



MMS Weekly Update

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Check out the **MMS Weekly Updates** for MMS event information, news and activities. Weekly Updates will be sent out each Thursday.



MMS School Counseling



A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER ABOUT OUR SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM

WEEK OF OCTOBER 16

THIS WEEK

QMC - QUINEBAUG MIDDLE COLLEGE PRESENTED TO ALL OUR 8TH GRADE STUDENT ON FRIDAY OCTOBER 9TH IN THE MMS AUDITORIUM. STUDENTS LEARNED ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO THEM IN THIS PROGRAM. STUDENTS ALSO LEARNED ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS.



FROM THE STUDENTS..

“Career Cafe introduces us to different careers we might not have thought of. I think the presenters are inspiring.”
7th grader



CONNECTING

REMINDER THE HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITES FAIR IS MONDAY OCTOBER 20 AT 6PM. FOLLOWING THE FAIR VIA ZOOM, IS A FINANCIAL AID EVENT. PLEASE REGISTER FOR BOTH EVENTS [HERE](#)



STAY IN TOUCH

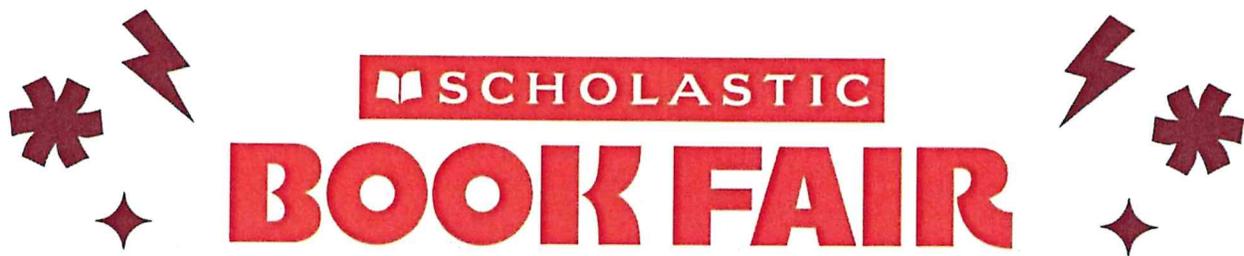
- MRS. EILEEN MELODY
melodyem@mansfieldct.org
7th and 8th Grade Counselor
- MRS. KRISTINA LEE
leek@mansfieldct.org
5th and 6th Grade Counselor
- MRS. JENNIFER ROBERTS
robertsj@mansfieldct.org
5th-8th Grade Counseling Support



CONSIDER THIS

AS SCHOOL COUNSELORS, WE'VE FOCUSED ON PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH BROAD EXPOSURE TO A VARIETY OF CAREER PATHWAYS AND DIVERSE HIGH SCHOOL OPTIONS. OUR GOAL HAS BEEN TO EQUIP THEM WITH THE KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES AND MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT THEIR FUTURE ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL JOURNEYS. THIS PROACTIVE APPROACH HELPS STUDENTS CONNECT THEIR INTERESTS TO TANGIBLE NEXT STEPS.



The logo features the word "SCHOLASTIC" in white capital letters inside a red rectangular box. Below this, the words "BOOK FAIR" are written in large, bold, red capital letters. The entire logo is surrounded by decorative red elements: two lightning bolts, two starburst shapes, and two four-pointed star shapes.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Dear Families:

Get ready! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way (YAY!). Choosing their own books empowers kids and inspires them on their journey to becoming lifelong readers. AND—as always—every purchase at the Fair benefits our school. Here’s what you need to know about the big event, which will take place:

October 20th-24th, Monday 9-3:00, Tuesday-Friday 7:45-2:45, Evening Hours on Thursday 5:30-7:00 pm in the Mansfield Middle School Library.

We will accept cash, check (payable to Mansfield Middle School), credit card, or you can say goodbye to cash and hello to eWallet—your child’s digital payment account. Before the Fair, set up eWallet for worry-free, cash-free purchases. Anyone can contribute! Share each child’s eWallet so friends and family can add funds and give your kids more books to enjoy. If you can’t make it to the Fair, then shop at our school’s Book Fair online. All orders ship directly to your home, and shipping is free for book orders over \$25. Every online purchase will also benefit our school.

