

Business, School and Community Partnerships

Activities 2008-2009

We are sincerely grateful to all our partners who enrich the lives and education of thousands of Bridgeport students in many unique and significant ways.

The following is a list of activities our partners were involved in with their schools during the 2008-2009 school year as well as a few of the activities planned for the 2009-2010 school year. It is not intended to be all-inclusive but to provide an overview of the variety and quality of the programs that are occurring through our Business, School and Community Partnerships initiative.

Aquaculture: *Derecktor Shipyards* continued its partnership through the SHIPS Program. This relationship resulted in the development of an “intern” position for the summer. A Central H.S./Aquaculture student was hired. *Sikorsky* and its “Union Mentoring Intern Program” continued and resulted in three Aquaculture students hired for the 8 week summer intern program. Students showcased a boat they designed and constructed at the 33rd Annual Norwalk Boat Show in September 2008. The boat, named InVazer, was a product of an educational partnership with the *GM/Mercury Corporation*.

Bassick High School: Representatives from *Unilever* continue to sit on the Business and Finance Academy Executive Board and hosted the end of year Honor Roll Breakfast at their Trumbull headquarters. They also provided career speakers and participated in two Career and Job Fairs and in the Job Shadowing Day. *Unilever* was a supporter of the ECHO program in which students learned about positive relationships, self-esteem, integrity and fairness. *Habitat for Humanity* continues to sit on the Government and Human Services Executive Board. *Soundview Communication* hosted visits from students from the Arts and Media Academy throughout the school year and helped coordinate visits to Connecticut and New York Art Museums. Representatives from *Soundview Communication* continue to sit on the Arts & Media Academy Executive Board and participated in the Arts & Media Academy Day.

Central High School: *Mentoring for Academic Achievement and College Success* is a college access program that pairs college students with high school students in Bassick, Harding and Central High Schools. Central reached its peak enrollment with 130 students who were paired with 36 college mentors. By the end of the school year, Central’s program ended with 110 students. Thirty-six out of the 40 Central seniors were accepted into at least one college they had applied to. Central also had its highest enrollment of seniors into the College Assistance Program (CAP) with 17 seniors participating. The College Assistance Program follows MAACS students, who meet the program requirements, through college and rewards them with a \$100 stipend each semester when they submit their schedules and grades to the MAACS staff. *General Electric* sponsored a competition in partnership with *Fairfield University* to prepare students for Advanced Placement exams. Many Central High School students participated in this competition which took place at GE.

Harding High School: *Bridgeport Hospital* and *St. Vincent’s Medical Center* provide Medical Magnet Medical Careers Academy students with authentic learning experiences including internships and job shadowing in careers within the health profession. In addition, students are able to obtain their credentials to become certified nurse assistants, pharmacy technicians and medical assistants. *Housatonic Community College* offers opportunities to students to participate in the Middle College Program which allows students from Bridgeport’s three high schools to accelerate their preparedness for college-level courses. The Housatonic Community College Foundation offered \$400 scholarships to participating students who received “C’s” or better to allow them to attend one free class at HCC for the 2008-2009 academic year. Harding has received support for the *University of Bridgeport* on their School Planning and Management Team as well as for summer student enrichment programs. *RYASAP* and the *Bridgeport Public Education Fund* provided critical support for the series of Community Forums held at Harding throughout the year. RYASAP helped with school beautification projects and implemented a

Student Legal Advisory Clinic. BPEF continues to provide mentoring through their Mentoring for Academic Achievement and College Success program at Harding. The *Ralphola Taylor Center YMCA* coordinates parental involvement activities, after school enrichment and cultural activities. *Sikorsky Aircraft* is Warren Harding High School's Adopt A School Partner. They have also been instrumental in supporting Harding's reform efforts through their partnership on the School Planning and Management Team.

