



Julio Duarte, Principal  
110 Beechwood Road  
West Hartford, CT 06107

Telephone: (860) 231-5000  
Fax: (860) 521-6699

January 2019

Dear Incoming Conard High School Families:

While September may seem far away, I would like to begin welcoming you and your child to Conard High School. Conard is a school that enjoys a rich history of academic and cultural excellence and is currently ranked in the top 1% of all high schools in the country by U.S. News and World Report! We are excited that both you and your student will be joining our community, and we are eager to share all that our school has to offer with you.

The transition from grade 8 to grade 9 begins January 23<sup>rd</sup> with our Grade 8 Parent Night, continues through the spring with course selection and student visits to Conard, and culminates the day before school begins with Grade 9 Orientation. Please know that during the first half of the school year, we continue to support our ninth graders through various programs such as Freshman Seminar and various Link Crew activities. Please mark your calendars with the important dates and details on the reverse side of this letter.

We enthusiastically anticipate the arrival of our new students and their joining the Conard family. We recognize that the transition from middle school to high school is a significant milestone in their lives. We also know that a successful start to ninth grade is a critical foundation to successful progress in high school. **I hope to see you at Grade 8 Parent Night on January 23<sup>rd</sup> (Snow date January 30) in the Conard High School auditorium to begin the journey.**

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions at 860-231-5000.

Sincerely,

Julio Duarte  
Principal

**Grade 8 Parent Night - Conard High School**  
**Wednesday, January 23, 2019**  
**7:00 p.m. (parents only please)**

This event is designated to familiarize parents with course offerings and the overall academic program at Conard. We will also briefly review extracurricular activities as well as support services available to students and families. Please note: a school tour and/or specific departmental visits will NOT be scheduled; however, department supervisors and administrators will be available to answer questions. (Snow date: Wednesday, January 30, 2019)

<b>Sedgwick Middle School Students</b>		
<b>Day/Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event/Happening</b>
January 17, 2019	School Day	High school counselors will meet with students at Sedgwick to review the course selection book, <i>Program of Studies</i> , by team.
January 22, 2019	School Day	Presentations at Sedgwick to students by Career and Technical Education, Music, Visual Arts, Performing Arts and World Language.
February 2019	School Day	Sedgwick school counselors will meet with each student to finalize course requests.
February 2019		A list of your child's course recommendations and their course selections will be accessible through Powerschool.
April 2019	7:30 a.m.	"Meet the Principal Coffee" – Parents are invited to meet Mr. Julio Duarte (Principal of Conard) and members of the Conard School Counseling Dept. Current Conard students will be in attendance to discuss the middle school/high school transition, student life at Conard and engage in a question and answer session.
May 2019	School Day	Each team from Sedgwick will spend a morning at Conard. This small group visit will consist of a tour, panel discussions, and question and answer sessions with teachers, current 9 <sup>th</sup> graders, coaches, club advisors, school counselors and administrators.
<b>Bristow Middle School Students</b>		
<b>Day/Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event/Happening</b>
January 17, 2019	School Day	High school counselors will present the course selection book, <i>Program of Studies</i> , to students at Bristow.
January 23, 2019	School Day	Presentations at Bristow to students by Career and Technical Education, Music, Visual Arts, Performing Arts and World Language.
February 4-8, 2019	School Day	Bristow school counselors will meet with students to finalize course requests.
February 2019		A list of your child's course recommendations and their course selections will be accessible through Powerschool.
May 10, 2019	8:30 a.m.	"Meet the Principal" – Parents are invited to meet with Mr. Julio Duarte (Principal of Conard), Mr. Dan Zittoun (Principal of Hall) and members of the Conard School Counseling Dept. Current high school students will be in attendance to discuss the middle school/high school transition, student life at high school and engage in a question and answer session.
May 2019		Each team from Bristow will spend a morning at Conard. This small group visit will consist of a tour, panel discussions, and question and answer sessions with teachers, current 9 <sup>th</sup> graders, coaches, club advisors, school counselors and administrators.

**Link Crew Orientation Program (students only)**  
**Friday, August 23, 2019**

Link Crew is a high school transition program that guides freshmen to discover what it takes to be a successful high school student. Our Link Leaders are upperclassmen students who lead the freshmen through fun, cooperative activities and ice breakers to help facilitate the freshman transition.

**Grade 9 Orientation (students and parents)**  
**Tuesday, August 27, 2019**

Students will meet their teachers and familiarize themselves with the location of their lockers and classrooms by following an abbreviated schedule. At the end of the day, students are invited to an Activities Fair featuring representatives from our various clubs/student activities and a barbeque cooked and served by the Conard faculty. A separate hour-long parent program will be presented by the school counselors at 8:30am.