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping:
<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/mansfieldmiddleschool>

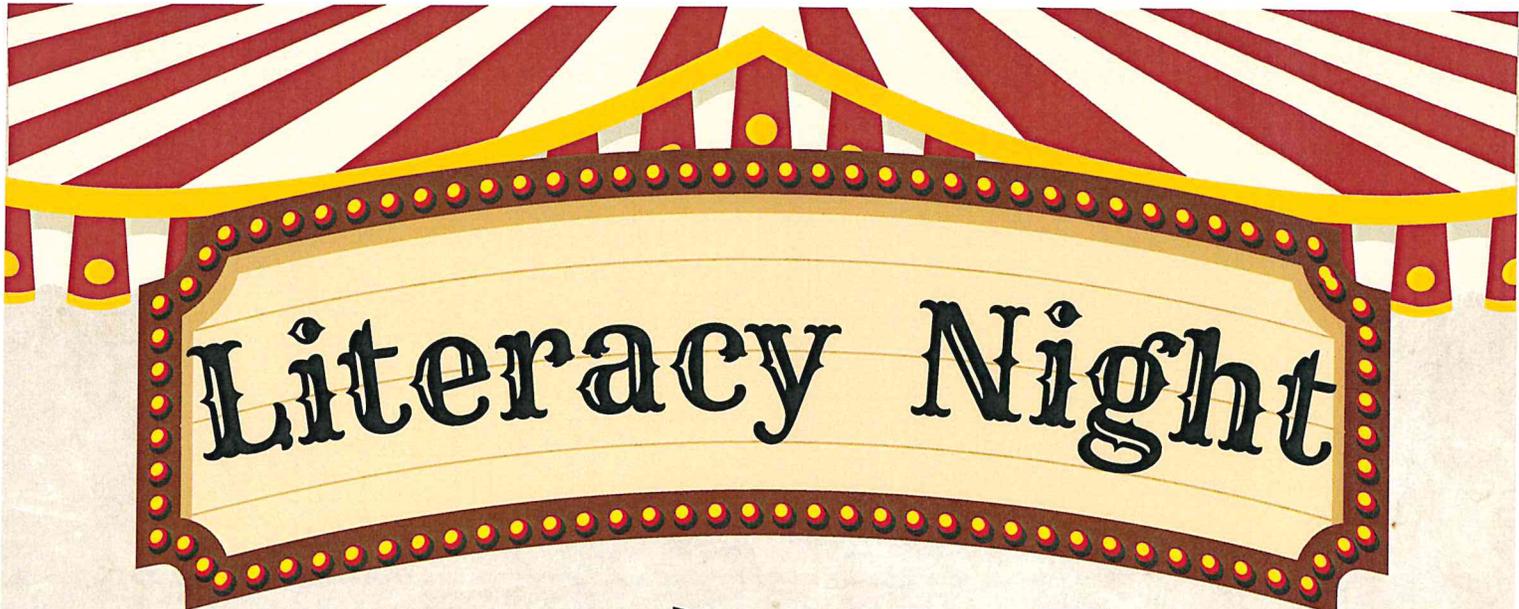
The countdown is on! Catch you at the Fair!

Happy reading,

Mrs. Ristau

Library Media Specialist

Mansfield Middle School



Literacy Night

Games! Book Fair!

Books!

Fidgets!



**October 23rd from
5:30pm to 7:00pm
@ MMS Library**

SCHOLASTIC

It's **BOOK FAIR** time!

October 20th - 24th
7:45 am - 2:45 pm
in MMS LMC



Book Fair eWallet
The easy way for kids to pay!

Easy for families to set up, easy for others to contribute. eWallet lets your child shop independently and choose books they want to read. After the Fair, any unspent funds become a Scholastic eGift balance to use at a future Fair or to shop online.

Visit our school's Book Fair homepage to get started:



SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIR

¡Llegó el momento!
October 20th - 24th
7:45 am - 2:45 pm
in MMS LMC



eWallet de la Feria del Libro
¡La forma de pago más sencilla para los niños!

Sencilla para que las familias la configuren, sencilla para que otras personas contribuyan. La eWallet permite a su niño o niña comprar de manera independiente y elegir los libros que desea leer. Al concluir la Feria, los fondos no utilizados se convierten en un saldo a favor como Scholastic eGift para utilizar en una futura Feria o para comprar en línea.

