



ROBERT HENRY, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, February 7, 2003

FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT:
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HARTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS TAKES DISTRICT-WIDE APPROACH TO SCHOOL SAFETY

HARTFORD – The State Legislature required all schools districts to adopt an anti-bullying policy by February 1. The Hartford Public Schools has gone one step further.

The Hartford Board of Education adopted its bullying policy this week, but has also implemented a district-wide approach to enhancing the safety of its schools. **At 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, Superintendent Robert Henry will formally announce the Safe Schools Initiative, a strategy aimed at reducing violence in our schools through the community. The announcement will be made at the Safe Schools kickoff at Martin Luther King School, 25 Ridgefield Street.**

Henry will be joined by Mayor Eddie A. Perez, who will declare Friday Safe Schools Day in the City of Hartford; Hartford Police Chief Bruce Marquis; the Rev. Wayne A. Carter, chairman of the Board of Education; and U.S. Attorney Keith King. The Gifted Ones, a Hartford high school group, will provide a special closing performance.

The initiative, a collaborative effort of the Hartford Public Schools, Hot 93.7 WZMX, the U.S. Attorney's Office, the YMCA of Greater Hartford and other community partners, will provide intervention and prevention-based programs, workshops and service referrals to address those factors which may contribute to conflict in the schools.

For more information on the Safe Schools Initiative, please call Eric Crawford, District Intervention Specialist, at (860) 695-1683.

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