



Pedro E. Segarra
Mayor

MAYOR MAKES BOE APPOINTMENT

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(August 19, 2010)--- Mayor Pedro E. Segarra has chosen Sharon Patterson-Stallings to fill the vacant position on the Board of Education. The Mayor made his choice based on a strong commitment to continuing reform policies and progress and the dedication and energy needed to engage parents in policy decisions.

“Sharon is someone who is passionate about education. As a former Board member, she is familiar with the system, has positive work relationships to promote the best possible educational policies, and she continued to demonstrate her commitment to our children’s future even after she was on the Board. Our students deserve the best possible leadership and Sharon’s insight and analysis will help move the reform strategies that are already in place to a new and higher level,” said Mayor Segarra.

According to the City Charter, there are nine members of the Board of Education. Four are elected and five are appointed by the Mayor. The term of this appointment will expire January 1, 2012.

“I am honored to be appointed to this position. My passion is for our school children and I will work tirelessly to serve them and their parents. The Hartford Public School System is on the right path and I will work hard to see that that continues,” said Ms. Patterson-Stallings.

Mayor Segarra went on to say “After much consultation with my cabinet, Board leadership, the Chairman of the Education Committee on City Council, and community leaders, I had to gauge what I wanted and what the community wanted in regards to this important appointment. Appointing someone other than myself, should not be construed as not wanting to be involved. In fact, this appointment will allow me to focus on key components of education including being an advocate for reform on both the community and state level. I need to be realistic that as Mayor, it is essential that I have been part of the educational equation by closely communicating with the Superintendent and the Board in a collaborative relationship, especially regarding funding and legislative considerations.”

“I am committed to supporting Hartford’s continued progress in closing the Achievement Gap. I’ve demonstrated that through my advocacy of education for 35 years and most recently by appointing Dr. Jose Colon-Rivas as my Chief of Staff. He is an outstanding educator, researcher, and resource to me in regards to understanding educational policies and issues,” added Mayor Segarra.