



COMMON GROUND HIGH • SCHOOL

OUR IMPACT, BY THE NUMBERS

AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

- » 71% of our students live in New Haven; our other students come from 18 different cities and towns, from Bridgeport to Branford to Derby. Updated 7/2021
- » Our students are racially diverse: 32% African American, 42% Latinx, 22% white. Updated 7/2021
- » 64% of students qualify for free/reduced lunch Updated 7/2021
- » 23% of students qualify for special education support -- well above the state & district averages. Updated 7/2021
- » 6% of students are English Learners. Updated 7/2021
- » We are proud to welcome refugees and undocumented young people, transgender and gender non-binary students, young people who want a school where they can be themselves.
- » Common Ground's suspension rate and chronic absenteeism rate are both several points below the average for Connecticut high schools.

STUDENT GROWTH & LEARNING

- » Last fall, Common Ground 9th and 10th graders ranked in the 99th percentile nationally for growth in reading, according to the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress.
- » Last year's 9th graders grew more in math than 94% of their peers across the country.
- » This progress builds on big gains in 2017-18, when Common Ground 9th graders grew more than 98% of their peers nationally in math and 90% of their peers in language usage. In 2017-18, our 10th graders' growth put them in the 88th percentile in math and the 98th percentile in reading.
- » Our English learners grew more in oral language than their high school-aged peers across the state, and matched the state average in written language growth.

SUCCESS IN & BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL

- » Last year, 92% of students graduated on time -- 4 points above the state rate. Common Ground's 4-year graduation rate has exceeded the state's in 4 of the last 5 years.
- » In each of the last five graduating classes, 97% to 100% of seniors have been accepted to college.
- » This fall, 83% of our most recent graduates enrolled in college -- more than 10 points above the state average.

LEADERSHIP & AGENCY

- » Every Common Ground student creates a portfolio showing their growth as a powerful learner & leader -- and must defend their portfolio in front of a panel of staff and an audience of family, peers, and teachers in order to graduate.
- » Last year, 100% of seniors earned a pass or high pass the first time they stood up to defend their portfolio.
- » Nearly half of our students say they are interested in pursuing an environmental career after high school, and more than 3 in 4 say Common Ground helped them grow into powerful leader.

MORE THAN JUST A HIGH SCHOOL

- » CT Schoolyards, a program of Common Ground, is currently working with 22 New Haven Public Schools to create and improve school gardens, schoolyard habitats, and outdoor classrooms, and to use them in the curriculum.
- » Last year, Common Ground's school field trip program engaged 6,703 students, including 4,329 students from 28 different New Haven Public Schools. An additional 68 NHPS students joined in Kids Unplugged after-school programs, thanks in part to a partnership with the district that provides free transportation. Fifty New Haven students joined in Nature Year, coming to Common Ground's campus one day each week to engage in student-directed outdoor learning.
- » Common Ground's urban farm helps to fuel free school lunch for every student -- plus a family veggie share program, a mobile market serving food insecure neighborhoods, and learning and community building opportunities for thousands of New Haven residents.
- » Through Green Jobs Corps, 80 Common Ground students took on paid jobs last year -- planting trees, running farmer's markets, leading environmental programs, and more.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT & DEMAND

- » Last year, 409 young people and their families applied for approximately 70 open seats at Common Ground High School.
- » Last year, more than 150 community members and organizations acted as guest teachers in our classes, led our students out into the community, helped to plan new courses, created paid work opportunities for our students, and helped our students explore careers.
- » Our work is possible because more than 550 individuals & institutions donated to support Common Ground last year.