



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Irene E. Parisi, Chief Academic Officer

DATE: April 20, 2021

SUBJECT: TeachRock Partnership – Invitation to Apply

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) in partnership with TeachRock, invite districts to apply to participate in a unique learning opportunity as a TeachRock partner.

TeachRock is a standards-aligned, arts integration curriculum that uses the history of popular music and culture to help teachers engage students. Innovative lesson plans developed by experienced educators and top experts in the field foster genuine learning in areas including social studies, language arts, geography, science, STEAM, general music and more. TeachRock has crafted engaging and meaningful material for every classroom and developed exciting professional development workshops to share it with teachers.

Once selected, [TeachRock](#) will work with participating school districts, on the integration of classroom lesson plans that connect history, music and culture in a way that is designed to resonate with students. Up to 10 districts will be selected to participate in the first cohort (maximum 50 participating teachers).

If selected to participate, districts will receive:

- TeachRock led professional learning to create integrated curriculum maps and instructional materials.
- TeachRock led virtual classroom walkthrough support with TeachRock founder Steven Van Zandt, the TeachRock team and CSDE staff.
- Access to TeachRock staff through recurring office hours open to both district and school staff.
- Opportunities to be recognized as partner schools and districts in Rock and Roll Forever Foundation newsletters, on the TeachRock website, social media platforms, and Foundation events.

To take advantage of this unique learning opportunity and resource, please complete and return the attached application by **May 4, 2021**. Selected districts will be notified by May 10, 2021. Contact Irene.Parisi@ct.gov with questions or requests for assistance.

IEP:ln

cc: Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Acting Commissioner of Education
Desi D. Nesmith, Deputy Commissioner of Academics and Innovation



CSDE and TeachRock Partnership Application for Participation

Directions:

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) invites districts to complete this application to participate in a unique partnership with TeachRock. TeachRock is a standards-aligned, arts integration curriculum that uses the history of popular music and culture to help teachers engage students. The purpose of this partnership is to integrate the Arts in the curriculum, design engaging and meaningful daily lessons so that students make connections, express ideas, feelings, and human experiences through a variety of media.

Selected district superintendents will be invited to attend a virtual kickoff celebration May 13, 2021, with TeachRock to meet the team, learn about the implementation plan, what this partnership can provide for your teachers, students, and community, and meet with the founders of the Rock and Roll Forever Foundation. Teachers will be asked to attend a professional learning session May 20, 2021. Please complete this application to participate in the CSDE TeachRock partnership to be considered for Phase I implementation for the school 2021-2022, and submit this form to Irene Parisi, Chief Academic Officer, at Irene.Parisi@ct.gov by **Tuesday, May 4, 2021**.

Part I: District Contact Information

District Name	
Superintendent	
E-mail Address	
Telephone #	
District Website	

Part II: Proposed School and/or Teacher Teams

School Name		
Principal		E-mail:
Teacher Participants	Grade	Content



Part III: Background Information

Please describe the current efforts underway for integrating the arts into the daily instruction both in the nominated school and in the classes of the intended teacher nominees.

How might you envision the TeachRock partnership as a strategy to elevate or scale your vision for integrating the arts in instruction across multiple content areas?

Why do you want to be a TeachRock partner?

Requirements as a Partner District:

Participating teachers will be asked to complete the following:

1. Participation in summer Professional Learning Modules to develop understanding of TeachRock model lesson implementation.
2. Completion of Feedback Surveys to assess implementation and impact.
3. Participation in Virtual Walkthrough/Classroom Visits with the CSDE and TeachRock staff, including the Rock and Roll Forever Foundation Founder.