

Dear Charter Oak Families:

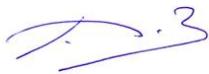
February is typically the month that we open our school to the entire West Hartford community as the magnet application process starts. Just last week we held our first Informational Session that will be followed by a second one on Thursday February 22nd in the school auditorium. On behalf of our staff and community I would like to thank the many families in our district who come to us interested in knowing more about our school, our pre-kindergarten program and our International Baccalaureate nature. As a district magnet school we are committed to provide our families in town with choices!

For us at Charter Oak, magnet open houses are also a great opportunity to reflect about our work and the progress we make towards our goals. Like all elementary schools in West Hartford, Charter Oak offers an outstanding program aimed at providing our students with very important academic and social skills that are critical for their future as lifelong learners and human beings.

But as an IB school we also want to help our children become international minded. By doing this, our students, from a very early stage in their lives, start seeing how the world actually works. Today, thanks to technology and advances in transportation and communication our world is deeply interconnected. Our staff and families work hard in presenting this reality to our children as a background of their learning with the explicit goal of helping create a more peaceful world. We do this by focusing on two global topics to which everybody can relate and take action in one way or another: peace and sustainability.

To help us set goals and advance in this direction, Charter Oak joined the Green Leaf Schools organization through Eastern CT State University. Just a couple of weeks ago our school was awarded with a certificate (and a banner) that shows that we are teaching environmental awareness and advancing the cause. We are the only West Hartford Public School who has been awarded this environmental stewardship certification.

Congratulations to our entire community and thank you for your partnership!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Melián'.

Juan Melián
Principal