

CEN Member Conference Call for Speakers and Sponsors, Suffield Academy Member Spotlight, Tech Update, New Connections and Upcoming Events!



Dear CEN Members,

We have also made the November Newsletter available via PaperLi. Click [here](#) to experience a preview of how our newsletter will be distributed in 2016.



CEN 2016 Member Conference- May 13, 2016

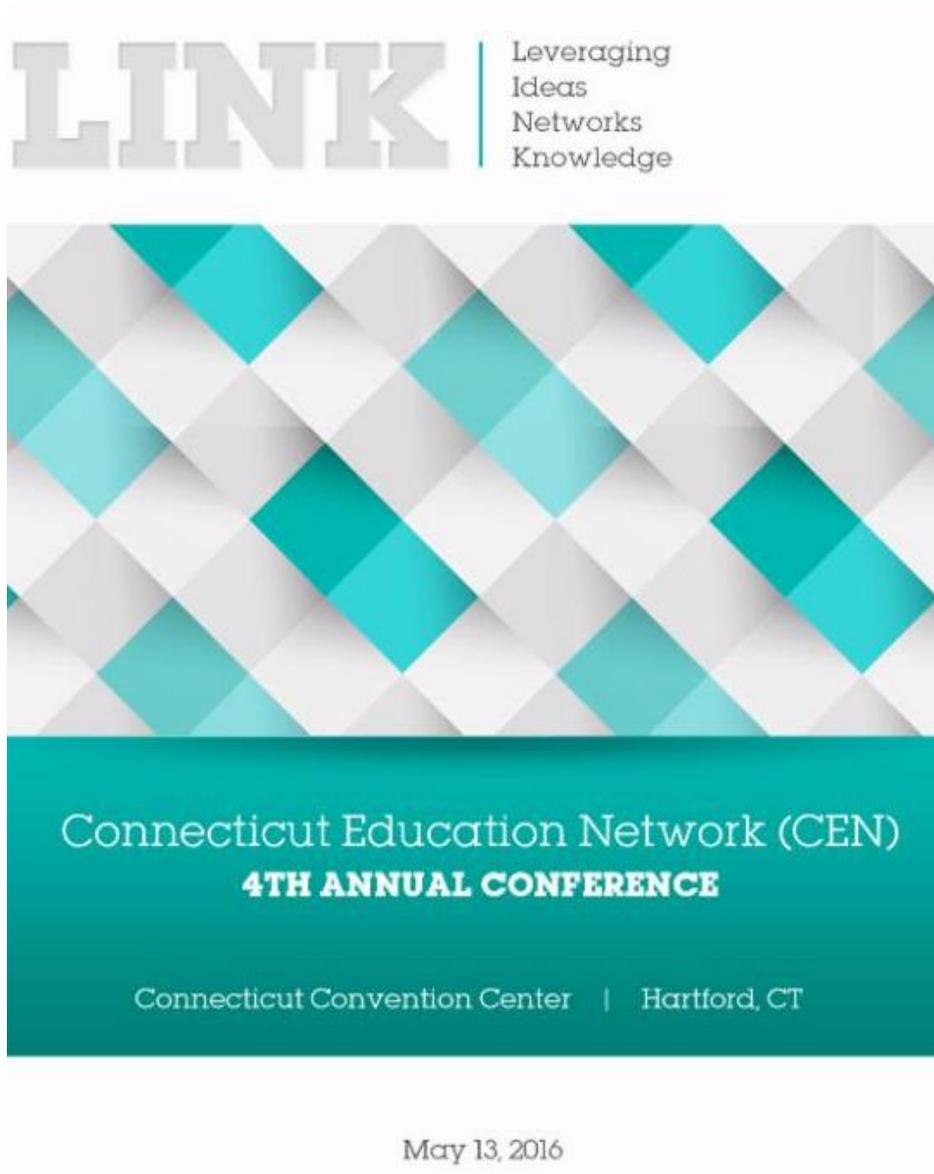
Registration is now open to speakers and sponsors for CEN's 4th Annual Member Conference on May 13, 2016 at the Connecticut Convention Center. This year's theme is Leveraging Ideas, Networks and Knowledge (LINK).

[Speaker](#) proposals are being accepted on a rolling basis until January 15, 2016. Topics of interest include use of security systems, how to incorporate apps and mobile devices into education, virtualization, leveraging social media and gamification.

