



START WITH A DREAM

Message from the Dean

Preparing the Next Generation of High Impact Educators

Dear Colleagues, Students, and Friends,

As I reflect on my first year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the extraordinary community we have built together at the School of Education at Central Connecticut State University.

Our faculty exemplify excellence in teaching, research, and service, preparing and inspiring our students through rigorous programs, applied classroom learning, and meaningful field experiences.

Our students, in turn, remind us why this work matters. They are choosing more than a major, they are choosing a future of impact as educators, leaders, and agents of change in communities that need them now more than ever. Together, we have created a vibrant, purpose-driven community grounded in the belief that education and educators transform lives.

Looking ahead, I am energized by the opportunities before us. We offer powerful pathways from our undergraduate preparation to master's degrees, through doctoral study which support educators at every stage of their careers and prepare them to lead at every level.

Thank you for all you do to make the School of Education such an inspiring place.

It is an honor to serve as your Dean.

The best is yet to come. With appreciation and optimism,

Dr. John W. Barile
Dean, School of Education



News with Numbers

164 Student Teachers

19 students enter the next Ed.D. Cohort this Summer

First Masters in Elementary Education cohort of **23** students

289 students placed for field experience

27 Local districts attended the 2026 Education Career Fair

82 students were admitted to the Professional Program

Faculty Spotlight

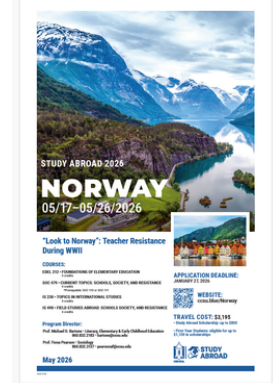
Dr. Michael Bartone

"Look to Norway": Teacher Resistance During WWII

EDEL 212: Foundations of Elementary Education

Knowing the foundations of schooling, of teaching, of learning, of educating, are vital for society if society wishes to maintain as a democratic society for all, one where citizens become active participants to ensure freedom and democracy survive and thrive. While almost all of us have navigated schools, there is so much one may not have known about their schools and the educational system. In our class we focus on how social, political, economic, and diversity of demographics and thought are intertwined in one's experiences in schools. We also analyze, interpret, and critique historical and contemporary educational policies' influence on schooling and educating and on the teaching profession. Last, we distinguish and critique different philosophies of education shaping the nation's elementary schools.

Too often elementary teachers are infantilized, are not taken as seriously as other professionals. Yet, if it were not for teachers society might fail. This point is underscored by the course abroad opportunity for students in EDEL 212. In May 2026, we will go to Norway to learn more about how Norwegian teachers resisted the Nazis. Norwegian teachers were required to Nazify their curriculum and to join the Norwegian Union of Teachers, a Nazi union for teachers. Thousands resisted, were arrested and sent to concentration camps, and signed the Teachers Pledge to Students. Also, teachers wore paperclips to show solidarity against the Nazi puppet Quisling regime. We will visit concentration camps where teachers were sent, and learn how teachers in the U.S.A. can resist calls to go against their beliefs if they do not support the advancement of society for all to thrive and survive and be human. If you see me across campus with my paperclip necklace, now you know!



Dr. Michael Bartone (Literacy, Elementary, & Early Childhood Education) and Dr. Fiona Pearson (Sociology) will be heading to Norway for their courses abroad this Spring. Click the link below to find our more!

<https://www.ccsu.edu/studyAbroad/Norway>

Student Spotlight

Congratulations to the 2026 Central Connecticut State University scholarship recipients recognized by the **Connecticut Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (CALAS)**, an organization dedicated to empowering Latino/a/x students and advancing leadership in education through advocacy, mentorship, and professional development.

2026 CALAS Scholarship Recipients:

- **Coralyn Rodriguez:** High School, Waterbury Career Academy
- **Melany Patino-Ortiz:** College(Secondary Education/Physics)
- **Amya Green:** College (Elementary Education)
- **Lucrecia Zavala Magee:** Public Educator (6th Year, Educational Leadership)
- **Stephanie Vargas** – Doctoral Student (Educational Leadership)



The scholarship awards will be presented during the CALAS Annual Scholarship Gala, on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at The Aqua Turf in Plantsville, CT.