Barnum: *Aquarion Water Company* employees participated in read alouds and donated school supplies to Barnum School's students. Their funding sponsored our first eighth grade "Moving On" ceremony during which *Aquarion* employees presented four students with plaques and a cash donation awards. *Aquarion* is also a major supporter of the *Bridgeport Mentoring Program*, providing both financial support and mentors. *Unilever* employees participated in several read alouds and provided generous donations to our school community. *Iglesia Bautista Emanuel* provided college volunteer tutors throughout the year and held weekly clothing drives for the school community. In addition, they will culminate in a "Community Block Party" during the summer to provide school supplies for our students. *Housatonic Community College* provided volunteers for Read Aloud Day. *The Nehemiah Commission* had weekly volunteers assisting teachers as well as clerical support. The *Performing Arts Center of Connecticut* joined us and created a new Dance program for our students. Thanks to their generous volunteers our students benefited from weekly Dance instruction, performed at the school and in the All-District Program.

This year Barnum School worked to strengthen our official existing partnerships and formed new ones by bringing people together for our **CommPACT** Kickoff. All of our partners together donated time, food, gifts, prizes, and fun activities that made for a wonderful evening of community-building.

Beardsley: Members of the *Unitarian Church* in Westport read aloud to classes, mentored and tutored students. They organized a read aloud in the spring where all classes were read to by Unitarian volunteers. A year round gift tree has been set up for teachers to make requests of items they need in their classrooms. Students participated in individualized keyboard instruction through the KEYS Program. The program was expanded this year to grade 2. Students in grades 4, 5, and 6 continued to receive lessons. The KEYS Music Program has expanded to after school piano practicing, supervised by KEYS volunteers. Violin lessons have been added in grade 3. There were periodic recitals during the year as students progressed from one level to the next. *Fairfield College Preparatory School* students worked with small groups and individual students in the Lighthouse Program after school, tutoring them in reading and math. The young men also participated in their own Read Aloud Day, featuring Dr. Seuss books. Groups of Prep students also visited Beardsley School twice this year as part of their Urban Plunge Program. Students from *The Academy of Our Lady of Mercy Luralton Hall* worked in Beardsley's 2008 summer school program.

Blackham: *General Electric* taught the Junior Achievement program in grades K-5 and read books to classes. *Sacred Heart University* students tutored in math and reading and mentored students on a weekly basis during the school year at Blackham as well as other schools in the district. *Bridgeport Bible Fellowship Church* donated fifty backpacks filled with school supplies for needy families and made a monetary donation to the school. They also arranged for the Channel 8 Weather Mobile to visit the 5th graders.

Black Rock: Black Rock was a partner school for *Greens Farms Academy's* "Community Service Learning" program, which offers opportunities to middle and high school students to tutor, read books and interact with children in grades K through 6. Greens Farms students were bused weekly to the school and were assigned to classes to offer support to children who needed extra help in the areas of reading, math and writing. The program ended with a visit to Greens Farms Academy where Black Rock students were treated to a picnic lunch.

Bridgeport Learning Center: began a partnership with **The Conservative Synagogue** this year. The Synagogue donated thirty gift cards to brighten the holidays for students at the school. They were also able to obtain a donation of a piano to enhance the music program at the school.

Bryant: *Fairfield University and Sacred Heart University* students supported classroom instruction and school activities. Several of the college students provided hands on support to teacher identified students during the school day. Additionally, some of the college students supported teaching and learning derived from special after-school clubs and through our after- school Lighthouse Program. Some of the *Fairfield University* programs include the Mighty Math Club which provides math enrichment for higher performing grade 4 and 5 students and the Book Club which provides opportunities for grade 3 students to discuss books they read and build on their reading comprehension skills and their ability to make text to text connections—two critical areas aligned with our School Education Plan. Our students in conjunction with *Fairfield University* were provided an opportunity to raise funds to benefit St. Jude's. Bryant is not without critical friends—we were able to secure several additional mentors, one of which through one of our read aloud programs this school year, as well as, continue with current mentors in order to support identified children. *Greens Farms Academy* students graced us with their presence and energy—middle school and high school students visited throughout the school year on a rotating schedule to provide classroom and relational support to our students. A special “book bag” weekend feeding program was also provided to over ten (10) identified households each week by *Greens Farms Academy*.

