



Great News From Bridgeport Public Schools!

Expect Great Things!

The Keys to Success

ConnCAN Crowns 3 Bridgeport Schools as "Success Story" Schools for 2010



Three of Bridgeport Public Schools—Multicultural Magnet School, Hall School, and High Horizons Magnet School—have been selected as 2010 ConnCAN Success Story schools.

Each year, ConnCAN recognizes schools around the state that are leading the way in raising student achievement and helping close Connecticut's achievement gap. ConnCAN publishes Top 10 lists for elementary, middle, and high schools around the state, choosing schools based on student performance gains, overall school improvement, and African-American, Hispanic, and low-income student achievement on the CMT and CAPT.

To qualify as a "Success Story" school, the school must make it to the top three in one of the Top 10 lists *and* have a combined minority/low-income population of at least 75 percent. This year, Multicultural Magnet School ranked #1 in African American Middle School Achievement. Hall School ranked #1 in Overall Elementary School Improvement. High Horizons Magnet School ranked #3 in Low-Income Elementary School Achievement. Of the more than 1,000 public schools in Connecticut, Bridgeport Public Schools has 3 of only 16 schools in the state to achieve Success Story status this year.

ConnCAN will present each school with a plaque to recognize it for its excellent accomplishments.

Congratulations Multicultural Magnet, Hall, and High Horizons Schools for this great achievement!

Black History Month at Roosevelt School Speaks to Dreams

*Activities for Black History Month Help Roosevelt Students
Remember the Past...and Prepare for the Future*



Roosevelt students stand proudly in front of a quilt crafted by Roosevelt and Lighthouse Program students in a school-wide effort to learn about and celebrate Black History Month.

During February, the students of Roosevelt School devoted time and effort to this year's Black History Month Celebration.

All classes displayed their dreams for the future by hanging their creations throughout the school creating their own vision about this year's theme "Realizing the Dream". Members of the community joined the celebration to take part in a read-aloud to students about Black History in all the classrooms, a Poetry-Slam Assembly, and a Career Day that welcomes community members to discuss their vocations with students. Professionals such as cosmetologists, pharmacists, engineers, entrepreneurs, educators, attorneys, military and corrections officers, spent time with students and offered critical information about their fields of work.



In an interdisciplinary effort with grades 2-8 and the Lighthouse Program, students created a fifty square foot quilt with 220 hand cut designs that most of the school's students took part in cutting and quilting. In the African and American slave traditions of using fabrics to convey messages, students measured, cut, and hand sewed a quilt that depicts many famous artists, writers, poets, and musicians of color. They learned not only about the artisans they chose but also about measuring, geometry, art, sewing, and the long history of quilts that helped many slaves find their way to freedom in the North and Canada before and during the Civil War.



Professionals in the community enlightened students about their vocations during Career day.

Pitching in for a Great Cause

Haiti Relief Efforts Continue in Bridgeport Schools



Madison School gives Red Cross Representative Laura Campbell a check to aid the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

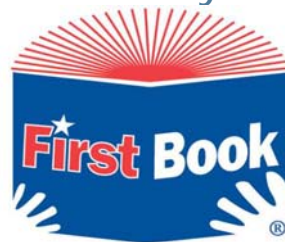
From left to right (adults): Mr. Echeverri (PAC president), Mrs. Davis (parent) Ms. Santore (teacher) Mrs. Campbell (Red Cross representative), Mrs. Camayo (parent). Students from left to right: Anthony, Gianna, Brianna, Jeremiah, and David (all 1st grade).

Efforts to alleviate the devastation caused by the earthquake in Haiti continue to pour in from Bridgeport's public schools.

Last month, the community of Madison School pulled together to help raise money for this cause. In collaboration with the Parent Advisory Council (PAC), fundraisers such as Hat Day and Team Jersey Day helped Madison raise \$850. To assist the families of Haiti, Make the Grade held a "Dress Down Day" where students paid a dollar to dress down; many staff and community members volunteered to match the students dollar for dollar. At Hallen School, students collectively managed to raise \$800 for Haiti, and learned the importance of having compassion for those in need.

Through the generous contributions of students and staff from each school, the fundraising efforts for Haiti turned out to be a great success.

Cesar Batalla Hosts Third Annual Family Literacy Fair



Join children's author Alan Katz for silly song singing and writing at the Third Annual Family Literacy Fair.

Saturday, March 27, 2010
9am-12pm

Cesar Batalla School
606 Howard Ave, Bridgeport

Workshop Presenters: Alan Katz, Jeannette Harris, Yotisse Williams

Free Books, Door Prizes, Light Refreshment

Call (203) 336-4197 for more information.

Sponsored by Fairfield County First Book Local Advisory Board in collaboration with Bridgeport Board of Education. Funding provided by the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County.

Dare to Dream:

CHET Accepting Submissions for the 2010 CHET Dream Big! Competition



The 2010 CHET Dream Big! Competition is a fun, exciting and imaginative statewide competition that runs through April 5, 2010, and is sponsored by the State of Connecticut Treasurer's Office, CHET and TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc. (program manager for CHET). It's a drawing and essay competition for all Connecticut public, private and home schools. Last year's competition was a tremendous success, with over 1,800 student entries received from across the state.

The CHET Dream Big! Competition is designed to promote creativity, and invites Connecticut students in grades Kindergarten (K) through five (5) (or home school equivalent) and their families to start thinking about college—and the importance of saving early for college expenses. Children in grades K-1 and 2-3 are asked to submit an original drawing that answers the question, *"What do I want to do after I go to college?"*. Fourth and fifth-graders will be asked to write an original essay responding to the question, *"How will I change the world after I go to college?"*.

Ninety-six (96) County winners will each receive a \$250 check that could go toward college expenses. Forty-eight (48) Merit winners will receive a check for \$50. Merit winners will be selected from the entries that do not win a county prize, but whose work deserves special recognition. All checks will be presented to the winners' parents or legal guardians during an award ceremony in May. Additionally, the top ten teachers with the greatest number of student entries will receive a \$50 gift card to OfficeMax®. All entries for the CHET Dream Big! Competition must be postmarked by April 5, 2010 and received by April 10, 2010.

For contest rules and more information visit <http://chetedreambig.com>, call 860-305-4605 or email info@chetedreambig.com.

2010 "Silver Lining" Prom Dress Recycle and Expo

A Benefit for Economically Disadvantaged Teens



Every closet has a Silver Lining! Give your gowns a second chance to dance. The annual "Silver Lining" Prom Dress Recycle is seeking donations of up-to-date formal dresses, clean and ready to wear (on hangers please). Jewelry, purses and shoes in like new condition are also wanted to benefit teens with financial need.

Two ongoing collection sites are:

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
661 Old Post Road, Fairfield
Mon-Fri 9:00 am-8:00 pm; Sat & Sun 9:00 am-6:00 pm

Christ Episcopal Church
2000 Main Street, Stratford
Mon-Thr 9:00 am-3:00 pm; Fri & Sun 9:00 am-Noon.

For a receipt, please attach name address and e-mail or provide a SASE. **Donations must be received by Saturday, March 27, 2010.**

The Expo will be held **Friday April 9th, 2:00-5:00 pm; Saturday, April 10th 10:00 am-5:00 pm and Sunday, Apr 11th 1:00-5:00 pm** at St. John's Episcopal Church, corner of Fairfield and Park Av. Bridgeport. Hundreds of new and nearly new formal dresses are available to teens with financial need. Walk ins are welcome. A \$10 donation is requested from those who have the ability to pay.

Sponsored by St. Paul's Episcopal Church Community Outreach.