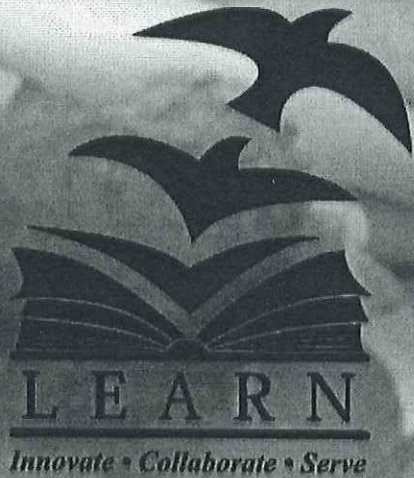


RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT

2023 JUN 21 P 2:41

ATTEST: *David I. Conner*
TOWN CLERK



Re-imagining the Region's Early Childhood Magnet School

"Magnet programs provide an innovative means to achieve racial integration and resolve educational inequities while also providing options for historically marginalized and underserved students, families, and communities of color." Magnet Schools of America, 2021



LEARN

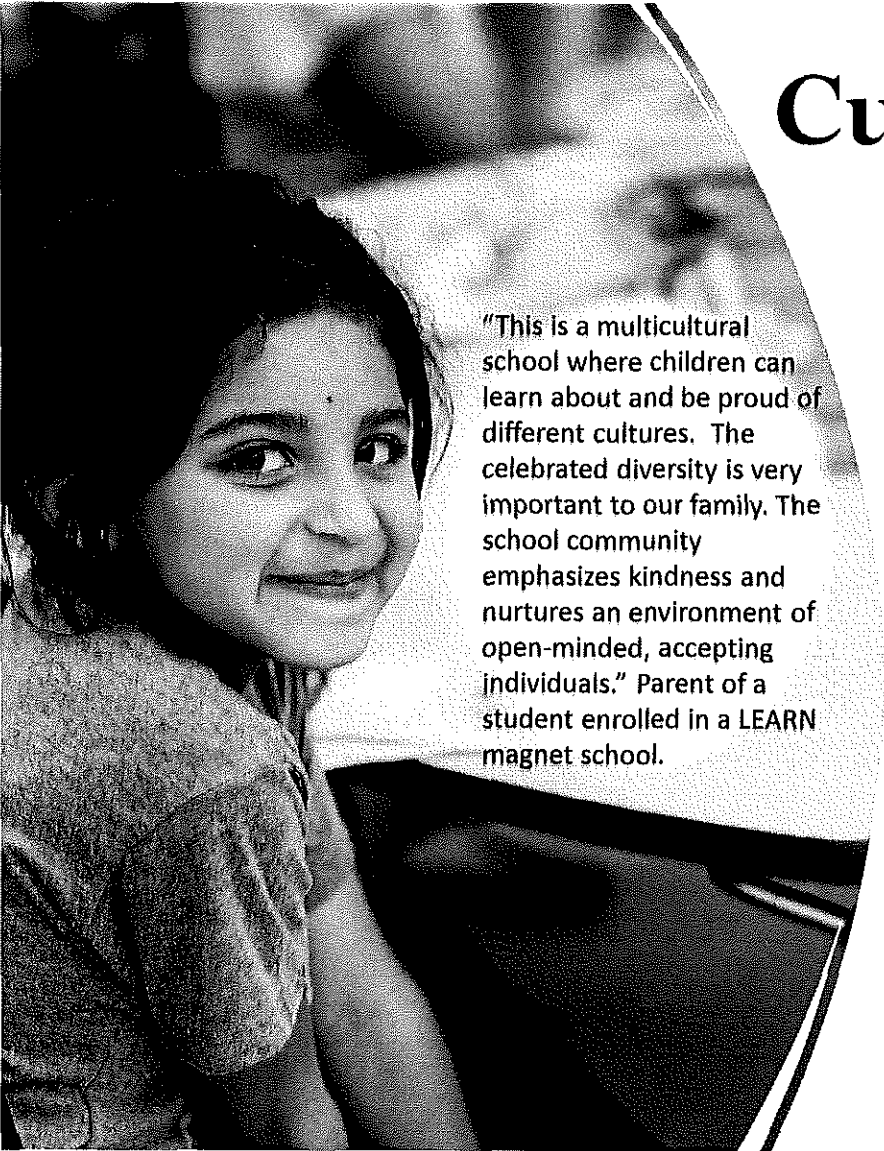
*Southeastern Connecticut's Regional Educational Service Center,
serving the educational community for over 55 years.*

Our Vision:

To ensure that every child has access to high-quality public education and opportunities through equitable systems of education, support, and service

Our Mission:

- Pursue equitable and just systems of education
- Build the skills and knowledge of the educational community
- Design innovative, efficient, and effective programs, services, and solutions



