



NEWS

Connecticut State Department of Education and the Regional School Choice Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Your Great Opportunity to explore the region's diverse schools and programs

Regional School Choice Fair Saturday, Feb. 7

Final fair of lottery application season to feature programming for Grades PK to 12

(HARTFORD, CT) – February 4, 2015 -- Want to explore the many great opportunities for your child's education within the Greater Hartford region? Want to speak with staff and families that work at or attend a magnet school or the Hartford Region Open Choice Program? Bring the family to the final regional school choice fair of the 2015-16 lottery application season on Saturday, February 7, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Conard High School, 110 Beechwood Road, West Hartford.

Families should note that the largest numbers of available seats tend to be in the entry-level grades for each school or program, particularly prekindergarten, kindergarten, grade 6 and grade 9.

Families may pre-register for the fair at Conard High School by visiting www.choiceeducation.org (see 'News and Events' section on main page) or by calling RSCO's Parent Information Center at 860-713-6990 prior to February 7.

The fair will feature information about the wide array of programming options available to Hartford and suburban students entering pre-kindergarten through grade 12. Parents, grandparents, guardians and students can speak with helpful staff from RSCO and its partners, the Capitol Region Education Council, Hartford Public Schools' Host Magnet Program, the Hartford Region Open Choice Program, Goodwin College's Early Childhood Magnet School and CT River Academy, the Connecticut Technical High School System, Bloomfield Public Schools' Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School and The Global Experience Magnet School, and East Hartford Public Schools' Connecticut IB Academy.

If you are new to this experience, there will be a video presentation to provide an overview of the RSCO lottery application process. After viewing the presentation, RSCO staff will be available to answer specific questions.

Families will also have the opportunity to submit an online application for the 2015-16 RSCO lottery. The 2015-16 lottery application period opened on Saturday, November 15, 2014 and the on-time

application period closes on Friday, February 27, 2015. The lottery is not first-come, first-served, and families are encouraged to make an informed decision.

“Our goal is to provide information and improve access for students throughout the region who choose to apply to public schools outside of their community,” said Glen Peterson, RSCO’s Division Director. “Through our four fairs held between November and February, as well as many scheduled school and program-based open houses and information sessions, families can learn about the schools and specialized programs in our region that emphasize exciting educational themes.”

For more information on school fairs, information sessions, and open houses, please visit RSCO’s Web site at <http://www.choiceeducation.org> or call RSCO’s Parent Information Center at 860-713-6990 weekdays (excluding state holidays) between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

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