Hartford Public Schools Search Committee Announces Superintendent Selection

HARTFORD, CONN. (MARCH 31, 2017) – The Hartford Board of Education’s Superintendent Search Committee, after careful review of all applications and upon completing the interview process, has recommended Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez for the position of Hartford Public Schools Superintendent.

Hartford Board of Education members are scheduled to vote on the committee’s recommendation in a special meeting to be held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4, at the gymnasium in West Middle School.

“I want to thank the members of the search committee and all the candidates for investing their valuable time in this important process,” said Board Chairman Craig Stallings. “Hartford thanks you, the children of Hartford thank you. The future of our city rests heavily on the development of our public school system, and the superintendent position is a key aspect of that future progress.”

Dr. Torres-Rodriguez has served as Acting Superintendent of Hartford Public Schools since last December 9th. Previously, Torres-Rodriguez was a district Assistant Superintendent in charge of supervising 11 schools.

“Once again, I feel honored and humbled to have the opportunity to serve students and families in Hartford,” said Dr. Torres-Rodriguez. “I have the utmost respect for education, it’s my passion. Education was my way out of poverty as a student of the Hartford Public Schools system. We will work hard to make sure that our schools continue to improve and that our district builds the capacity to meet the needs of all students.”

Dr. Torres-Rodriquez, who is a graduate of Hartford Public Schools, earned her Bachelor in Human Development and Master of Social Work degrees from the University of Connecticut, and received a Doctorate of Educational Leadership from
Central Connecticut State University. Her commitment to education in the Greater Hartford area spans over 20 years.

Dr. Torres-Rodriguez began her work in education in 1995 at the San Juan Tutorial Program, Inc., a non-profit community agency providing year-round academic intervention and enrichment programs to Hartford Public Schools students. During her five-year tenure she served in several leadership roles including assistant director and interim executive director. She taught social and behavioral science at Capital Community College from 2001 through 2007. She has also served as a social worker at Goodwin Technical High School; assistant principal and Freshmen Academy principal at Manchester High School; Principal of Great Path Academy at Manchester Community College; and Principal of CREC Public Safety Academy in Enfield.

At the Connecticut Center for School Change, Dr. Torres-Rodriguez served as LEAD CT Associate Program Coordinator, where she developed and facilitated programming focused on turnaround and transformational leadership for a community of practice of 26 Connecticut principals.

###