



Pedro E. Segarra
Mayor

PREPARING HARTFORD STUDENTS TODAY FOR THE JOBS OF TOMORROW IN SCIENCE

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(February 7, 2011)--- With creating jobs and improving educational opportunities as two of his administration's four key goals, Mayor Pedro E. Segarra today awarded six Hartford Public Schools the Sir Isaac Newton Award for Achievements in Science.

"Statistics show that in the next 10 years, there will be more jobs in the area of math, science, research and technology. It is essential that we prepare our youngsters today to compete for these jobs. This point becomes ever more glaring when you consider that urban communities like Hartford will supply 30 percent of the State's future workforce," said Mayor Segarra as he congratulated schools for dramatically increasing their science CMT and CAPT scores and for achieving the highest science test scores in the City.

Those schools are: 1) Achievement First Hartford Middle School, which improved its 5th grade science scores by 21 points; 2) West Middle School, which improved its 8th grade science scores by 30 points; and Hartford Culinary Arts Academy, which improved its 10th grade science scores by 30 points. The three schools that scored the highest overall points in science were Breakthrough Magnet, Classical Magnet, and University High School for Science and Engineering for 5th, 8th, and 10th grades respectively.

Students, staff, and parents all attended the news conference that was once again hosted by the Connecticut Science Center. The CT Science Center President and CEO Matt Fleury, along with Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D., President of Saint Joseph College which has located its newly accredited School of Pharmacy in Downtown Hartford, were on hand to congratulate the youngsters, their teachers, and their parents on these tremendous accomplishments.

"To the students honored today, you are on the road to success and achievement, and this is a fantastic journey. Keep studying, keep learning, and keep challenging yourselves. Learn all you can learn," said Dr. Reid.

"These brilliant students, their families and teachers are a superb example of how the combination of motivation, encouragement and opportunity can allow kids from every background to achieve great things," echoed Mr. Fleury.

Mayor Segarra emphasized the need to bring more research and technology opportunities to Hartford, which is the job center for the State. He repeated his call for the University of Connecticut to continue its investment in the Capital City by moving the medical and dental schools, as well as the schools of social work and public health, to Downtown to further complement the goals of excellence in the fields of math and science.

"By nurturing, incubating, and growing these opportunities, we will not only provide a wonderful education, but further enhance entrepreneurship in related fields. All this builds a stronger sense of community to live, work, and play in this great city and I look forward to our students to continue to inspire us to think creatively about how we continue to make Hartford a safer and more exciting City," said Mayor Segarra.

Sarah Barr
Director of Communications
City of Hartford
(860) 757-9731 (office)
(860) 550-3174 (cell)
www.hartford.gov