

Capitol Workforce Partners

Report on the Progress and Challenges of Hartford's Education Reform

April 22nd, 2010

HARTFORD Public Schools



CHOOSE. ACHIEVE. SUCCEED.

Vision

From a bureaucratic, dysfunctional, low performing school system to...

...a system of high performing, distinctive schools of choice. The attainment of Hartford students in reading, math, science and college readiness will be reflective of the high educational outcomes of the State of Connecticut.

- In the second wealthiest state in the U.S.*
- The second poorest city per capita in the country*
- With the greatest achievement gap of all 50 states**

* *2000 Census*

** *National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)*

Two Pillars of Reform

Hartford's Education Reform



Managed Performance
Empowerment
Theory of Action

An “All Choice”
System of Schools

Managed Performance

Empowerment Theory of Action

- The District defines its relationship with each school on the basis of the school's performance.
- High-performing and/or significantly improving schools are given considerable autonomy and freedom from bureaucratic operating constraints.
- Schools in the relative mid-range of achievement and improvement are provided with “defined autonomy” for programs and operations to build their capacity for improvement.
- Chronically low-performing schools that fail to improve are subject to District intervention, redesign, closure or replacement with higher-performing school models.

An “All Choice” System of Schools

- More good schools for parents to choose from.
- A combination of inter and intra-district choices.
- Simple, transparent preferences.
 - 1st preference within neighborhood
 - 2nd preference within zone
 - 3rd preference within City

Hartford's System of Schools

Culture Change

From a culture of low expectations



to a culture of high standards

From an advocacy culture



to an empowerment culture

From an entitlement culture



to a performance culture

2008 - 09 Progress

Student Achievement Highlights

- Student achievement significantly increased for the second year in a row.
- Lowest performing schools improved significantly.
- Eight of nine achievement gap-closing performance targets were met.
- Every grade level went up in reading for the first time.
- The cohort graduation rate rose from 37% to 42%.
- Dwight Elementary became the first non-magnet school to advance to “Goal Range,” Connecticut’s highest achievement category. Dwight also has the highest 3rd grade reading scores in the district.

Highlights - continued

- The University High School of Science and Engineering partnership with the University of Hartford became the highest performing high school in the City.
- Kinsella Magnet School of Performing Arts scored double-digit gains for the second year in a row.
- Parkville Elementary, with one of the largest number of English Language Learners, placed second in 3rd grade reading and first in 5th grade writing.
- A total of 28 schools made significant improvements. Thirteen of them raised their overall school achievement index by more than 3 percent.
- Greatest CMT gains of any Connecticut City for second consecutive year.

2008-2009 DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

TARGETS & RESULTS

MEASURE	2007-2008 ACTUAL	2008-2009 TARGET	2008-2009 ACTUAL	CHANGE	MET TARGET
3 RD GRADE READING	33.5%	37.3%	37.7%	4.2%	✓
4 TH GRADE MATHEMATICS	50.0%	50.0% +	53.9%	3.9%	✓
5 TH GRADE WRITING	58.8%	64.8%	65.9%	7.1%	✓
7 TH GRADE MATHEMATICS	52.6%	52.6% +	60.1%	7.5%	✓
8 TH GRADE SCIENCE	32.3%	35.3%	38.3%	6.0%	✓
10 TH GRADE CAPT READING WRITING	52.2% 65.9%	57.8% 65.9% +	52.6% 61.8%	0.4% -4.1%	
SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED SCHOOLS (NET)	11 SCHOOLS	+ 2 SCHOOLS	7 SCHOOLS	+ 4 SCHOOLS	✓
GRADUATE COHORT 4 / 5 YEAR	36% 43%	37% 43%+	42% 43%	5% 0%	✓ ✓
CLIMATE/SATISFACTION SURVEY RESPONSE RATE SATISFACTION RATE	18% 65%	22% 69%	26% 79%	8% 14%	✓ ✓

+ ' indicates that the Actual value exceeded the Target value.