Cesar Batalla: *Southern Connecticut Gas Company* employees participated in Read Aloud Day, as well as read to classes on a regular basis and provided mentors. Their liaison serves on the School Leadership Team.

Classical Studies Academy: During the 2008-2009 school year the relationship with *The Watermark at 3030 Park* was further continued. Students were bused to the Watermark to participate in the following initiatives: salsa dancing, knitting, educational games, drama and chimes. Children also worked with the chef to learn culinary skills and demonstrated their learning by preparing food. The inception of the CSA-Watermark Apprenticeship Program took place in January 2009. This program affords the students the opportunity to work with patients that are rehabilitating in the newly renovated health center. Watermark graciously hosted CSA New Teacher Orientation. On June 22nd the 6th grade students were celebrated with a ceremony and reception in their honor. Socratic Seminars were facilitated by students for the residents of Watermark, and residents attended a variety of shows at Classical Studies. Classical Studies also shared a very rich partnership with *Congregation B’Nai Israel*. B’Nai Israel provided school supply boxes for kindergarten students as well as gift baskets for teachers. Members participated in the Enrichment Program by delivering science, soccer, dance and computer classes for the students. *Fairfield University’s Academic Talent Search Program* has been actively involved with the 6th grade students. Fairfield University, Congregation B’Nai Israel and CSA partnered to plan and implement CSA’s 1st Annual Career Day at Congregation B’Nai Israel. Students were given the opportunity to interact with doctors of various fields of medicine, an attorney, a journalist and other occupations. Desiree Fontaine, Traffic Reporter for Channel News 8 was the highlight of Career Day. CSA also partnered with the *CT Post*. A representative was an active participant on the Positive Behavior Support Team.

Columbus: *General Electric* sponsored the “50 Million Word Challenge,” an incentive program to promote literacy and independent reading, and provided tickets for all K through 2nd grade classes to attend the performance of “The Little Mermaid” at the Downtown Cabaret Theater. GE employees donated hundreds of stuffed animals used in the schools to reward students for showing significant behavior changes or accomplishing exceptional work. *Housatonic Community College* students participated in the *Junior Achievement in a Day* program. The *Bridgeport Bluefish* participated in many school functions and provided discounted tickets for baseball games and hosted/sponsored our first Mathematics Meet. *The Fairfield Rotary Club* provided Weekly Reader subscriptions to all 3rd and 4th

graders and donated computers to students to keep in their homes. **Attorney Derby Anderson** sponsored the Student of the Month breakfasts. This year, Columbus, through the generosity of the **University of Bridgeport**, has at its disposal UB's wonderful campus facilities. They include the Arnold Bernhard Arts and Humanities Center, the Charles A. Dana Hall of Science, the Harvey Hubbell Gymnasium, the Wheeler Recreation Center and more. Through the collaboration of the two school's, programs such as Chinese Language classes, a competitive math team, drama club, future teacher club, tennis team, gymnastics, robotics, science lessons, tutoring/mentoring and more have come to fruition. **The University of Bridgeport** also offered a free lunch, in their Cafeteria, each Friday to a Columbus' classroom.