Visite la página web de la Feria del Libro de la escuela para comenzar:



MMS FAMILIES:

Please join us for Middle School Education Week 2025!

You are invited to join your child in school during the week of October 20-24 to get an informal look at life at Mansfield Middle School. This is an annual event for us, and many parents tell us they look forward to the visit.

Each grade has selected **two specific days** for visits to help us control parking and manage the numbers of extra people in our building for the week. We welcome you to join us, whether it's for just one class or for a whole day. If you have more than one child at MMS, you may wish to visit more than once. We have no ceremonies planned, and we want you to enjoy the time with your child in their regular classes.

Grade 5 – Monday and Friday (October 20th & 24th)

Grade 6 – Tuesday and Thursday (October 21st & 23rd)

Grade 7 – Monday and Friday (October 20th & 24th)

Grade 8 – Tuesday and Wednesday (October 21st & 22nd)

- ❖ Parking options: the staff lot (adjacent to the music wing), the grassy areas adjacent to the front circle, the street, or the parking lot down by the old tennis courts, or the grassy field that was the old tennis courts. Please enter the building through the bus entrance located in the bus lot.
- ❖ Due to fire regulations, please do not park in the driveway that leads up to the school or along the sidewalk in front of the library media center. The bus lot (the one with the large DO NOT ENTER sign) is not available because it is used for physical education classes during the day and for buses before and after school.

Your day at the middle school:

- ❖ Please enter the building via the bus main entrance (lower lobby bus lot entrance). You must sign-in at the main office using our Raptor System. Please have your government-issued ID with you to expedite the sign-in process.
- ❖ Visit the Scholastic Book Fair in our Library Media Center. The Book Fair will have an excellent selection of titles for middle school students. Proceeds will help fund library programming. The Book Fair will be open on Monday 11:00-3:00, Tuesday– Friday from 7:45 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. There will be evening Book Fair and Literacy Night events on Thursday from 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- ❖ Visit the *Lost and Found* tables in the lobby outside the office. See if you can find the sweatshirt or jacket that disappeared a few weeks ago.
- ❖ Enjoy a free cup of coffee or tea in the cafeteria. There are also bagels available there for purchase.
- ❖ Ask your child to go over the daily schedule with you the night before the visit so you will know what to expect.
- ❖ Go to your child's homeroom if you arrive before 8:05 a.m. After that, please follow your child's schedule. Copies of grade level schedules will be posted, but you will be delayed if you don't bring your child's schedule with you. We can look up individual schedules in the office if you would like some help.
- ❖ Please help the focus to remain on academics. Silence or turn off electronic devices upon entering the classroom. Please refrain from having your devices in plain sight in the classroom. If you need to respond to a message, we ask that you leave the classroom to a more private location. This will help to minimize classroom distractions. Once again, to help set the correct example of the behavior we expect for students, please do not use your cell phone in the classroom.
- ❖ Help support the implementation and modeling of our [MMS Habits of Character](#).
- ❖ This is an opportunity to experience your child's school day. If possible please arrange childcare for younger siblings. In the event that you must bring a young child with you, please know that if they become restless in a classroom, we encourage you to provide them with a break.
- ❖ Stay as long as you like, perhaps finding time to join your child for lunch in the cafeteria.

Come visit us for Middle School Education Week!

October 20-24, 2025

We want you to enjoy our school in action. We look forward to seeing you on one of your designated days!

YOUTH BASKETBALL INFO

Basketball Grades K-2

(Grades K-1) Little Huskies Division,

\$70.00 for residents, \$80.00 for non-residents.

Dates: 12/6-2/7 (no 12/27, 1/3). 8 sessions,

#341001-A 9:00 am-9:55 am

#341001-B 10:00 am-10:55 am

Registration Deadline: 12/6/2025

(Grade 2) Junior Huskies Division

\$70.00 for residents, \$80.00 for non-residents.

Dates: 12/6-2/7 (no 12/27, 1/3). 8 sessions,

#341002-A 11:15-12:30

#341002-B 12:45-2:00

Registration Deadline: 12/6/2025

Basketball Grade 3/4

(Grades 3 & 4) Instructional Division,

\$92.00 residents, \$102.00 non-residents,

#341005-A (girls)

#341006-A (boys)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS 10/15/2025

Evaluation Day: 10/18/2025 - season concludes in late February.

