TEACH ROCK
We use music to teach

2021 CONNECTICUT PARTNERSHIP
Who Is Rock and Roll Forever Foundation / Teachrock.org?

Launched by Little Steven Van Zandt and the Founders Board of Bono, Jackson Browne, Martin Scorsese, and Bruce Springsteen, the Rock and Roll Forever Foundation has provided free, standards-aligned resources through the Teachrock.org curriculum to help teachers and students succeed since 2013.
Watch the 1-minute video above for brief highlights from the April 20th press conference featuring Gov. Ned Lamont, Steven Van Zandt, CT Deputy Secretary of Education Desirae Nesmith, CT Chief Academic Officer Irene Parisi and others.
The Partnership aspires to reach 45 districts over 3 years.

Year One has just begun!

34 Districts applied through the CT State Department of Education. 14 were selected. The districts represent a cross-section of geography, social demographics, age bands and subject areas.

Each district will:

- Participate in cyclical professional development with TeachRock staff
- Receive technical assistance on incorporating TeachRock resources into their existing curriculum plans
- Contribute to a feedback loop that leads to stronger instructional materials

A full program outline and budget is available upon request
## CONNECTICUT PARTNER DISTRICTS, COHORT 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town / City / Region</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Subject / Focus Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ansonia</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>Music Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridgeport</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>ECE, ELA/Journalism, SPED, VA, English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bristol</td>
<td>6-12</td>
<td>Band, Art, Theater, Chorus, Tech Ed, Math, Science, Social Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enfield</td>
<td>6-12</td>
<td>Music, SS/RDG, AP US History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hamden</td>
<td>7,8</td>
<td>ELA, SS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meriden</td>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>SS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milford</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Haven</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Music, SS, SPED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>SS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope Academy</td>
<td>K-12</td>
<td>Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region 14</td>
<td>K-8</td>
<td>Music, Art, Library Media, Social Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherman</td>
<td>PK-8</td>
<td>Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thompson</td>
<td>6-12</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterford</td>
<td>PK-5</td>
<td>Music, Grade 2, Grade 4, Art, School Psych, SPED</td>
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</tbody>
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We empower teachers and engage students by using popular music to create interdisciplinary, culturally responsive education materials for all 21st century classrooms.

TeachRock aspires to:

- Keep the Arts in the DNA of the public school system
- Foster a teaching methodology that reflects the experiences of 21st century students
- Improve school climates and student outcomes
PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION!

At Orangethorpe Elementary in Fullerton, CA, TeachRock curriculum has been integrated from K and 1st grade STEAM labs to 6th grade social studies. See 1st and 2nd graders bring the "Country Music Responds to 9/11" lesson plan to life in this video.

At Hopatcong Middle School in Hopatcong, NJ, 6-8th grade teachers have incorporated TeachRock into English, Social Studies, Science, and Social Emotional Learning settings. They'll pilot our new algebra curriculum in fall 2021 as well.

At East Side Community High School in New York, NY, 11th and 12th graders spend an entire year in the "Music and Post-war History," a course created entirely of TeachRock resources. See the class in action in this video.

TeachRock is providing curriculum and training to empower teachers to lead classes like these in the Milwaukee Public Schools district now!
WHY?

Music is a path to better class engagement, higher graduation rates, and happier lives

There are places in the United States where more than 40% of students don’t finish high school. In some communities, 60% of that 40% will later serve time in prison^1. The cost to those people, their communities, and to all of us, is immense.

There are many reasons a student might drop out. However, research* shows that if a student likes one class or establishes a meaningful bond with a single teacher, that student is likely to keep coming to school.

TeachRock empowers teachers to harness the excitement and energy of music to engage their students and build that bridge between generations. TeachRock can be the class that keeps kids coming.

^ Black Boys In Crisis: The School to Prison Pipeline, Education Week, 2016
HOW?

A 2019 Gallup survey* reports that creative, technology-driven curriculum such as TeachRock fosters an environment marked by:

• Personalized Learning
• Student engagement
• Connections to practical “real world” applications
• Increased critical thinking and problem-solving
• Better retention of material in comparison to their peers

*Gallup, “Creativity in Learning,” 2019
WHERE?

40,000+ REGISTERED K-12 TEACHERS IN CLASSROOMS ACROSS ALL 50 STATES

PROVIDER OF ESSENTIAL REMOTE EDUCATION RESOURCES TO TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND FAMILIES DURING COVID SHUTDOWNS

400% INCREASE IN SITE TRAFFIC DURING PEAK 2020 MONTHS

WORKS DIRECTLY WITH DISTRICTS TO SUPPORT FULL-SCHOOL ARTS INTEGRATION IN SEVERAL STATES

ALL AT NO COST TO TEACHERS, STUDENTS, OR FAMILIES
Rock star Van Zandt helping Connecticut students re-engage

Connecticut enlists rocker Steven Van Zandt in partnership to incorporate music and pop culture in the classroom
“When I was a teenager, school wasn’t reaching me. It didn’t speak to my needs or interests, and I saw no future in a society I was supposed to be a part of. Then the Beatles saved my life. Rock and roll and soul. The arts gave me the confidence to forge a path in the world. It’s vitally important that we provide curricula that students from communities that grew up around rock, soul, country, salsa, hip hop, and other styles will recognize. We need to reach the part of their brain that responds emotionally and instinctively, that uses imagination rather than facts and specifics. Something that makes them relax and feel more comfortable about the very process of education. And right now is when kids need us the most.”

- TeachRock Founder, Steven Van Zandt
What the Teachers Say...

When I was forced to come up with emergency plans last spring, TeachRock was a step ahead with their Distance Learning Plans. Their student-facing “Lean on Me” and “Life is Beautiful” packs were perfect social-emotional learning lessons that gave my students, and me, the encouragement to stay positive during all the craziness.

**Matt Grandstaff - Social Studies, Ovid Elsie Middle School, Elsie, MI**

One of the biggest strengths of TeachRock is how supportive their staff is. If you’re a new teacher who feels isolated, TeachRock is a great support network and educational community to join.

**Ben Wides - East Side Community High School, New York, NY**

The TeachRock curriculum and lessons are an amazing resource for teachers in any environment, and especially for remote learning. They’re all about making as many connections as we can for kids.

**Shawna Longo - Tulsa Trail Elementary School, Hopatcong, NJ**