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PRESS RELEASE

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HARTFORD POLICE OFFICERS MAKE MIDDLE SCHOOLS NEW BEAT

Beginning Monday, December 22, 2003, Hartford middle school students will share their school with officers from the Hartford Police Department.

As part of a recent grant to the Hartford Police Department from the U.S. Department of Justice's Community Oriented Policing Services Office, one School Resource Officer will be stationed at Bellizzi Middle School, one at Fox Middle School, and one at Quirk Middle School. Two School Resource Officers will be placed at the Hartford Magnet Middle School.

"We are excited to have this opportunity to partner with the Hartford Police Department," said Sandra Cruz-Serrano, Chief of Administration and Operations for Hartford Public Schools.

"This has been in the works for some time now. The School Resource Officers will be a great addition to our school families, providing a much-needed presence while strengthening relationships with the student population as well as with parents and faculty."

As an extension of its community policing efforts, it is anticipated that the additional officers will help the HPD increase their familiarity and develop a constant flow of communication with the school community.

For more information, contact Sandra Cruz-Serrano at (860) 695-8425.

Hartford Public Schools: Our Students! Our Community! Our Future!