September Basketball Pre-Season Clinic

1 Day (Grades 4-8)

Basketball skill training to prepare young athletes for the upcoming recreation and travel basketball season. Athletic shoes are required. Please bring a basketball and a water bottle.

Instructor: Jeffrey Belanger, E.O. Smith Boys Basketball Coach

Location: Mansfield Middle School Gym

Date: Wed., Sept. 24

Time: 6:30-8 p.m.

Fee: \$48 for residents, \$58 for non-residents

Activity #: 240020-A

October Basketball Pre-Season Clinic

1 Day (Grades 4-8)

Basketball skill training to prepare young athletes for the upcoming recreation and travel basketball season. Athletic shoes are required. Please bring a basketball and a water bottle.

Instructor: Jeffrey Belanger, E.O. Smith Boys Basketball Coach

Location: Mansfield Middle School Gym

Date: Wed., Oct. 15

Time: 6:30-8 p.m.

Fee: \$48 for residents, \$58 for non-residents

Activity #: 240021-A

Rec & Travel Grades 5-8 Registration Information:

Important Dates:

· **Registration Deadline: Friday, September 26**

· **Evaluation Day: Saturday, October 4** - Attendance is mandatory on 10/4 to be considered for team placement. If it is determined that an additional tryout date is needed due to the number of players, it will be announced (TBD). Click the activity number below to register

Boys 5/6 Evaluation - 9:00 am - 10:00 am - 342003-A

Boys 7/8 Evaluation - 10:00 am - 11:00 am - 342005-A

Girls 5/6 Evaluation - 11:00 am - 12:00 pm - 342002-A

Girls 7/8 Evaluation - 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm - 342004-A

How It Works:

Step 1: Everyone registers for Recreation Basketball.

Step 2: At evaluations, Recreation & Travel coaches (along with MPRD staff) will evaluate players.

Step 3: After evaluations, players will either be invited to join the Travel League or placed on a Recreation League team.

Don't want to play Travel if selected? No problem—just let us know, and you'll stay in Rec.

Evaluations are essential not only for Travel placement but also to ensure balanced and fair Recreation teams.

Registration Fees:

Recreation Basketball (Grades 5-6, 7-8): \$119 (Residents), \$129 (Non-Residents)

Travel Basketball: \$280 (Mansfield Residents only)

(Players register for Rec first. If selected for Travel, your registration will be adjusted, and the balance will be due.)

MANSFIELD
CONNECTICUT

Parks & Recreation

YOUTH TENNIS LESSONS

**INDOOR TENNIS
SESSION
SUN. 10/26-12/14**

**LOCATION:
MANSFIELD
COMMUNITY
CENTER GYM**



Quick Start Tennis (Ages 4 -7)

In these introductory skill development sessions, tennis goals are to gradually improve hand-eye coordination, learn proper grip and stroke, and have a positive introduction to the game. Larger, lighter foam tennis balls are used during instruction and are particularly effective with children because they are easier to control and react to. Typical kids games are used to incorporate and enforce proper use of a racquet and shadowing the coach.

Activity #: 220060-A

Fee: \$41 for residents: \$51 for non-residents

Time: 9:00-9:30 am

Beginner Tennis (Ages 7 - 10)

The perfect introduction to tennis! A few changes in size and format from the younger group with practice in stroke development and modified match play. In this class participants will learn the basic strokes of tennis, making clean contact with the ball, and encourage movement on the court. Group games are played that further develop these skills. Please make sure your child has the correct sized racquet.

Activity #: 220061-A

Fee: \$62 for residents/\$72 for non-residents

Time: 9:40-10:25 am

Intermediate Tennis (Ages 10 - 13)

Participants must have completed at least two seasonal sessions of tennis with the orange or red ball to participate in this level. If your child does not meet those guidelines, please register them for the Beginner Tennis program.

In this tennis program for more advanced players, there will be a different focus for each lesson (forehand, serve, consistency, angles, etc.) and play will range from drills to games and matches. The aim for the more advanced players is to have them hitting as many balls as possible and get in a good mix of drills and competitive (but friendly) games. There will be significantly more focus on instructing proper technique, grips, and strategies.

Activity #: 220064-A

Fee: \$62 for residents \$72 for non-residents

Time: 10:35-11:20 am

www.mansfieldcc.com

860.429.3015

Register online, or in-person at the
Mansfield Community Center





We Want You!!