Current LEARN Schools

*4 magnet schools in southeastern Connecticut,
serving approximately 1,400 students each school year*

Our Schools:

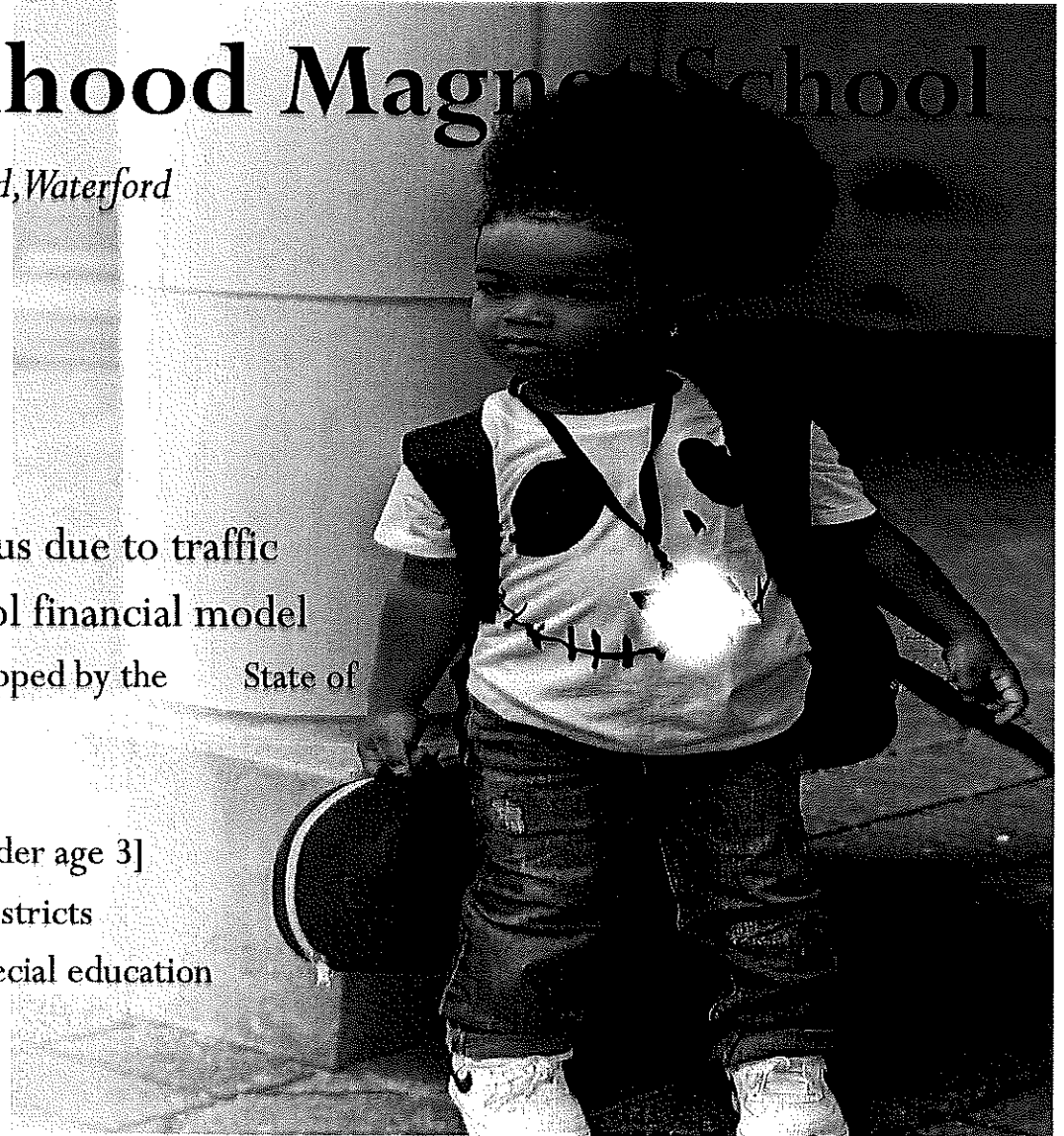
- The Friendship School
 - Pre-kindergarten & Kindergarten, Waterford
- Regional Multicultural Magnet School
 - Kindergarten-Grade 5, New London
- Marine Science Magnet High School
 - Grades 9-12, Groton
- Three Rivers Middle College Magnet High School
 - Grades 11 & 12, Norwich

Current Early Childhood Magnet School

The Friendship School, Rope Ferry Road, Waterford

Challenges

- Leased building [2025 expiration]
- Safety concerns on the school's current campus due to traffic
- Unsustainable pre-kindergarten magnet school financial model
 - Tuition based on parent/ caregiver income and capped by the State of Connecticut
- Changed educational landscape
 - A childcare desert [quality care for children under age 3]
 - Pre-kindergarten now offered by area school districts
 - An increased need for the region's youngest special education outplacement students



