



A SCHOOL WHERE EVERY CHILD REACHES THEIR POTENTIAL



East  
Hartford  
Public  
Schools

## WHO WE ARE

Since our founding in 1983, Woodland School has offered a premier therapeutic, special education program uniquely hosted by East Hartford Public Schools. Woodland specializes in lifelong learning, behavioral intervention, and meeting every student's individual needs, goals and objectives. We believe all children can reach their potential when given the right opportunities in a supportive environment. We stand eager to help your child succeed.

Currently Woodland serves approximately 200 students ages 4 to 22 years from the greater Hartford region. We pride ourselves on providing a comprehensive, holistic approach to educating students that focuses on academic, physical, social, emotional and behavioral growth. Our model engages educational experts, advocates, family and, most importantly, your child in designing a learning plan that leads to results.

## VISION

*A school where every child reaches their potential.*

## MISSION

*To deliver a high quality learning experience that fosters resilience and individualized success.*



## OUR VALUES

*The Woodland community embraces and lives out our **REACH** values every day. As the integral fabric of our school, these values allow students of all needs and abilities to build character and grow as individuals.*

**R** **RESPECT**

We believe all children and staff should respect themselves, each other and our community. We communicate this respect through our words and actions.

**E** **EMOTIONAL MANAGEMENT**

We believe that learning emotional management skills is a key process in ensuring future success. We teach and practice emotional management as a critical part of growth and renewal.

**A** **ACHIEVEMENT & GROWTH**

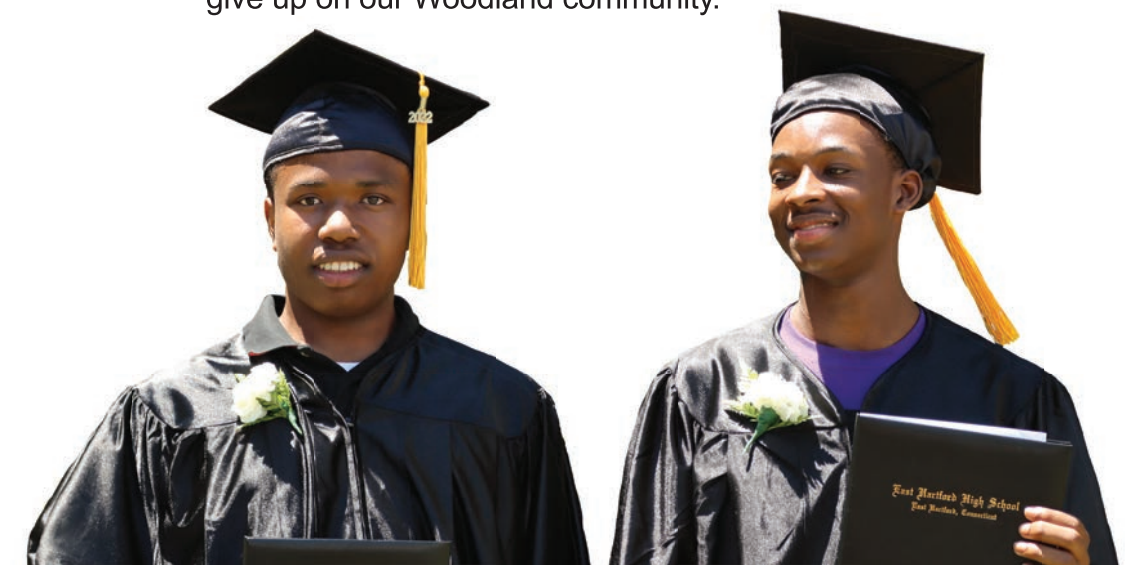
We believe in the potential of every child as a learner in our school. We embrace success and failure as critical components of growth, prioritize improvement, and promote a culture of lifelong learning.

**C** **CITIZENSHIP**

We believe in the power and privilege of being healthy, contributing citizens in a fair and just society. We promote this value by offering our students opportunities to understand the world around them and how they can serve their neighbors.

**H** **HEART**

We believe that the value of heart is characterized by empathy, kindness and tenacity. We want each of our students and staff members to know they are a valued and respected member of our team. We model effort, reward perseverance and never give up on our Woodland community.



# OUR PROGRAMS



## OUR TEAM

As an intensive, full service program, the team at Woodland is first and foremost committed to serving our students. Our highly skilled staff of educators and providers is well equipped to provide individualized services to meet the many needs of children through a comprehensive and holistic approach.

