



2013-2014 PROFILE
Center for Global Studies
at Brien McMahon High School
Norwalk, CT
www.centerglobalstudies.org

*An Interdistrict Magnet School-within-a-School
Specializing in Language and Culture*

Mission Statement

Students at the Center for Global Studies will bridge international and cultural distances and will understand and accept the differences they will encounter in our increasingly global society.

Entrance into Center for Global Studies

By Connecticut law, enrollment in CGS is limited to 300, and seats are allocated by town. In 2013-2014, 272 students from 16 different school districts attended the Center for Global Studies. Students apply to attend CGS in January and receive notification of acceptance in March. In 2013, 254 students applied for 80 freshman seats.

CGS provides transportation, either by train or school bus. Commutes may be as long as one hour. Students attend CGS from the following towns:

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| • Bridgeport | • Fairfield | • Redding | • Trumbull |
| • Darien | • Milford | • Shelton | • Westport |
| • Easton | • Monroe | • Stamford | • Weston |
| • Greenwich | • Norwalk | • Stratford | • Wilton |

The Student Body

CGS has a highly diverse student body, coming from a wide spectrum of communities. Students live in the urban centers of Bridgeport, Stamford and Norwalk, and in the affluent communities of Darien, Fairfield and Weston. The students represent a range of geographic, economic, racial and ethnic diversity.

In 2013-2014, the CGS student body reflected the following diversity:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| • 12% Asian | • 21% Free/Reduced Lunch |
| • 19% Black | • 4% Special Ed |
| • 24% Hispanic | • 17% Bilingual |
| • 34% White | |

The Academic Program

Within the CGS Magnet School, students are required to take a language - Arabic, Chinese or Japanese - and World Literature every year. In 9th grade students enroll in the History of China, Japan or the Middle East, based on the language they study. All other classes are taken in Brien McMahon High School

Students choose to enroll in the following Center for Global Studies classes:

Arabic I-IV	Japanese I-IV	World Literature I-IV
History of the Middle East	Honors Japanese II-IV	Honors World Literature II-IV
	AP Japanese	AP Language and
Chinese I-IV	History of Japan	Composition
Honors Chinese II-IV		AP Literature and
AP Chinese		Composition
History of China		

The Cultural Program

Experiencing, understanding and appreciating other cultures is the core of the academic program. Therefore, CGS has 7 sister-schools that participate in two-week exchanges. In 2013-2014, 43 students participated in international travel, living with families and visiting important cultural sites, and more than 70 students acted as hosts to visitors, opening their homes and lives to students from our sister-schools.

CGS has the following sister-schools:

- Al Salam Language School - Tanta, Egypt
- Bridges Language and Culture Center - Rabat, Morocco
- Middle East International School - Doha, Qatar
- Zibo #1 High School - Zibo, China
- Guang Ming High School - Shanghai, China
- Bunkyo High School - Tokyo, Japan
- Kojo High School - Isehara, Japan
- Nagisa High School - Hiroshima, Japan

Post High School Education

The vast majority of the CGS graduates continue their education in college, with a few students entering the military or going directly to work.

In 2013, of the 65 seniors in CGS:

- 100% of CGS seniors received high school diplomas
- 95% attended college after graduation
- 75% attended 4-year colleges, and
- 20% attended two-year colleges.

Advance Placement Testing

In 2013-2014, 41 juniors and seniors took the AP tests in Chinese, Japanese, Language and Composition, or Literature and Composition.

- 71% of Center for Global Studies students taking exams received grades of 3 or above; 40% received scores of 4 or 5.