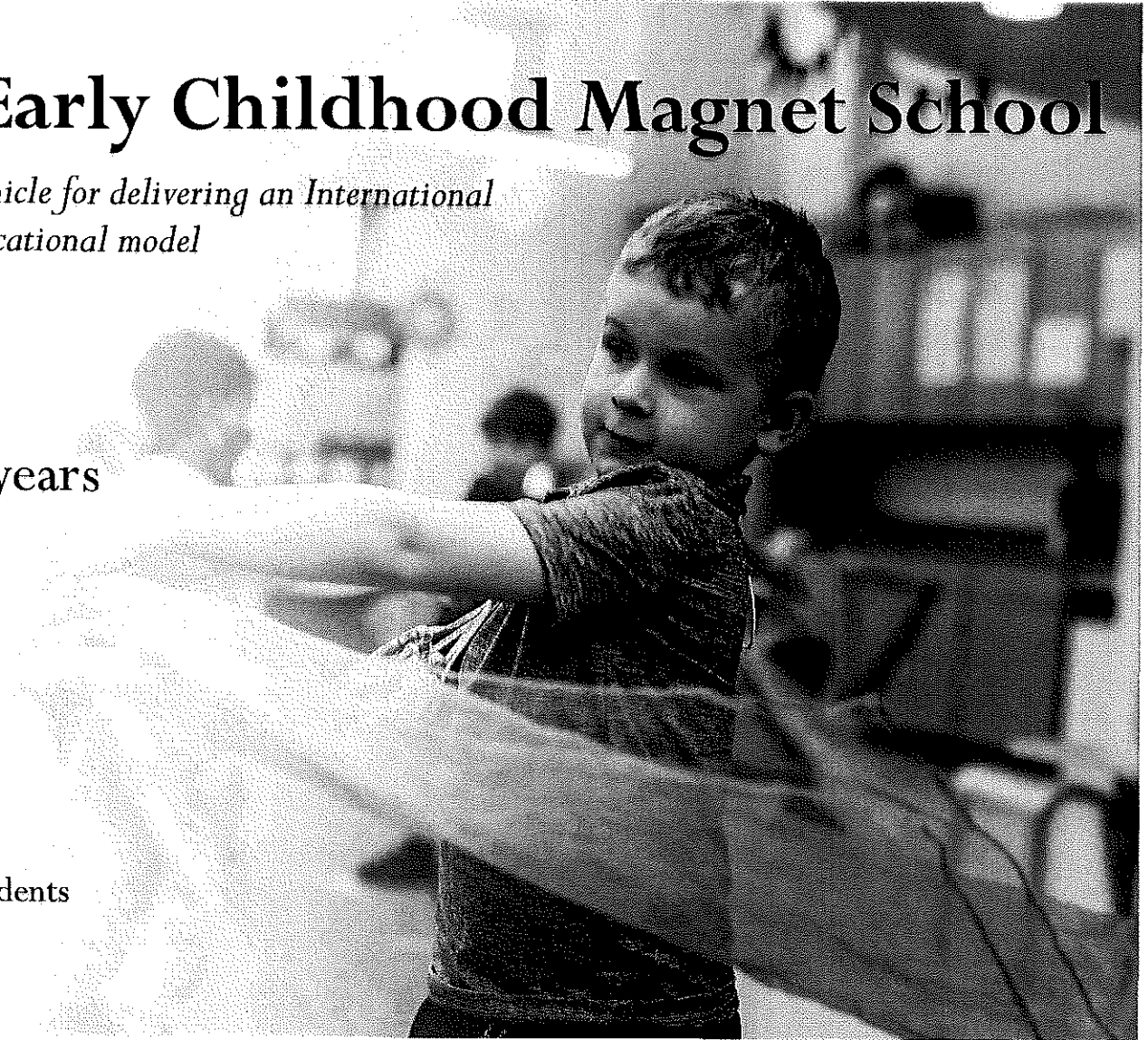
The Re-imagined Early Childhood Magnet School

*with a focus on museum studies as a vehicle for delivering an International
Baccalaureate educational model*

Student Population

574 children, 8 weeks to 7 years

- 48 infant/toddler-aged children
- 200 preschool-aged children
- 100 kindergarten students
- 105 first-grade students
- 105 second-grade students
- 16 special education outplacement students