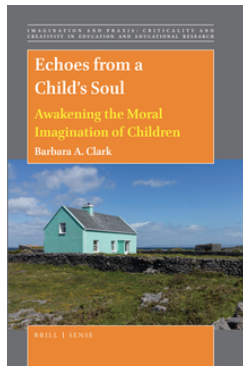
Learn more about CALAS [Scholarship Information](#)

School of Education Authors

Dr. Barbara Clark

Literacy, Elementary & Early Childhood Education

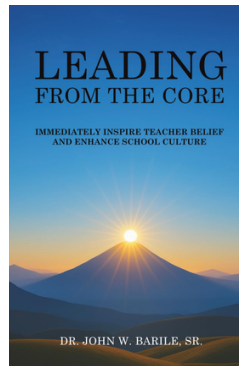
Echoes from a Child's Soul
Awakening the Moral Imagination of Children



Dr. John Barile

School of Education

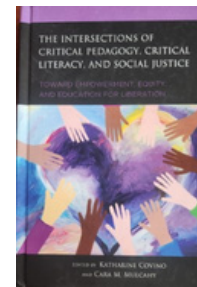
Leading from the Core
Immediately Inspire Teacher Belief and Enhance School Culture



Dr. Cara Mulcahy

Literacy, Elementary & Early Childhood Education

Intersections of Critical Pedagogy, Critical Literacy and Social Justice
Toward Empowerment, Equity, and Education for Liberation

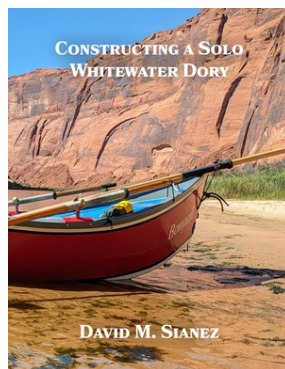


Winner of Edward B. Fry Book Award

Dr. David Sianez

Technology & Engineering Education

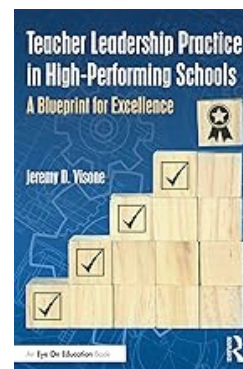
Constructing a Solo Whitewater Dory



Dr. Jeremy Visone

Educational Leadership & Instructional Technology

Teacher Leadership Practice in High-Performing Schools
A Blueprint for Excellence



Around the School of Education

School of Education Graduate Showcase



Dr. David Sianez (Technology & Engineering Education), Dr. Jacob Werblow (Curriculum & Instruction), Dr. James French (Literacy, Elementary, & Early Childhood Education), Dr. Maria Mongillo (Educational Leadership & Instructional Technology) and Dr. Julia Kara-Soteriou (Literacy, Elementary, & Early Childhood Education).

Accepted Students Day and Undergraduate Open House



Dr. Candace Barriteau-Phaire with an Early Childhood student

Dean John Barile & Assistant Dean Daisy Torres-Hill at Undergraduate Open House

School of Education Faculty & Staff at Undergraduate Open House

Professional Program Reception & Orientation



School of Education faculty and staff welcome guest speaker and Central alumni, Mr. Sal Escobales at the Professional Program Reception & Orientation.

"This semester, we showed up curious and courageous, grounded in purpose, inspired by vision, and driven by impact. In our classrooms, our research, and our relationships, we do the work that changes lives. Never forget: you are nation builders, shaping not only what is learned, but who we become."

- Dr. John Barile



Around the School of Education

Education Career Fair

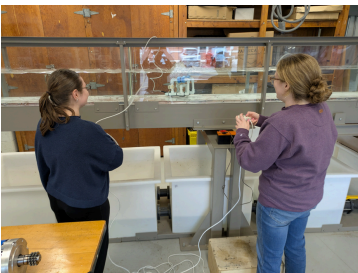


School of Education and Office of Career and Professional Development welcomed graduating education students and alumni to meet and interview with the 27 local school districts in attendance.

Central's SeaPerch ROV Workshop - for Elementary Education Teacher Candidates

Eight senior elementary teacher candidates preparing for their final semester of student teaching volunteered to spend a Saturday in the Central Technology Education Lab learning how to build a SeaPerch underwater robot. SeaPerch is a cutting-edge STEM program that ignites the learner's imagination by integrating authentic and dynamic content and skill development through collaborative project-based learning. Greg Kane gave a series of workshops on tools, safety, and necessary skills such as cutting and drilling PVC pipe, soldering wires to switches and motors, waterproofing motors and electronics, and safety protocols. These skills emphasized real-world interdisciplinary design applications with an emphasis on math and science concepts, and workforce development. Teacher candidates worked beside Tech Ed majors and professors while keeping in mind how these concepts could be transferred and applied to the elementary curriculum. The finished robots were tested in the lab water tanks promoting possibility, engagement, play, problem-solving, and excitement. The elementary teacher candidates plan to share their completed robots during student teaching, Fall 2026, with children, families, and faculty in various Connecticut schools. This remarkable opportunity was offered to our senior teacher candidates by David Sianez and Greg Kane from Technology and Engineering Education.

To view the our SeaPerch ROV workshop see: [ROV Workshop Horizontal Version](#)



Central Giving QR Code
& [LINK](#) to donate.