Cross: Casey Family Services continued to be a big supporter of Cross. They provided a *Community Bases Abstinence Education Program*, "use your mind... not your body." This program provided a forum to speak with 8th grade students with the goals of (1) reducing the number of adolescents engaging in premarital sexual activities, (2) reducing the out-of-wedlock pregnancies among adolescents and (3) reducing the incidence of sexually-transmitted diseases among adolescents. Casey Family Services also worked in collaboration with the GEAR UP Project to promote readiness for college. A Gear-Up Facilitator was provided and worked with the 7th grade students to provide opportunities for students to engage in hands-on activities utilizing mathematics and reading skills for future preparation. **Helicopter Support, Inc.** provided school supplies for students and teachers. They also provided a means for distributing birthday gifts from the Principal's Birthday Basket. The HSI employees read aloud to classes through-out the year and worked collaboratively with Junior Achievement to provide classroom lessons dealing with finance and the community. This year, the president, Sam Samir attended the end of year celebration to recognize the success of the Jr. Achievement Program. Sixteen staff members participated in providing lessons through Jr. Achievement. HSI provided families with Holiday Baskets for the Thanksgiving and the Christmas season. They also provided a monetary contribution to the school which was presented at the company's annual Christmas celebration. Helicopter Support will continue to work collaboratively with the school to assist in the quest to improve student and learning. The **American Association of University of Women** continued their support at Cross. Volunteers provided tutoring services for students and read to classes. They donated many items for students from books to scarves to hats and funds to support Cross' African American Drum Circle when they travel to perform. The AAUW provided bi-monthly enrichment class instruction to students in grades 4 through 6 to increase thinking skills for students. **Océ N.A. Corporate Printing Division** employees continued to mentor students from Cross. These weekly sessions are used to assist students with academics and provide an opportunity for a positive relationship to help support teachers with student motivation. The **Rotary Club of Bridgeport** continues to support Wilbur L. Cross School. Members participate in Read Alouds and assist in extra-curricular activities to support teachers and students. This year, many members helped in the organization of the annual June Jamboree Community Day. Students were also given computers donated by the **Ganim Group**. Rotary has also provided readers and mentors for students, distributed dictionaries to all 3rd grade students and purchased Weekly Reader magazines for 802 students throughout the district. In addition, they awarded Teacher of the Year certificates and \$1,500 scholarships to teachers and students respectively at each of the Bridgeport high schools.

Curiale: The **Connecticut Post** provided newspapers daily to the Curiale students, as well as students throughout the district, so that the students may be kept abreast of current events. Teachers used the newspapers as reading tools to improve students' literacy skills. The **Bridgeport Sound Tigers** provided tickets to several classes for a hockey game in November. Millward Brown employees participated in Read Aloud Day and in ongoing reading enrichment. **St. Mark's Church** in Stratford provided donations to needy students and families during the holiday season. **Christian Heritage School** collected and purchased book bags filled with school supplies for Curiale students at the beginning of the school year.

Dunbar: Dunbar has greatly benefited from support provided by the **Royal Bank of Scotland** whose employees conduct annual campaigns, which include the Gear for Grades supply drive as well as book collections. Students, staff, and families are excited each year to receive new school supplies, often

accompanied by sturdy canvas book bags. The book drive also was a great support in that families and teachers were able to create and/or enhance their growing libraries. *Horizons at Greens Farms Academy* continued to bring their “green thumb” to the school through beautification projects. In addition to the hard work in the garden, they have planted love for reading in our children through their participation in their special read alouds. *Family ReEntry, Inc.* provided mentors to our male students in grades 2-8. They tutored students and discussed positive ways to interact with teachers and other students.

Edison: *Trumbull Rotary Club* provided subscriptions to Weekly Reader for students in grades 1 through 6. Many members have become on-going readers and provided volunteer music enrichment as well as donated items for a holiday ornament “wish list” tree. *Temple Israel* provided volunteers who tutored and/or assisted students on a regular basis throughout the year to strengthen literacy and reading skills. They provided a volunteer who assisted the art teacher with classroom lessons in grades 1, 3, and 4. *Temple Israel* also donated two picnic tables and benches so students could have a quiet area on the playground. *Vazzy’s Restaurant* donated 15 turkeys to Edison school families during the holiday season. Jon Sonneborn of *Really Good Stuff* had taken an interest in Edison School after acting as “Principal for a Day”. He expressed how much he really enjoyed his opportunity to be a principal and was impressed with school-wide vocabulary building strategies and over all student enthusiasm for learning. *Really Good Stuff* provided Edison students in grades K through 3, with school supplies and incentives for the “100th Day of School” celebration. Additionally, they donated enrichment materials which were distributed to schools throughout the system.