There are limited [sponsorship](#) slots available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Sponsors are vital to us being able to keep down attendee registration costs. Sponsors receive tabling space in the sponsor display area, their logo to

appear on T-shirt and conference program, CEN social media mentions, the option to add company merchandise to the CEN swag bag and free on-site parking.

Help us create some great links with speakers and sponsors and make our 2016 Conference our best yet by sharing this information with your network. General attendee [registration](#) for the CEN 2016 Conference will open in December. For any questions, please contact Brynn Deprey (brynn.deprey@uconn.edu).



Member Spotlight: Suffield Academy

Back in 2007, [Suffield Academy](#) had a maxed-out cable modem connection shared between our 500 users. We



SUFFIELD
ACADEMY

eagerly joined CEN to get the higher bandwidth our students wanted. Since joining, the cost has declined each year, allowing us to keep our budget under control while feeding a constantly growing demand for bandwidth from our 410 students. Our bandwidth consumption has increased over 1000% since we started, and CEN has always been ready to handle the load.

On the technical side, we have been extremely pleased with CEN's proactive approach. They've added content caching and peering to help deliver internet content more quickly, and have helped us as we pilot a transition to IPv6. Their bandwidth and billing policies have made it possible for us to run special events on campus that use extra bandwidth, such as live streaming events. Most importantly, the staff are friendly, helpful, and always willing to work with us to make our network offerings better.

--Jason Healy, Director of Technology, Suffield Academy

Tech Update

Need more IPv4 Addressing? Want to Transition to IPv6?

A reminder that CEN can help if you need more IPv4 addressing. Note this does not affect your current allocation. As you likely already know, IPv4 addressing formally [ran out](#) on September 24, 2015 and some members may be looking for additional IPv4 addressing. We are able to offer this option for **more IPv4 addressing for use on your CEN connection**: you can rent a full /24 for \$100/month. Contact info@cteducation.net if interested.

CEN can help you to start taking steps to move to IPv6. This [checklist](#) highlights what you need to get IPv6 fully implemented. With the amount of devices that need network connectivity growing every year, the time to get IPv6 going is now! There are not enough IPv4 addressing to support the ever growing list of network-connected devices.

CEN can enable IPv6 for you and has recently done so at the University of New Haven, Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Berlin Public Schools and Library, Education Connection in Litchfield, Killingly Public Schools, RHAM High School, Westport Public Schools, and many other schools have started the transition. If you have any questions about enabling IPv6 on your CEN connection, please contact servicedesk@cteducation.net.

Firewall Pilot

CEN is working on a pilot firewall project with Housatonic Valley Regional High

School. The firewall has been tested, checking download/upload speeds and getting close to 900mbps in each direction; a far improvement from previous onsite firewall. Traffic is expected to be cutover during Thanksgiving break.

Managed Wifi Pilot- Coventry

CEN is involved in a pilot project with the Booth & Dimock Library in Coventry to help upgrade their wireless connectivity (covering 12,000 sq ft). Specifically, CEN is providing a managed enterprise wireless solution that will offer them high capacity and good coverage. This pilot project is intended to show proof of concept to facilitate rollout and upgrade of a managed wireless service for libraries.

At present, Coventry Library's wifi access is provided by a standard Charter home account that is then pushed through the building by basic routers with one upstairs and one downstairs. The floors are separated by concrete and the front brick part of the building has spotty connectivity. The demand for wifi exceeds their current capacity.

CEN visited Coventry library in July 2015 to better understand the library layout, current setup and equipment needs in order to have a managed enterprise wireless solution. The needed devices were ordered and installation is expected for November 2015 .

Juniper Networks Academic Alliance - Open to all CEN Members!

You can bring Juniper technology to your classroom and bring research opportunities to academic researchers. This is a flexibly designed program for high schools, colleges and universities, and comprises of the Include, Certify, Advance, Research and Explore tiers.

This program is at [no cost to you.](#)

- Faculty training and certification is provided at no cost, students have certification course books at no cost, there are tremendous discounts on lab gear and many other benefits. Learn more [here](#) or by watching [this video overview](#) on Juniper Networks Academic Alliance.

Want to know more? Contact brynn.deprey@uconn.edu.

Gaining Operational Efficiencies

If you're reading the CEN newsletter, you already know what a great tool this network is. The network is fast, resilient, scalable, and has cost effective billing. You may not know that the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) and the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT) have partnered up to provide sharing and collaborative service delivery opportunities available to all CEN members.