On Tuesday, November 11th, Mansfield Middle School will be reflecting, remembering, and honoring those who have served in the United States Armed Forces. We honor them for exemplifying the true character of the American spirit – personal courage, love of country, and devotion of duty. We thank them for sacrificing their personal aspirations and safety to attain and protect the freedoms of this great Nation. Students tend to better understand and absorb the significance of Veterans’ Day when they can attach a human face to it.

To help our students develop a greater appreciation for America’s veterans, we are inviting veterans to participate in a celebration that honors their service to our country. If you have a veteran in your family who is willing and able to attend an assembly on Tuesday, November 11th in our Mansfield Middle School auditorium. Please complete and return the lower portion of this form or complete the online form by clicking the link [HERE](#).

The planned events are as follows:

Lite breakfast provided 8:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

Followed by an assembly which will conclude by 9:45 a.m.

-----Please complete the online registration linked above or return the bottom portion of this form to the MMS Office by 10-31-2025 -----

Student’s Name: _____

HR Teacher/Grade: _____

Veteran’s Name: _____

Military Rank: _____

Relation to the MMS Student: _____

My veterans’ service (circle one):

Army Navy Marines Air Force Coast Guard National Guard

Parent’s or guardian’s signature: _____

Please check the above information carefully as we will be announcing names and branch of service at the assembly.

Mansfield Middle School &
Mansfield Youth Services presents a
community screening of

SCREENAGERS

GROWING UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Now updated for 2025 with the latest science, research, and expert insights, Screenagers is an award-winning documentary that dives into the challenges families face in this digital age.

FREE event open to surrounding towns.

Dinner and child care provided

LEARN MORE



🕒 6:00 PM

📅 Nov. 12, 2025

📍 Mansfield Middle
School Auditorium

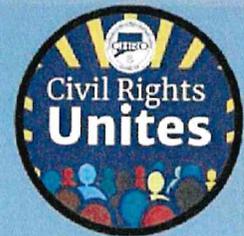
➔ Sign up here!

**State of Connecticut
Commission on Human Right and Opportunities**



Sponsors a

**Civil Rights Youth Summit:
Attorney Pipeline Program**



**ATTENTION ALL:
8th Grade
&
High School Students**

- *Explore Careers in Public interest Law and Social Justice*
- *Prepare you for a Future in Law*
- *Introduction to how Attorneys transform the World*
- *Introduction to the Role of the Judiciary*
- *Introduction to Case Analysis*
- *Interactive law school class*
- *Hands-On Case Briefing*
- *Guided tour of the campus*



**Food
&
Fun
Free Admission**

**Register
Here
In - Person
Event**



**55 Elizabeth St, Hartford, CT 06105
University of Connecticut School of Law**

Start building toward their future with the CHET Dream Big! Competition.

One entry can lead to \$20,000 for education!



The CHET Dream Big! Competition is an exciting opportunity where Connecticut students (with the help of a parent or guardian) from kindergarten to 12th grade (K-12), enter to win money toward their future education.

Entries must be submitted by 11:59 pm ET on November 5, 2025.

3 Grand Prize winners
will each be awarded

\$20,000

24 First Prize winners
will each be awarded

\$5,000

240 Second Prize winners
will each be awarded

\$500



K-12 students can enter today for a chance to win.

Visit chetedreambig.com



The Connecticut Higher Education Trust (CHET) 529 College Savings Plan - Direct Plan is offered by the Treasurer of the state of Connecticut and managed by Fidelity Investments. If you or the designated beneficiary is not a Connecticut resident, you may want to consider, before investing, whether your state or the beneficiary's home state offers its residents a plan with alternate state tax advantages or other state benefits such as financial aid, scholarship funds and protection from creditors.

Units of the portfolios are municipal securities and may be subject to market volatility and fluctuation.

Please carefully consider the plan's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses before investing. For this and other information on any 529 college savings plan managed by Fidelity, contact Fidelity for a free Fact Kit, or view one online. Read it carefully before you invest or send money.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Void outside CT and where prohibited. Open to legal U.S. residents residing in Connecticut who are at least 18 years old and are the parents or legal guardians of a student or students currently enrolled in a Connecticut school, grades K-12 as of 8/18/25. Begins 9:00 a.m. ET on 8/18/25; ends 11:59 p.m. ET on 11/05/25. Prizes will be a contribution to an eligible CHET 529 Direct Plan Account established for the benefit of the child whose parent or legal guardian submitted a winning entry for the child. CHET Advisor 529 Accounts are not permitted for receipt of a prize. For Official Rules and eligibility, visit chetedreambig.com. Sponsor: Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC. Member NYSE. SIPC. 900 Salem Street. Smithfield, RI 02917. 1212343.1.0



Enter to win \$20,000 for higher education today and help your child make a difference in the world tomorrow.