Hall: The *Bridgeport Sunrise Rotary Club*, provided materials and judges for Hall’s Science Fair, and is implementing a science program for the third graders by the Discovery Museum, raised money for our field day, read to the students and were judges for the Hall School Idol Night. *Bridgeport Hospital* came to the school to donate supplies to every student in the building. Our five special friends from *Sikorsky* of Stratford gave their annual school supplies to the students. *Friends of the Fallen Heroes from Sikorsky Aircraft* in Bridgeport partnered with Hall, and they gave a Christmas party for the entire school. They played an instrumental part in our Memorial Day program, as well as replanted the flower garden around our flag pole where a plaque of the “Fallen Heroes of Connecticut” was donated. Our friends also had speakers from Beardsley Park Zoo to talk with students about saving the earth. Mike Mastroni was also responsible for two Gold Star Mothers to become readers for the school year 2009-2010. Mike Mastroni and the Fallen Heroes Committee will be donating a check to help parents in need to purchase uniforms. Not forgotten are the Black male readers from the *Sikorsky* Corporate office, who were assigned to classes to read to the students for our Black History Read Aloud and shared their corporate experiences with the students.

Hallen: The *Greater Bridgeport Bar Association* members mentored and tutored students, read books aloud to classes and, on several occasions, came to Hallen to discuss Constitutional Law with grade 6 students in conjunction with a social studies unit. They also purchased Weekly Reader magazines for students. Students who were winners of the GBBA Law Day Essay Contest and their families attended an inter-faith service at the Golden Hill United Methodist Church in Bridgeport. Richard Cerrato, Past President of the Bridgeport Bar Association was Principal for A Day at Hallen School. An accounting of his visit was featured in the “News Brief,” printed by the GBBA. The Principal was an invited guest at the Annual Membership Dinner and was honored to be invited to share the special evening with the members of GBBA. We continue to be especially grateful for our partnership with the GBBA and their support of the children at Hallen School.

High Horizons: *People’s United Bank* has continued to support the Language Arts program in various ways. This year they supported the No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Celebration, which is a Federal Department of Education recognition for outstanding academic achievement. They supplied buses for class trips, provided field day awards, gave Savings Bonds to graduating 8th graders and allowed employees to present Junior Achievement programs to every class.

Hooker: The *Junior League of Eastern Fairfield County* was Thomas Hooker School's partner for the 2008-2009 school year. The volunteers read to our kids on a monthly basis, sponsored ice cream events for star students and helped with the painting of the first floor corridors. They also helped to clean up our courtyard for the spring. Junior League of Eastern Fairfield County also sponsored, *Kids in the Kitchen*, with a chef who worked with students in the Lighthouse program.

Geraldine W. Johnson: As a new school, we are proud to say that *United Way of Coastal Fairfield County* has decided to follow us from Webster School to Geraldine W. Johnson School and name us as one of their three Schools of Hope. As a School of Hope we received support by means of monetary funds to create and develop an after school tutoring program for second and third grade students and a daytime tutoring program for pre-kindergarten and second grade students supported by the *School Volunteer Association*. Additionally, we receive funds to provide Johnson families with three Literacy workshops, students with many free books, grandparent volunteers in kindergarten through grade three classes and professional development for our staff. Our shared goal is to close the reading achievement gap by the end of third grade. This year, *Attorney Derby Anderson* sponsored a field trip for all pre-kindergarten through grade three students to participate in a field trip to the Beardsley Zoo all expenses paid. *Sacred Heart* tutors have provided in-class instructional support to individuals and small groups of students and have assisted with the Lighthouse Program learning activities. Mrs. Geraldine Johnson, our school's namesake, has arranged for a volunteer program to begin at Johnson School titled, *Links to Success: Children Achieving Excellence*. This program provides each first grade teacher with an instructional kit for supporting multi-cultural reading with books and prizes to award first grade students for reading at least ten books during a four month period. *Mr. Diaz and Mr. Perez* are two volunteers who donate their time and expertise to our students in grades two through eight on a weekly basis to teach Latin Percussion music. In addition, we have the *KEYS* music program at Johnson School, whereby adults volunteer their time to teach piano skills to our middle school students. The *Daughters of Charity* have provided our students with holiday treats and gifts during Christmas and Easter time. During the fall months, *Junior Achievement* volunteers successfully presented lessons in all grades, pre-kindergarten through grade eight, on a variety of subjects that include capitalism, economics and community members. *Project Strong* volunteers have trained our fifth grade female students in ways to develop confidence and leadership skills. They have consistently met over the course of the school year after school and have been received well by our students and their families. *The Trumbull Community Women's Group* donated "Wish List" items to teachers to use in their classrooms such as crayons, glue and scissors.

