renewal process for math. This work will begin by implementing a curriculum upgrade of the *Math in Focus* program for grade 5. The majority of these costs will come under the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum's budget and can be found in the Curriculum and Instructional Improvement section of the district budget. Science will continue to remain a focus as the new science curriculum will be fully implemented in all three grades. The costs for science materials in grades 3 and 4 have been returned to the school budget as planned.

We also will continue to support the implementation of a social-emotional curriculum through our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, as well as the continuation of the school and district initiatives on Emotional Learning and the RULER Approach. This budget also supports our continued implementation of a revised reading curriculum that directly aligns with our current writing curriculum, the ongoing implementation of the math curriculum, and the increased utilization of student data to provide individualized instruction. We also will continue to focus on embedding essential skills such as critical and creative thinking, innovative problem solving, and effective communication within and across the curriculum, to provide our students with the foundational thinking and skills to become global citizens.

The FY 20 Operating Budget proposal continues to support the staffing needed to provide intervention services to meet the varied needs of our learners in literacy and mathematics. As students continue to develop their conceptual understanding of mathematical concepts, it is imperative that they have a strong foundation and the confidence to be mathematically proficient. The proposed staffing will allow us to continue to provide differentiated support to students, and enable us to provide teachers with professional development within their classroom setting. Professional development is an essential investment to strengthen teachers' abilities to meet the needs of the individual students in their classrooms.

Advanced literacy training in readers and writers workshop for all grade-level and special education teachers will continue as well. This is especially important during the developmental phase when our students are growing as readers and moving from "learning to read" to "reading to learn". In addition, in order to prepare our students for the more advanced reading in all content areas that they will encounter, it is essential that we provide them with the foundational skills and strategies for them to become competent and confident readers and thinkers. Administrators, Curriculum Instructional Leaders, and certified reading

teachers will provide classroom teachers and support staff with focused and ongoing training and feedback to support professional growth for improved student learning.

Through a continuous renewal process, we work to align our curriculum with the Connecticut Core Standards and national guidelines. Our teachers differentiate instruction in the classroom, thereby addressing the strengths and struggles of each individual student. Ultimately, our goal is to challenge our students with a curriculum experience that is rigorous, relevant, and personalized. We achieve this through the implementation of a workshop approach to instruction in all subjects, the creation of common assessments across subjects and grade levels, ongoing professional development for teachers that is both immersive and job embedded, and a comprehensive unified arts and technology program. Our mission is to build a foundation for success by providing a balanced learning environment, which supports problem solving, creativity, communication and independent thinking.

The overall projected enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year is expected to be 487 students. In third grade, enrollment is projected to be 144 students, a decrease of 17 students. Organized into seven sections, this will result in an average class size of 20.6 students. The fourth grade is projected to have an enrollment of 167 students, a small increase of 2 students. Fourth grade will continue to have 8 sections, which will result in an average class size of 21.2 students. Enrollment in the fifth grade is projected to be 174, an increase of 5 students, which organized into eight sections will result in an average class size of 21.75. The number of sections proposed for each grade will allow us to meet the district class size guidelines.

In conclusion, Weston Intermediate School is committed to the pursuit of character, knowledge, creativity and a dynamic learning environment that challenges each student to continually pursue personal excellence. By placing students at the center of our work, we can meet this commitment in the coming year.

WESTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
ENROLLMENT AND STAFFING

2019-2020 Actual				2020-2021 Projected					
Enroll- ment	# of Classes	Average Class Size	Staff	Program	Enroll- ment	# of Classes	Average Class Size	Staff	Change
<b>CERTIFIED STAFF</b>									
<b>Classroom Teachers</b>									
160	7	22.9	7.0	Grade 3	144	6	24.0	6.0	(1.0)
168	8	21.0	8.0	Grade 4	169	8	21.1	8.0	0.0
169	8	21.1	8.0	Grade 5	174	8	21.8	8.0	0.0
497	23		23.0	<b>Total Classroom Teachers</b>	487	22		22.0	(1.0)
<b>Special Subject Classroom Teachers</b>									
			0.8	Art				0.8	(0.0)
			1.9	Health & Physical Education				1.8	(0.1)
			2.4	Music				2.3	(0.0)
			1.0	World Language				1.0	(0.0)
			0.5	Computer Instruction				0.0	(0.5)
<b>Academic Support</b>									
			0.7	Math Specialist				0.7	0.0
			1.7	Reading Specialist				1.7	0.0
<b>School-wide</b>									
			1.0	Library Media Specialist				1.0	0.0
			10.0	<b>Total Special Subjects, Academic Support &amp; School -Wide</b>				9.3	(0.7)
<b>Administration</b>									
			1.0	Principal				1.0	0.0
			1.0	Assistant Principal				1.0	0.0
			<u>35.0</u>	<b>TOTAL CERTIFIED STAFF</b>				<u>33.3</u>	<u>(1.7)</u>
<b>NON-CERTIFIED STAFF</b>									
<b>Clerical</b>									
			1.0	Principal's Secretary				1.0	0.0
			0.8	School Secretary				0.8	0.0
<b>Paraprofessionals</b>									
			2.5	Instructional - Reading 1.0, Math 1.0, & Science .5				2.5	0.0
			1.0	Library				1.0	0.0
			0.8	Lunchroom/Playground Monitors				0.8	0.0
			<u>6.1</u>	<b>TOTAL NON-CERT. STAFF</b>				<u>6.1</u>	<u>0.0</u>
			41.1	<b>TOTAL STAFF SCHOOL'S COST CENTER</b>				39.4	(1.7)