

**Education
addressing
academic and
emotional well-
being needs of
adolescents in
DeWitt, Livingston,
Logan and McLean
Counties**

Central Illinois Bridge Academy
will be located at 2000
Jacobssen Drive in Normal and
will be accessible by public
transportation

roe17.org/programs/bridge-academy



**A SPECIALIZED
SCHOOL OPERATED
BY THE REGIONAL
OFFICE OF
EDUCATION #17**

Why Central Illinois Bridge Academy?

Over the past several years, the Regional Office of Education #17 has been involved in discussions identifying increased needs for adolescents with mental health concerns beyond what their school of origin can provide. Central Illinois Bridge Academy will serve as a new public school option for 7th through 12th grade students referred by their districts.

Central Illinois Bridge Academy not only will be supporting the districts within DeWitt, Livingston, Logan and McLean Counties through its operation, but also meeting the needs of teens with internalizing mental health concerns who may be at risk of hospitalization or homebound.

Central Illinois Bridge Academy will serve as the "bridge" and connection between increased emotional supports and in-person learning.

“The research is clear: emotions determine whether academic content will be processed deeply and remembered. Linking emotion to learning ensures that students find classroom instruction relevant. It’s what supports students in discovering their purpose and passion, it’s what’s driving their persistence. ”

Marc Brackett, author of [Permission to Feel](#), co-creator of the RULER SEL curriculum, and Director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

About us

SMALL CLASS SIZES

Classes are unlikely to exceed 10 students per classroom and school attendance will be capped at 40 students enrolled at any point in time.

INDIVIDUALIZED ACADEMIC AND MENTAL HEALTH PLANS

Each student who attends Central Illinois Bridge Academy enters with their own individual and unique academic and mental health successes, strengths, and challenges. Each student will collaboratively develop a plan for their time at Bridge, as well as establish a plan unique to them for a successful transition back to their school of origin.

SUPPORTS FOR EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Students will have access to an on-site clinician, a case manager specific to them who also aids in their transition back to their school of origin, a sensory calming room as needed, classrooms with natural light, access and prioritization of outdoor time, and staff trained on trauma-responsive practices.

CONNECTION

Over time, opportunities will exist to connect with other students, families, and resources to help all who are a part of the Central Illinois Bridge Academy.