Longfellow: Longfellow School continued its very strong relationship with *Wheelabrator Bridgeport, L.P.* They sponsored the Jettie Tisdale Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and provided funds to pay tuition for several needy children to attend the school's after-school program. Longfellow has become a *CommPACT School*. Being a CommPACT School allows Longfellow to receive assistance from the University of Connecticut's Neag School of Education. In order to be accepted into this education consortium the school had to recruit sponsors from the business community. Wheelabrator became the first business to grant a letter supporting Longfellow to be accepted. *People's United Bank* on Fairfield Avenue is another business partner. Longfellow had its annual CommPACT kickoff on March 25, 2009. Many business leaders, including the Mayor of the City and the Superintendent of Schools came to the affair. A conservative estimation of the visitors revealed that more than six hundred people came to the kickoff. We are very proud of our association with all of our businesses and business leaders. *Urban Impact* is a new sponsor of Longfellow School. Urban Impact supplies mentoring and tutoring services for Longfellow students. *Black Rock Congregational Church* along with *Urban Impact* has brought this program and others such as Prime Time and Kid Power to Longfellow school. The programs serve approximately forty to fifty Longfellow students and meets Monday and Wednesday nights. They have also brought many tutors to the school to help students with their academics.

Madison: Madison School is in its' eighth year of a partnership with the *First Church Congregational* in Fairfield. Through this collaboration, volunteers supported Madison as tutors, readers and classroom volunteers. Madison is currently in its fourteenth year of an alliance with *Horizons at Green Farms Academy* in which thirty students attend the four week summer enrichment program as well as Saturday Academy throughout the school year. In April, 2009, Madison entered into a new partnership with *Sikorsky Aerospace Maintenance* of Trumbull, CT. This new collaboration was celebrated on Earth Day as approximately 20-25 volunteers joined with Madison students in a grounds clean-up and in planting shrubs and flowers. Madison School is looking forward to sharing many exciting activities for the coming 2009-2010 school year.

Marin: *Health Net of the Northeast* has committed to provide a significant number of Mentors for the students at Luis Munoz Marin School. They arranged program activities that included a Mentor-Mentee soccer game, a holiday craft activity as well as an end of the year event at the Discovery Museum. In addition, they invited us to bring 40 students to the Trumbull Marriott for their Holiday Celebration of Children. The 5th and 6th grade Chorus went to Health Net to perform a Christmas concert wearing robes that were purchased by Health Net. *Health Net* also continued to underwrite the Student of the Month Ice Cream Social. *Sacred Heart University* again provided us with classroom volunteers/tutors for the entire school year and invited our school to participate in their Mi Amigo/Mi Amiga Program which provides mentors/tutoring to our students. Sacred Heart also provided readers for the district wide Read Aloud and returned to do a special Read Aloud on Halloween for our 7th and 8th grade students.

