



NEWS

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DR. DIANNA R. WENTZELL, COMMISSIONER

For Immediate Release:

May 15, 2017

Contact: Abbe Smith 860.713.6525

Norwich school receives Green Ribbon honors from U.S. Department of Education

HARTFORD, CT—Governor Dannel P. Malloy today announced that Moriarty Environmental Sciences Magnet School in Norwich has been named a 2017 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School.

Green Ribbon Schools are honored for their efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, improve health and wellness, and provide effective environmental education.

Moriarty Environmental Science Magnet School shifted to a focus on environmental science in 2013. Moriarty students now benefit from lessons in the butterfly and vegetable gardens, and in its outdoor classroom. Students also learn about health, school energy management, composting, and recycling, tapping the expertise of the Food Corps, Norwich Public Utilities, Backus Hospital, and many others.

“We must commit to cleaner, more sustainable ways of living and Moriarty Environmental Science Magnet School is helping to lead the way to a brighter future for all of us,” Governor Malloy said. “We have to change our behavior today if we expect to reduce our impact on the planet tomorrow. We’re proud of this school and of Connecticut as a whole for stepping up to the challenge of protecting the environment.”

“Connecticut’s young people are among the savviest of next-generation environmentalists—it’s imperative that our schools are leading efforts to curb pollution, improve efficiency, and reduce our overall impact on the planet,” said Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman. “I applaud Moriarty Environmental Sciences Magnet School for protecting our environment today and setting us on a course toward a more sustainable future.”

“I am so proud of Moriarty Environmental Sciences Magnet School for bringing environmental stewardship, sustainability, and lessons about health and wellness into their educational programs,” said Commissioner of Education Dianna R. Wentzell. “The opportunity for students to study and grow in this type of learning environment sets an excellent example of how to be a global citizen while making a difference in their lives and the lives of others here at home.”

“We are thrilled to have Moriarty Environmental Sciences Magnet School receive the Green Ribbon School Designation. The staff, students, and families work hard to create and maintain healthy learning environments,” Norwich Superintendent Abby Dolliver said.

Across the country this year, 45 schools, nine districts, and nine colleges and universities are receiving Green Ribbon honors. They were selected from a pool of candidates voluntarily nominated by 29 state education agencies. The selections include public and private schools. Fifty percent of the 2017 honorees serve a disadvantaged student body. The [full list](#) of all selected schools, districts, colleges, universities, and their nomination packages, as well as a [report](#) with highlights on the 63 honorees is available through the U.S. Department of Education.

Since 2013, Connecticut has had 13 schools and one district honored by U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools. Connecticut has 112 schools that participate in the Connecticut Green LEAF Schools program, which helps schools grow “greener.” Through the [CT Green LEAF](#) partnership, state agencies work with education and environmental organizations to guide schools toward more sustainable practices.

###

CONTACT: Abbe Smith
Director of Communications
Connecticut State Department of Education
Phone: 860-713-6525
Mobile: 860-381-7096
Email: Abbe.Smith@ct.gov