



ROBERT HENRY, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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HARTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS KICKS OFF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

HARTFORD – Hartford Public Schools Superintendent Robert Henry believes the strength of a school district depends on its ties to community.

In order to ensure those ties remain strong, Henry will formally kick off the district's Public Engagement Initiative on Thursday, January 23, at 5:30 p.m. The event will be held in the Function Room of Hartford City Hall, 550 Main Street.

"This initiative is about bringing the public back into the public schools," Henry said. "We are looking for every Hartford stakeholder to become involved in the education of our children, to see each child as his or her own."

The Public Engagement Initiative, which is a collaborative effort of the Hartford Public Schools, the National Conference for Community and Justice, the National School Public Relations Association and the Study Circles Resource Center, addresses one of the goals set by the district for the 2002-03 school year. That goal seeks to maximize parent and community engagement through outreach to residents, community leaders, corporate and business representatives.

The Public Engagement Initiative will be conducted in coordination with the City of Hartford's Civic Pride Initiative, which aims to promote community involvement in City government.

Hartford Courant Columnist Stan Simpson and John Motley, president of the Travelers Foundation, will emcee Thursday's kickoff. The KinderCollege students at Annie Fisher will also perform.

For more information on Public Engagement, please visit the following web address: http://www.hartfordschools.org/downloads/nspra_engagement.pdf.

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