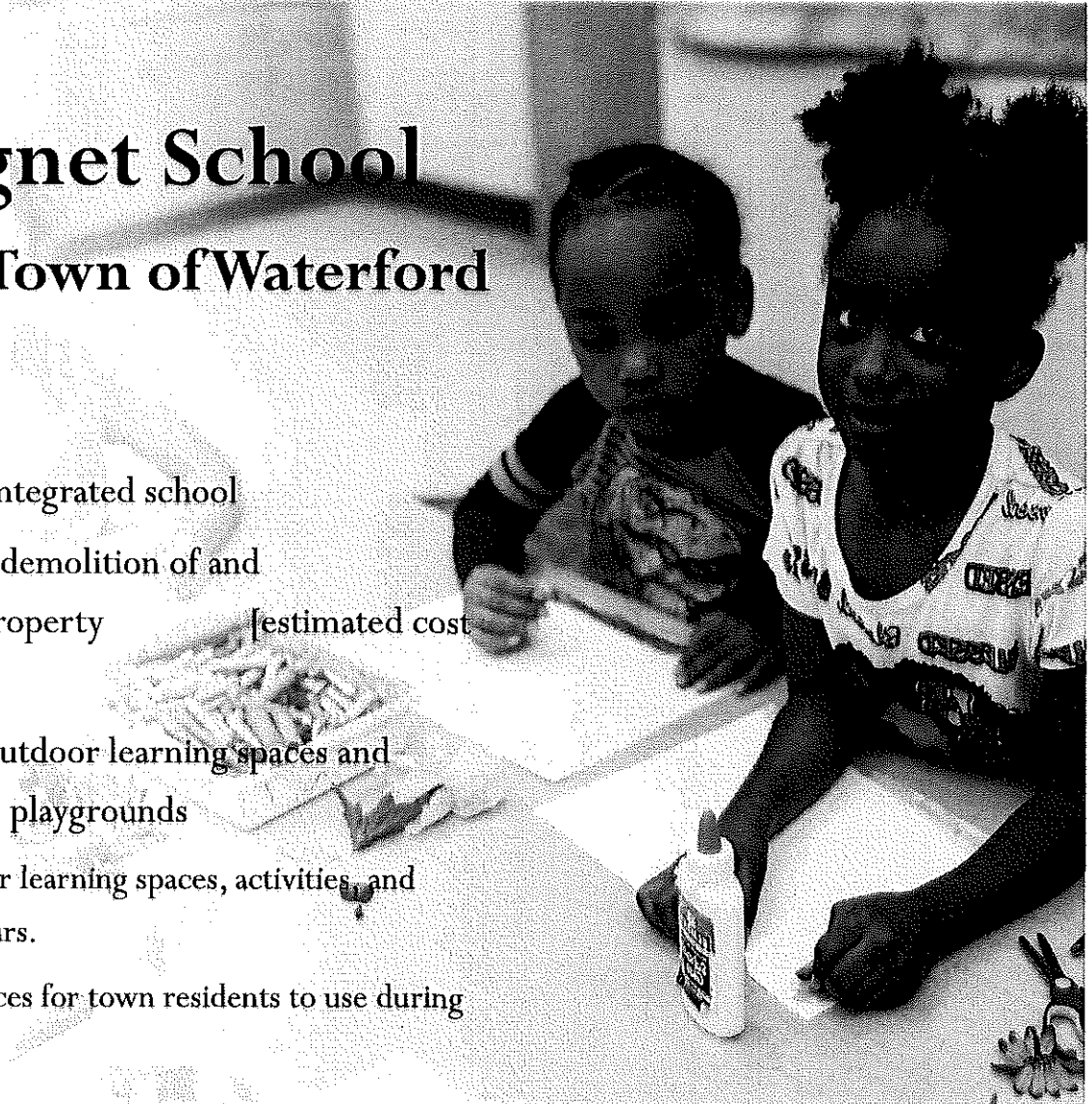


The Re-imagined Early Childhood Magnet School

LEARN's Commitment to the Town of Waterford

LEARN will:

- Re-establish the site as a well-respected, integrated school
- Assume all financial responsibility for the demolition of and environmental cleanup of the shuttered property [estimated cost is currently \$1.5M]
- Invest in the neighborhood by designing outdoor learning spaces and recreational activities with fully accessible playgrounds
 - Town residents may use the outdoor learning spaces, activities, and playgrounds during non-school hours.
 - The facility will include indoor spaces for town residents to use during non-school hours, as well.



The Re-imagined Early Childhood Magnet School

"It's a full-day, inclusive educational environment where my young child learned to manage feelings and resolve conflicts, while also studying literacy and numeracy. Teachers created a sense of community within the school and classrooms so my child could thrive." Parent of a child enrolled in a LEARN magnet school.

LEARN thanks the Town of Waterford, the Waterford Public School System, and the residents of Waterford for partnering with us to offer The Friendship School. We hope that partnership can continue.

