

"I think it is the best elementary school in the world."

Erik K. – Grade 3

Parents are an essential part of the educational team in Windsor's schools. Poquonock parents are deeply involved in volunteer activities at the school, and the PTO sponsors a variety of programs, including book fairs, family game nights, and cultural arts programs. Recently, Poquonock parents successfully implemented a major initiative to build a beautiful new handicapped-accessible playscape on the school grounds. The Poquonock School Family Resource Center reaches out to parents through classes, playgroups for young children, discussion groups and family fun activities. The school provides before- and after-school care through the fee-based Tree House program, in which students remain at school for play activities, homework time and clubs.



More than half a century ago, when Poquonock School was built in this quiet corner of Windsor, life was far less complicated. Today, children face new challenges in

education and technology, and Poquonock School has changed to meet those challenges. One thing has not changed, however. Now, as then, Poquonock School is a warm, nurturing, child-centered place where respect for kids and their potential is the guiding policy.

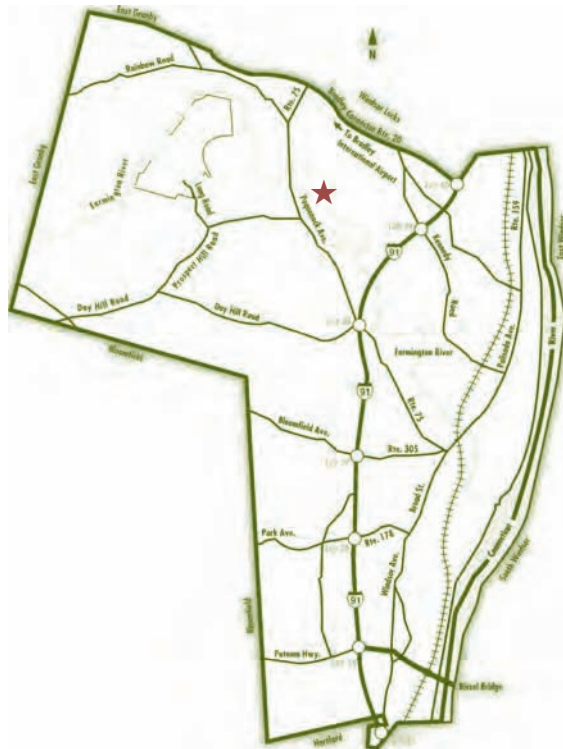
Poquonock Accelerated School

1760 Poquonock Avenue
Windsor, CT 06095
(860) 687-2080

www.windsorct.org/poquonock

Directions

From Interstate 91, take Exit 38 and turn right at the end of the ramp onto Poquonock Avenue. Poquonock School is approximately 2.3 miles on the right.



★ Poquonock Elementary School

WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Poquonock

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Windsor. First in Connecticut. First for its young people.

Poquonock Elementary School is located in the Poquonock section in the northwest corner of Windsor. Approximately 340 students study in a charming, completely updated school building originally built in 1947.

As with all Windsor's schools, Poquonock School offers a comprehensive elementary-level curriculum with a focus on literacy in all subject areas. Windsor elementary schools take a "balanced literacy" approach to reading and writing. This approach incorporates numerous reading components and methodologies, such as phonics, vocabulary development, guided reading, independent reading and literacy centers, in order to help children become fluent and comprehending readers.

Every day, students spend 90 uninterrupted minutes in literacy instruction, and their reading progress is measured on a regular basis. Every effort is made to challenge accelerated readers and identify struggling readers as quickly as possible. The students who are having difficulty can then be supported by classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, tutors and/or the language arts teacher leaders through small group and individualized instruction in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension.



Windsor's elementary schools use the Trailblazers Math program. In Trailblazers Math, students not only have to find the correct answers, but they have to be able to explain and justify the process they used to find the answer. Additional support and training in the area of mathematics are also provided through the math teacher leader. In science, students gain the background they need through a new science curriculum of interdisciplinary units that include a range of hands-on activities designed to challenge students at all levels. Teachers have received additional training, and a district science teacher leader position has been created in order to support an ambitious elementary science program. Social studies classes complete the core curriculum.

"In science we have fun experiments and in math we have fun math games."

Schaller C. – Grade 4



All Poquonock students have the opportunity to be involved in the educationally challenging and exciting experiences offered by the

Challenge Resource Program, the district's gifted and talented program, which follows the schoolwide enrichment model. In the classroom, the Challenge Resource teacher provides activities that focus on higher-level thinking skills. The program provides additional opportunities for students with particular aptitude or interest in language arts and math. A popular component of the Challenge Resource Program allows interested students to do independent research in an area of interest and then produce a product or service for presentation to an audience.

The school's core curriculum is enhanced by programs in the library media center, visual arts, music (vocal, instrumental and strings) and physical education.



The school's library media center has more than 8,000 volumes and is staffed by a full-time library media specialist. Classroom and library computers are networked and have access to the Internet and e-mail. Additional technological resources include mobile computer labs and Smart Boards.

"What I will remember about this year is my teacher because she taught me to read."

Conor C. – Grade 1

The staff at Poquonock School believes that a knowledge and love of the arts is closely linked to academic success, and students are encouraged to exercise their creativity in many ways. In music, for instance, a large proportion of the school's students participate in the Suzuki Strings Program for children in grades 1-5 and in the school band. Each school year includes at least four student concerts. The school has also welcomed visiting performers such as ensembles from the Hartford Symphony and the Coast Guard band, authors Vicki Cobb and Peter Roop, and numerous touring artists sponsored by our townwide PTO.

A range of support services is available to students who might need them, including a social worker, nurse, psychologist and speech and language clinician. In addition, Poquonock students participate in the school's character development program, which recognizes that success in school and in life depends not only on academic achievement but on individual character as well.