Entries accepted August 18, 2025 - November 5, 2025

The Dream Big! Competition is an exciting program offered by Connecticut's Office of the Treasurer. The competition is designed to help Connecticut families build better futures by giving them the opportunity to win money for higher education. This year's competition features three grand prizes of \$20,000*.

To enter, students may utilize this Entry Form to submit a drawing or written essay based on the specific topic for their age group. Students may also submit online a drawing or written essay in addition to a video or digital image of a painting. See the topics for the 2025 Dream Big! Competition on the back of this form.

Visit **CHETDREAMBIG.COM** if you'd prefer to enter online, and to view FAQs and Official Rules.

The 2025 competition features \$300,000 in prizes plus \$50,000 in tech equipment for schools!

3

**GRAND PRIZES:
\$20,000***

24

**1ST PRIZES:
\$5,000***

240

**2ND PRIZES:
\$500***

*All prizes awarded as CHET 529 Account contributions.

2025 DREAM BIG! COMPETITION OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

All fields required unless indicated as optional.

Parent/Guardian Information:

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Email Address _____ Phone Number _____

Street Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

How did you hear about the CHET Dream Big! Competition?

- Social Media
- Influencer
- TV
- School
- Email from Fidelity
- Other email
- Librarian
- Online Search (Google, Bing, etc.)
- Fidelity.com
- Website
- Other _____

By completing and submitting this form you represent and warrant that you are over 18 and give permission on behalf of the student named below to submit their original drawing or essay as an entry in the 2025 CHET Dream Big! Competition. I acknowledge that the student's entry is his/her original work and that drawings, essays and registration forms will not be returned. Please Note: If you are selected as a winner and do not have a CHET 529 Direct Plan Account, you will be required to open one to receive the prize money. Each winning Entrant (parent/guardian) must be the "Account Owner" of the CHET 529 Direct Plan account and the child who created the Original Work must be the beneficiary. If an account already exists with a different account owner, a new account must be opened.

Student Information:

First Name _____ Middle Name (optional) _____ Last Name _____ Suffix (Jr., etc.) _____

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) _____ Email (optional) _____

School Name _____ School City _____ Grade Level (2025-2026 Academic Year) _____

Mail this completed Entry Form postmarked by **November 5, 2025** and to be received no later than **November 12, 2025** to:
The 2025 CHET Dream Big! Competition, P.O. Box 7767, Melville, NY 11775-7767



NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Void outside CT and where prohibited. Open to legal U.S. residents residing in Connecticut who are at least 18 years old and are the parents or legal guardians of a student or students currently enrolled in a Connecticut school, grades K-12 as of 8/18/25. Begins 9:00 a.m. ET on 8/18/25; ends 11:59 p.m. ET on 11/05/25. Prizes will be a contribution to an eligible CHET 529 Direct Plan Account established for the benefit of the child whose parent or legal guardian submitted a winning entry for the child. CHET Advisor 529 Accounts are not permitted for receipt of a prize. For Official Rules and eligibility, visit chetdreambig.com. Sponsor: Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC, Member NYSE, SIPC, 900 Salem Street, Smithfield, RI 02917.



Student First and Last Name: _____

Check off your Grade Level and draw or legibly hand-print your entry in the space provided below:



Submit a drawing & short description or an essay of 50-250 words illustrating the following: **"When you grow up what would you like to be and why?"**



Submit a drawing & short description or an essay of 100-250 words illustrating the following: **"Describe a time when something inspired you to do something good—like helping someone, making a change, or standing up for what's right."**



Submit a drawing & short description or an essay of 100-250 words illustrating the following: **"Tell us about an experience or person in your life that has impacted you and how this will influence your future goals."**

Please Note: Video Entries, typed Entries or Entries consisting of a painting must be submitted online at chetdreambig.com.
SEPARATE SHEETS OF PAPER WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.