Our clinical team includes two school psychologists, two social workers and a full-time BCBA. This team continually collaborates with our certified special education teachers and behavior managers to ensure that your child’s plan is implemented with fidelity.

**15** |   
**CERTIFIED ALTERNATIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS**

**FULL-TIME BOARD-CERTIFIED BEHAVIOR ANALYST (BCBA)**

**COORDINATOR OF BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT**

**35** |   
**FULL-TIME BEHAVIOR MANAGERS**

**INSTRUCTIONAL COACH**

**SPEECH & LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST**

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST**

**GUIDANCE COUNSELOR**

**2** |  **SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS**

**2** |  **SOCIAL WORKERS**



### AUTISM | GRADES K -12

Woodland’s Autism Programs are designed to meet a variety of language, academic and social/behavioral/emotional needs in a small, structured and nurturing environment. Our teachers utilize auditory, visual, and kinesthetic learning opportunities throughout each lesson supporting our students and their Individual Education Program (IEP) goals and objectives. We focus on social and emotional learning throughout the school year as an integrated component of instruction. In addition to our academic instruction, we recognize the importance of teaching our students self-regulation and calming strategies. As a part of this work, we heavily emphasize sensory tools, visual organizers/schedules and picture exchange communication (PEC) systems. As a primary focus of our program, all students work on independent living and vocational skills to prepare them for the workforce.

### TRANSITIONAL & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION | AGES 18-22

The mission of Woodland’s Transitional and Vocational Program is to prepare students for the “real world.” Our focus is on increasing students’ independence in daily living activities, as well as preparing them for employment. Students work on life skills both in the classroom (cooking/baking, household chores, money management) and in the community (grocery shopping, recreational activities, public transportation). Our students also participate in school-based and community-based vocational tasks with the support of classroom staff and job coaches. Work experiences in the local community have included Dollar Tree, Savers, and East Hartford Public Library. Through our program, students and their families connect with community agencies that may provide supports in their future. These partnerships include close connections with the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) and Department of Developmental Services (DDS).

### ELEMENTARY SPECIAL EDUCATION | GRADES K-5

The classes in Woodland’s Elementary Program promote a student-centered approach to learning. Individual goals and objectives are implemented into the classroom to meet each of our student’s needs. We focus on social and emotional learning throughout the school year with support from our school social worker and board certified behavior analyst (BCBA). We prioritize reading improvement in areas of phonemic awareness, decoding, encoding, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary. Mathematical concepts are introduced, practiced and applied throughout daily lessons. We also incorporate Science and Social Studies concepts throughout the school year.

### SECONDARY SPECIAL EDUCATION | GRADES 6-12

Woodland’s Secondary Program team focuses on providing a rigorous educational opportunity in grades 6-12. We strive to provide our students with the skills needed to transform into independent, lifelong learners and responsible contributors to their community. We do this by teaching our students 21st century skills, including critical thinking, collaboration, communication, information literacy, and technology literacy. We provide access to grade level curriculum while utilizing differentiated instruction to successfully meet all of our students’ needs. We work collaboratively with our transdisciplinary team to provide an environment where every student can feel safe to grow both academically and socially.

# OUR SERVICES

## MENTAL HEALTH

Woodland School Social Workers and School Psychologists provide formal/informal counseling through an individualized or group setting. We have a robust system of social/emotional learning counseling groups, crisis management, and communication to community-based organizations to help encompass wrap-around services for our students. We help support our students with anxiety, depression, ADHD/ADD, PTSD, and trauma with housing and placements, self-esteem, self-awareness, and learning the skills to be an advocate for their needs outside of school.

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Woodland School Occupational Therapists are available to provide occupational therapy (OT) services to students who require this as part of their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Our OT goals are to help our students strengthen their skills and participate in the school setting using “occupations” or goal-oriented tasks with guidance from a skilled therapist. Our therapists are experts in helping our students develop fine motor skills such as handwriting, cutting, using zippers and coloring. We pay special attention to coaching visual perceptual skills like correcting letter reversals, organizing work spaces or navigating technology to access virtual learning.

## SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Woodland School Speech and Language Specialists service students in the building who are in need of speech and language instructional support. The specialists consult with our special educators about the individualized programs, modifications, and communication needs of our students. Students participate in language lessons and practice vocabulary building, understanding and giving directions, and recognizing and expressing their own emotions, reactions, and behaviors. We also give special attention to help students expand their social communication and relationship-building abilities with peers and adults.

## PHYSICAL THERAPY

Woodland School Physical Therapists are available to provide physical therapy (PT) services to students who require PT as part of their Individualized Education Program (IEP). These therapists are experts in helping our students develop their gross motor skills including coordination and balance. Woodland physical therapists are skilled in working with our students who utilize wheelchairs so they can successfully navigate our school and community.

## BCBA

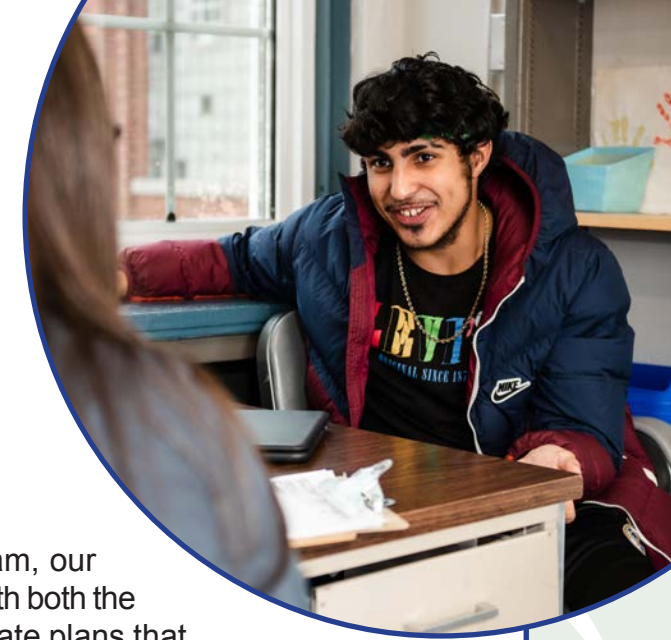
As a critical member of the Woodland School Support Team, our Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) continually works with both the teachers and staff to study the behavior of children and create plans that address and improve problematic behaviors. Some responsibilities of our BCBA include conducting assessments, meeting with teachers to observe and assess student behavior, as well as speaking and collaborating with parents and other related services.

## SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTER

Together with InterCommunity, Inc., Woodland provides a fully staffed School Based Health Center that offers primary care and behavioral health services including diagnosis and treatment of minor injuries and illnesses, mental health and substance abuse risk screenings, routine well-child check-ups and individual, family and group counseling. With a signed parental permission form, our students can receive complete health care services during school hours from on-site medical staff, nurses, social workers and trained psychologists free of charge.

## AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Woodland School offers an after school program for all learners in grades K-12. This program is led by our school staff and provides additional opportunities for learning and recreation. Students participate in activities appropriate for their age level and abilities so they can continue to play, learn and grow outside of regular school hours.



# OUR PARTNERS

The strength of our program relies on the strong relationships we have cultivated with neighboring towns and school leaders. We provide services for both in-district (East Hartford) and out of district students.

Woodland currently serves or has served the following out of district towns: Hartford, New Britain, West Hartford, Enfield, Newington, Vernon, Meriden, Cromwell, Berlin, Wethersfield, Windham, Norwich, New Haven and others. We are actively recruiting new member towns and encourage you to reach out should the services we provide at Woodland School meet the needs of your student.

In addition to our member towns, we have strong partnerships with many state and private agencies that provide additional resources to our children and their families.

Some of these agencies include:

- DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (DCF)**
- DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES (DDS)**
- INTERCOMMUNITY HEALTH**
- BEACON HEALTH**
- PLANNED PARENTHOOD**
- THE VILLAGE**
- LATIN ENRICHMENT ORGANIZATION (LEO)**
- YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU (YSB)**



# ADMISSION

Whether you found Woodland on your own or through the PPT process, we would be happy to welcome any student to our community that can benefit from the services we provide. Parents, guardians and school district representatives are encouraged to contact us to learn more about our programs.

Our admission process typically begins with a referral from a partner school that provides our team with an opportunity to connect, schedule an introductory visit and arrange for an admission screening. In advance of this visit, we encourage you to speak to your child about why they would like to attend Woodland School and how we can best meet their needs.



## CONTACT US

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