MCM: Once again a *TD Bank* employee was a member of our School Leadership Team this year. We accomplished many important activities this year that benefited our students and our school. TD Bank sent employees to our Read Aloud Day and a few of them continued to come to school to read. They participated in our annual Career Day. They gave students an insight into economics, banking, and finances in general. They supported our reading initiatives by giving them incentives to read more books. If they read a certain amount of books during the summer they would receive a \$10 voucher to go towards opening a bank account at TD Bank. They also came to our school to demonstrate the WOW program which offers students many opportunities to learn about money and how to manage it. There are many classroom lessons teachers can use to teach math, reading, and other subjects. The most wonderful partnership activity we shared with TD Bank was a \$5,000.00 check they donated to our school for our school library to promote literacy. We were astonished to be the recipient of such a wonderful donation. Our students wrote thank you letters to our sponsors as did the adults. Our other business partnership was *GEXPRO*. They were also very generous with their time and monetary resources. They came to read to our students on a regular basis. GEXPRO employees volunteered to come to our field day as judges and extra support. They also donated ribbons for this event. They also sponsored our bi-annual pen pal visit. This year our pen pals visited our school. GEXPRO donated pizza, soda, cookies, plates, etc for all of our 1-5 grade and their 1-5 grade students. They donated over \$1,000 to us to support our inter-district cultural activity.

PCM: *JPMorgan Chase* employees organized volunteers to participate in monthly read alouds for grades kindergarten through 5 at PCM. They provided funding to purchase books through a grant from the JPMorgan Chase Foundation and donated all books to the classroom libraries. *The Discovery Museum* worked with PCM on the following: reduced admission to the museum, Family Science Night at the Museum in December at which time they opened their facility to students and parents to participate in hands-on exhibits and presentations by museum personnel, judges for the Science Fair, in-school field trips for all grades and support to Kindergarten teachers through an inter-district grant for students. *Ginger Katz, Courage to Speak Foundation*, offered our sixth grade students an after school presentation of her book to the parents and students and information on an important topic, drug awareness. She has also come to each of our sixth grade classes to answer questions and speak about the effect that drugs had on her family. The *Mom's Club of Fairfield* provided Moms to read to four

classes. **Pitney Bowes** provided a grant opportunity of a math enrichment program entitled “*Soaring to New Heights*” after school for thirty-two 4th through 6th grade students who scored at goal on the CMT’s. This program was expanded to other schools in the district. **Pitney Bowes** will continue this program again at Park City Magnet next year. **Pitney Bowes** also provided read-alouds to many classrooms. **Wheelabrator Bridgeport, L.P.** sponsored a year long focus on an environmental issue; ten 7th and 8th grade studies focused on the Long Island Sound and protecting its ecosystem. They presented their research and next steps in Fort Lauderdale, FL at a National Symposium. **Wheelabrator** will again sponsor our students as we work on a recycling campaign during the 2009-2010 school year.

Read: UnitedHealthcare of Trumbull has been a vital part of our school family, providing mentors, supplies, readers and brute strength if necessary to afford students the opportunities for success. On May 2nd members of the UnitedHealthcare community, staff, students, parents and outside organizations provided by UnitedHealthcare came together for a Day of Caring. As a result we have an urban garden and a landscaped school as a source of pride for all. Our plans for the 2009-2010 school year continue with UnitedHealthcare employees providing readers for Read Aloud Day. **St. Vincent’s College** continued their involvement with our school by providing a monetary award for the most improved grade 8 student. They continued their practice of sending employees to represent various departments for Career Day. Grade 8 students were treated to tours of St. Vincent’s Medical Center to view the actual day to day of health related employment. This summer the college is holding a two week CSI course for prospective high school students to get a glimpse of how a laboratory works. We are proud to say that 10 of our students will be attending the program.

Roosevelt: Sikorsky Aircraft employees were involved in reading aloud to classes and mentoring students. The **University of Bridgeport** work study students tutored Roosevelt students during and after school throughout the year.

