



Stamford Public Schools Embarks on Long-Term Strategic Planning Process

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MEDIA CONTACT:

**Sharon Beadle
203-977-4095
sbeadle@stamfordct.gov**

Stamford, Conn.— Stamford Public Schools (SPS) began its long-term visioning and strategic planning process in partnership with Cambridge Education, a management consulting organization specializing in school improvement and education change management. With input and guidance from a broad range of stakeholders, the district will develop a long-range vision and a five-year plan to drive improvement across SPS. District strategic planning is being coordinated with the communitywide, United Way-sponsored, Cradle-to-Career collective impact initiative.

“Stamford Public Schools has a long and distinguished history of educating a wide variety of young people. Our challenge is to build on that solid foundation to achieve the next level of success for all students. Developing a strategic plan that can guide our district in achieving short- and long-term goals is essential for the success of our students, staff and community,” said SPS Superintendent Earl Kim. “Achieving excellence for all is a huge undertaking and will not be accomplished overnight. However, with input from those inside and outside of our schools, and guidance of experts in the field, I am confident we will come away with a roadmap for attainable and sustainable success.”

Cambridge Education conducted a District Quality Review (DQR) to establish a shared understanding of what is working and what needs improvement in the district. The review focuses on six specific areas: promoting positive outcomes for students; support for student learning; leadership and management; engagement of families, the community and other stakeholders; human and fiscal resources; and operational systems. The DQR also provides stakeholders with an understanding of how policies and practices within the district affect schools and classrooms.

Based on the outcome of the DQR, which concludes in early February, the district will develop an aspirational vision and mission. Guided by that vision, mission, and a progression of achievable benchmarks, a tight strategic plan focused on core improvement strategies will be developed.

Following is the expected timeline:

January – February: District Quality Review

February: Creating a vision for Stamford Public Schools

March—April: Strategic planning activities with stakeholders at district and school levels

The district will provide regular updates on the process going forward.

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[Stamford Public Schools](#) (SPS) comprises more than 16,000 students, over 1,500 professionals, and 21 schools, including seven magnet schools and three International Baccalaureate sites. SPS has a total of 13 elementary schools, five middle schools and three high schools. The mission of SPS is to prepare each and every student for higher education and success in the 21st century.

SPS is proud that our district is as rich in diversity as it is in talent. We have students from many cultural backgrounds and geographic locations—as demonstrated by the more than 65 different languages spoken in the homes of our families. SPS offers our students a learning experience rich in cultural diversity and reflective of the global society in which they will work and live.