



221 Main Street, Third Floor
Hartford, CT 06106
www.achievehartford.org

Main: 860-244-3333
Toll Free: 866-440-2333
Fax: 860-525-0436

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Pat Salner

psalner@achievehartford.org

860 244-3333

Teacher Grant Program Awardees Announced

Focus is Literacy in Grades 4 and 5

HARTFORD, CT (January 16, 2010) - *Achieve Hartford!* is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2009-2010 Teacher Grant Program. Twenty-two teachers from 12 elementary schools will receive funding for their innovative, curriculum enhancing projects. A total of \$21,000 will be awarded to these teachers. Aligned with the objectives spelled out in the district's Strategic Operating Plan, the focus of this year's Teacher Grant Program is literacy projects in grades 4-5. As literacy is a critical element in all subject areas, all Hartford Public School instructors who teach in those grades were eligible to apply for a grant.

"I am elated and honored at being a recipient of the Achieve Hartford! 2010 Teacher Grant Program. I can't begin to tell you how much it means to me that I will be able to provide my students and their families with additional materials that are geared toward their individual needs," said Susan Fuchs, a teacher at John C. Clark Elementary School. "This opportunity will promote literacy in the hearts and minds of these children and their families. I look forward to sharing this program with teachers from other schools", Fuchs added.

Achieve Hartford! sponsors the Teacher Grant Program as part of its mission of supporting student achievement as well as effective and sustained school reform in the Hartford Public Schools. The program is designed to recognize the creativity and ingenuity of teachers by providing them with grants up to \$1,000 to implement curriculum-enhancing projects for the benefit of their students. The application asked teachers to describe their project, state goals and objectives, and define measurable outcomes.

"The Teacher Grant Program supports teachers and their ability to be more effective in the classroom", said James Starr, Executive Director of Achieve Hartford! "With many of Hartford's students reading at below grade level, we are pleased to be able to provide opportunities to enhance literacy at the elementary level", he added.

Dr. Beryl Bailey, Director of K-8 Literacy for the Hartford Public Schools noted, "The Teacher Grant Program is an excellent vehicle that showcases the creativity of Hartford's educators. Through a proposal writing process, teachers write engaging teaching units that augment their instructional curricula and facilitate student achievement."

The Teacher Grant recipients and the schools where they teach are:

Kathryn Adams	Global Communications Academy
Sasha Aronson	Sara J. Rawson School
Beth Bashir	Dr. James H. Naylor School
Robin Bornstein	West Middle Elementary School
Ita Brown	Fred D. Wish School
Mary Chambers	Sara J. Rawson School
Bonnie Clark	Batchelder Elementary School
Michael Currier	Dr. James H. Naylor School
Kimberly Daly	John C. Clark Elementary and Middle School
Linda Evans	Sara J. Rawson School
Susan Fuchs	John C. Clark Elementary and Middle School
Denice Garrett	America's Choice at SAND
Kristel Gray	Sara J. Rawson School
Greg Geer	R.J. Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts
Roald Haaland	John C. Clark Elementary and Middle School
Lisa Kozlowski	R.J. Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts
Lani Langlois	Martin L. King School
John Maziarz	Milner Core Knowledge Academy
Vanessa Nunes	Dr. James H. Naylor School
Robin Otis	Noah Webster Micro Society Magnet School
Michelle Vandersloot	John C. Clark Elementary and Middle School
Judi Wimberly	Sara J. Rawson School

Achieve Hartford! is an independent, nonprofit organization of business and community leaders that focuses on student achievement and supporting effective and sustained school reform in the Hartford Public Schools. We believe that a system of high-performing public schools is essential for our children and for the future of Hartford. With a commitment to education excellence, we work in partnership with the business and civic communities and the school district toward a shared vision of improving overall student performance in the Hartford Public Schools.

#####