Press Release

David Medina
Director of External Communications
Tel: (860)695-8862
MEDID001@hartfordschools.org

For Immediate Release

Statement from Superintendent Christina M. Kishimoto

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In light of reporting today on communications between the Board of Education and my attorneys concerning a recent evaluation process conducted by the Board, I wish to clarify that I will not seek a bonus for my performance over the past year.

Though I am deeply concerned about the way the review by the Board was conducted, communicated and shared with the public, I believe that pursuit of a bonus, even if contractually obligated, is an unnecessary distraction at this point from the shared responsibility the Board members and I have to continue the important work that has raised student achievement in Hartford by record levels over the past five years.

The successes we have accomplished this year alone, as a collective community of parents, teachers, principals, support staff, business partners, community partners, and higher education partners include:

- A 5th consecutive year of student performance growth.
- A 3.5% average increase in students at Goal as compared to the 1.5% state average.
- An increase in overall performance at 29 schools.
- An increase of four schools reaching the competitive goal level for a total of 14 – the largest number since the beginning of the reform.
- Significant reading achievement gains in grades 4, 5, 7, and 8.
- An increase in science performance at all three tested grades.
- Significant increase in 8th grade performance in all four tested content areas: math, reading, writing and science.
- A nationally recognized blue ribbon STEM School and Montessori School.

We recognize that we still have a long way to go, in order to ensure academic, career and personal success for all Hartford students. For this reason, I look forward to working closer with the board to deepen and accelerate a shared commitment to school reform and enhanced student achievement toward the goal of college and career readiness.

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