

Kenny Donovan Jr.

Without question Kenny Donovan provides all his students with personalized, authentic, and engaging learning experiences through creativity, exploration, innovation, critical thinking, problem-solving, and high quality instruction. He fosters a culture of continuous improvement through collaborative partnerships with staff, families, and the New Haven community and he supports students' growth and development by utilizing the Whole Child Framework.

Kenny's collaborations include running and maintaining one of New Haven's last remaining wooden boat shops. This shop handles work for The Sound School's waterfront. They build half hulls of famous New haven Sharpies and they perform boat maintenance on the New Haven Sharpie sail training vessels. Kenny also teaches the CT Safe Boating Course and is certified to administer the State's Safe Boating exam. Most of all, his collaboration includes instructing freshmen how to row and sail and ultimately how to be part of a team under rapidly changing conditions.

Kenny has a world of experience both professionally and personally in the art of seamanship. His instruction mirrors collaboration and the importance of fair and inclusive practice. A vital and pertinent aspect of "life on the sea" is being part of a crew and everyone is a vital part of that crew. Every job of a crew member is as important as the next since success on the water depends on everyone's participation. One of Kenny's true gifts is lowering our students' apprehension and fear when it comes to instructing our students in maritime activities and skills they have very little experience with. This gift is a flair at specific instruction and demonstration and, most importantly, Kenny's even-tempered approach to learning: he believes everyone can. Kenny's core values are rooted in his belief that every child is capable and that success is marked in one's progress. Aq Tech 1 could not exist with his partnership and our students' success and is due to Kenny's nurturing and guidance.