Skane: The **American Red Cross** and **GE** employees volunteered to read to the students on a weekly basis. **Croce’s Transmissions** and **Costco** donated backpacks for each Kindergarten student at Skane School. **Sacred Heart University** and **Housatonic Community College** provided tutorial sessions to students during the school day. Students from **Sacred Heart University** invited Skane students to a show at Sacred Heart University. **Monroe Girl Scouts** collected and donated beach toys and beach apparel to Skane families. The **Stratford Girl Scouts** held a book drive and donated over 2,000 books to add to Skane’s library. **Stop and Shop** donated food items for Skane School’s Family Fun Nights.

Jettie S. Tisdale: Sikorsky Overhaul and Repair departments in Bridgeport and Stratford joined the learning community at Jettie S. Tisdale School in August 2008. This partnership developed at Maplewood School Annex; however, due to reorganization of the elementary public schools MSA closed its doors in July 2008. The **Sikorsky Legal Department** staff joined the O & R Department in partnership with Tisdale School during this past school year. Employees from all the departments provided readers for the monthly Read Aloud in the classrooms and the school wide distribution of **Reading Is Fundamental** book “Give-away”. The employees donated personal funds to host their Holiday party for the children. At the party, the lower elementary students were given school T shirts, hats, gloves, scarves. The school received extra outerwear for any students in need during the cold winter months. **People’s Security** supplied the kindergarten-third students with school supplies, such as, notebooks, crayons, pencils, rulers and a “special treat”. The teachers were also given hand sanitizing lotions and facial tissues for the classroom. As new students arrived at Jettie S. Tisdale School, they were greeted with the “extra” school supply bags.

Waltersville: Sikorsky employees volunteered as readers for special monthly read alouds and as mentors. They also volunteered in the Junior Achievement program. Through their own generosity they provided holiday gifts for every child in the school. In addition, Sikorsky published the school newspaper for us. Priority Grant funds in conjunction with supplementary funding from **MACH** paid for violin

instruction for over 90 children, cello instruction for 10 students and ballet for 120 children. MACH also supported 2 hours per week of after school instruction on African drums. The **Westport Academy of Dance** maintained a consulting status and provided tickets to their production of the Nutcracker for children from Waltersville School. Two students also received ballet scholarships from the academy. **Congregation Rodeph Sholom** provided two volunteers who tutored in Math and Language Arts during the school day and after school. Two members donated knit caps and mittens they had made by hand. Children and families from **T. Dwight School** in Fairfield donated more than 32 complete baskets of useful items for Waltersville families during the holidays and more than 65 gift cards for groceries and household items. Two additional students from **Fairfield** donated 50 sets of ballet shoes, leotards and tights to our children as part of their community service project. **Staples High School** continued to send more than 30 students during the school day on Mondays and Tuesdays to work with individual children in a tutorial capacity. A cellist from **Fairfield Warde High School** conducted a benefit concert to raise money for our music program. She donated \$2000 to our Cultural Arts Fund. Another student from Fairfield High School donated many hours of viola tutoring and math tutoring. **SVA's Book Buddies** completed another successful year helping children at Waltersville School with reading.

Winthrop: Sacred Heart University and General Electric Scholars Program provided funding and student support to build one bike per grade for grades 3 through 8 once again this school year. This was done on a Saturday with parental involvement. Students with outstanding and most improved academics were chosen to be recipients. **Sacred Heart University** continued to provide the scientific hands-on activities for grade 3 students at their campus. SHU students offered many hours as classroom aids as well as mentors, tutors and readers to classes at Winthrop. Faculty members volunteered as ongoing readers. The after school Academic Mentoring Program for 6th graders and SHU mentors was continued with enrichment activities and field trips. SHU also continued to invite John Winthrop School students to sporting events, plays and to hear guest speakers. The partnership with Sacred Heart continued to be an enriching opportunity for Winthrop School. **General Electric** sponsored staff to work with 4th and 5th grade teachers on science. They brought staff from the Maritime Center to teach Winthrop students and staff concepts from the Connecticut State Science curricula. Students as well as staff actually worked as scientists. This work extended to the sea shores as well as the lab school.