The advent of everyday use of sophisticated technology in our society demands that Connecticut local governments not only streamline their internal operations, but use IT as a strategic outreach mechanism to involve residents. However, as CRCOG has discovered, there is a need to "level the playing field" between those municipalities with the resources to invest in IT and those who have yet to take the plunge.

CRCOG has been actively working to create a statewide resource of local government services in IT that benefits all sizes and levels of IT sophistication. This comprehensive approach involves setting up an infrastructure for sharing (Nutmeg Network connections and Data Hubs) as well as pursuing cooperative purchasing and service sharing opportunities that provide benefit for any municipality.

In 2014, the Regional Entities Back Office of the legislature's MORE Commission prioritized several "demonstration projects" to showcase the value of the Nutmeg Network and encourage secure, on-network sharing of software and IT services. Those demonstration projects have been funded through legislation for \$1.3 million, carried out by CRCOG in partnership with CCAT.

Most importantly, CRCOG has created a private cloud data center (the Connecticut Municipal Cloud) at CyrusOne, a tier three data center in Norwalk, CT with backup to the CCAT facility in East Hartford. This was established with over \$500,000 of state funding and now houses the first three pilot project offerings from the demonstration projects: VoIP, Streaming Video, and Hosting Services. This virtual home is private, secure, does not touch the Internet and will be built out over time with many more offerings for towns and other Nutmeg Network users to share. These services are available to anyone using the Nutmeg Network as of December 2015. Please contact Jennifer March-Wackers, Municipal Services Manager at CRCOG, if you wish to get more information (jwackers@crcog.org).

In conclusion, there are two remaining demonstration projects that CRCOG and CCAT are working on: Electronic Document Management and a Human Resources Portal. Towns can apply by November 20, 2015. More information and the application documents [here](#).

--Jennifer March-Wackers, Municipal Services Manager, CRCOG

New Connections

Municipalities

- Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology- CCAT to Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative-CMEEC via Norwich Public Utilities
- East Granby

- East Lyme
- Enfield
- Harwinton
- Ledyard
- Seymour
- Waterford

Private Schools

- Saint Bernard

Did you know?

CEN's DNS (Domain Name System) servers can host records for your website. This is part of the advantage of CEN membership. The City of Hartford and Region 10 Schools have recently taken advantage of this.

Upcoming Events

Merit Network, available November 6, 16 or 19, Excel 2013 Part 1, Online, [Register](#)

Merit Network, November 11, 16 and 17, Excel 2013 Part 2, Online, [Register](#)

Merit Network, November 11 and 24, Word 2013 Part 2, Online, [Register](#)

Capitol Region Education Council, December 10, Using the Digital Library to Support Teaching and Learning, CREC Central, [Register](#)

Capitol Region Education Council, December 16, Library Media Specialists Council Meeting, CREC Programs and Divisions - Teaching and Learning, [Register](#)

CEN members receive discounted prices on Merit's Professional Learning and Cyber Security Certification courses [Register](#)

CEN in the News

CEN has a **new brochure** highlighting our service offerings and advantage of membership. Learn more [here](#).

CEN is connecting to the **Massachusetts Internet Exchange**. Info at [Mass IX](#).

CEN is highlighted in the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS) Buyers' Guide. [Check us out!](#)

The Connecticut Education Network (CEN) is helping to establish Internet services for Nimbale Magnet School in Kenya.

We are working collaboratively with Rick Wood, Executive Secretary, Connecticut Educators Computer Association (CECA) who connected us to Peter Stebinger, a WIKS-USA volunteer who went to Kenya in late October to meet with a local Internet service provider and begin the installation process.

CEN's Network Engineer Mike Pennington has offered his support as an expert in networking from CEN's offices in Hartford, CT. Mike and Peter Stebinger, a WIKS-USA volunteer, will remain in touch throughout the trip. This unique collaboration extends CEN's mission, to provide access to technology in schools that could not otherwise afford it, abroad for the first time.

The Nimbale Magnet School has been educating children with support from WIKS-USA, a education non-profit, in Kenya since 2009. The magnet school provides over 270 children with limited access to resources the opportunity to learn alongside their more prosperous peers, immersing them in mainstream Kenyan culture. Establishing Internet access for Nimbale Magnet School's students will be a significant contribution to an area without cell towers or other tech infrastructure.

Connecticut Education Network | 860.622.4560 | info@cteducation.net | www.cen.ct.gov

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