



PEDRO E. SEGARRA
MAYOR

**STRATEGIC ENERGY PLANNING HELPS
MARY HOOKER MAGNET SCHOOL ACHIEVE NATION'S HIGHEST GREEN RATING**

NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE

(September 30, 2011) --- Hartford Mayor Pedro E. Segarra congratulates the City's Energy Management Team for helping the Mary M. Hooker Environmental Sciences Magnet School be one of America's most energy efficient and environmentally friendly schools. This week, the U.S. Green Building Council designated the school a Platinum level LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

"This is a rare honor and I want to thank our School Building Committee chaired by John Motley, our Energy Manager Don Blakelock, and the entire Mary Hooker team for their contributions to make Hartford more energy and fiscally responsible. In the past two years, the City and Board of Education have saved of Hartford has saved more than \$350,000 in energy costs," said Mayor Segarra.

Some of the main reasons why the school achieved such high marks include:

1. Sustainable Site – which incorporates elements such as access to public transportation, surrounding population density, reuse of a site and native plantings
2. Water efficiency – designed water use reduction and 'Water efficient landscaping'
3. Energy & Atmosphere – optimized energy performance (projected saving of greater than \$70,000 / year over the baseline design. Enhanced refrigerant management and enhanced building commissioning (to ensure the building works as designed) and 35% renewable energy.
4. Materials & Resources – School was designed and built using the principles of sustainability including recycling building materials, using locally produced products and sustainable wood products.
5. Indoor Air Quality – School was designed and built using low emitting materials and with systems that monitor and control the indoor air quality to promote the health and well being of students, staff and visitors.
6. Innovation in Design - the facility incorporates, as a design element, the school as a teaching tool, site development maximizing open space, construction waste management and green cleaning/housekeeping.

Mary Hooker School is the 11th school in the country to receive a Platinum rating. There are 89 throughout the country but MHESMS is the only public elementary school to achieve this distinction.