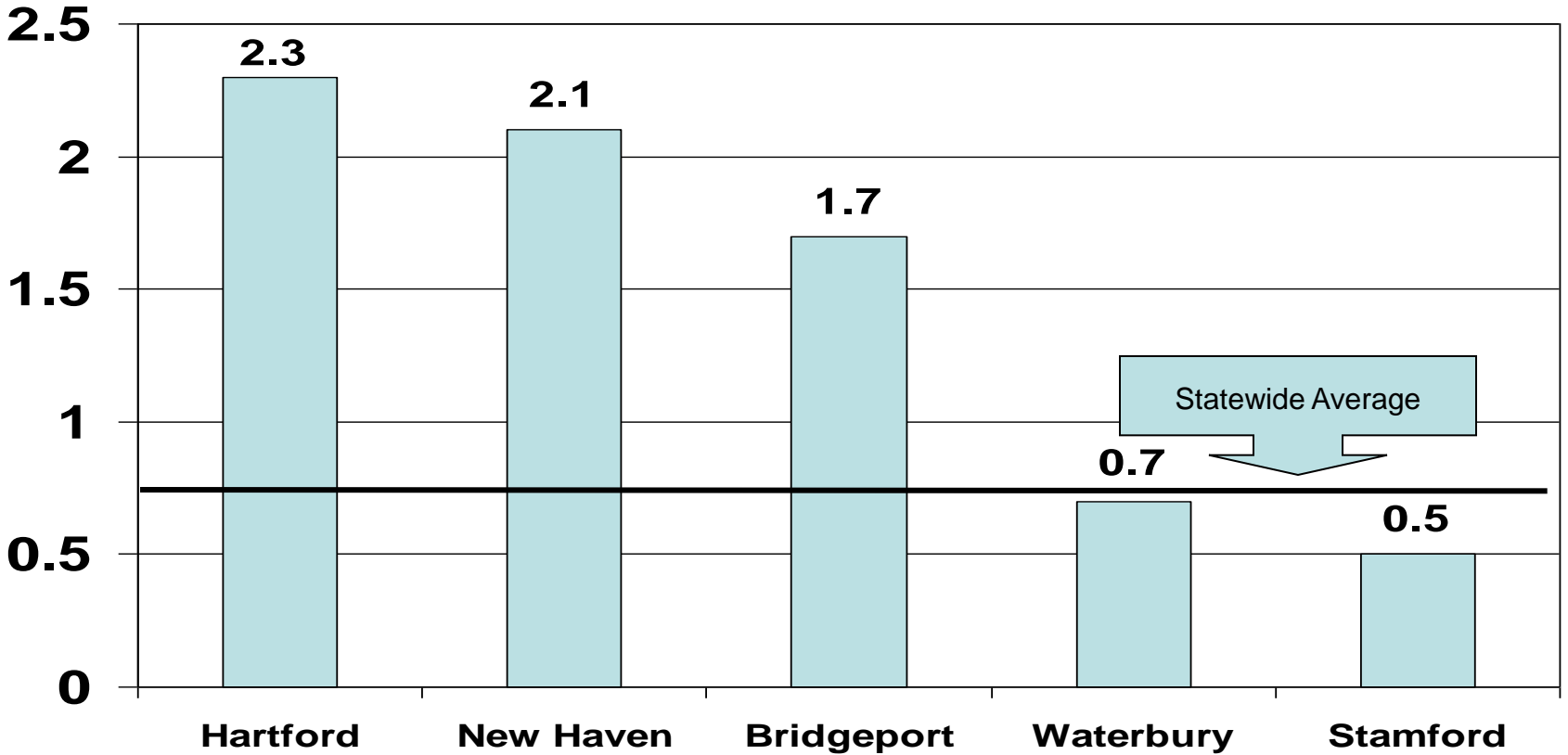
Other Important Accomplishments

- Four new schools opened in August 2009, including two major partnership schools:
 - High School, Inc. (Insurance and Finance)
 - OPPortunity High School
 - America's Choice at SAND
 - Journalism and Media Academy at Weaver
- Three schools listed in the U.S. News and World Report's "Best High Schools in America:"
 - Classical Magnet School
 - Sport and Medical Sciences Academy
 - Capital Preparatory Magnet High School
- Accomplished 70%/30% allocation of resources to schools/central services
- Kinsella Magnet School construction completed

2009-2010 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE MATRIX Based on 2009 Results of CMT and CAPT

		2008 TO 2009 RATE OF IMPROVEMENT				Baseline Year New & Redesigned Schools
		Improving ≥ +4.0	Maintaining +3.9 to -3.9	Declining ≤ -4.0		
R E L A T I V E P E R F O R M A N C E	Goal Range: OSI 70+	University High Dwight	Hartford Magnet Middle Classical Capital Preparatory		Autonomous	
	Proficient: OSI 50 to 69	Parkville Kinsella Kennelly Wish Fisher Simpson-Waverly M.L. King	Sport & Medical Sciences Webster Breakthrough Pathways Hooker Naylor Rawson West Middle Batchelder			Achievement First Hartford Global Communications/IB
	Below Proficient: OSI Below 50	Clark Quirk Middle	Moylan Burr Sanchez McDonough Bellizzi Middle Betances	Weaver 10-12	Intervention / Redesign	M.D. Fox CommPACT Bulkeley Lower HPHS-Law & Gov't HPHS-Nursing Burns Latino Studies HPHS-Engineering & Green Technology Milner Core Knowledge Culinary Arts
						New & Redesigned Schools 2009-2010 America's Choice at SAND Breakthrough II High School Inc. Journalism & Media High School Montessori OPPortunity High School

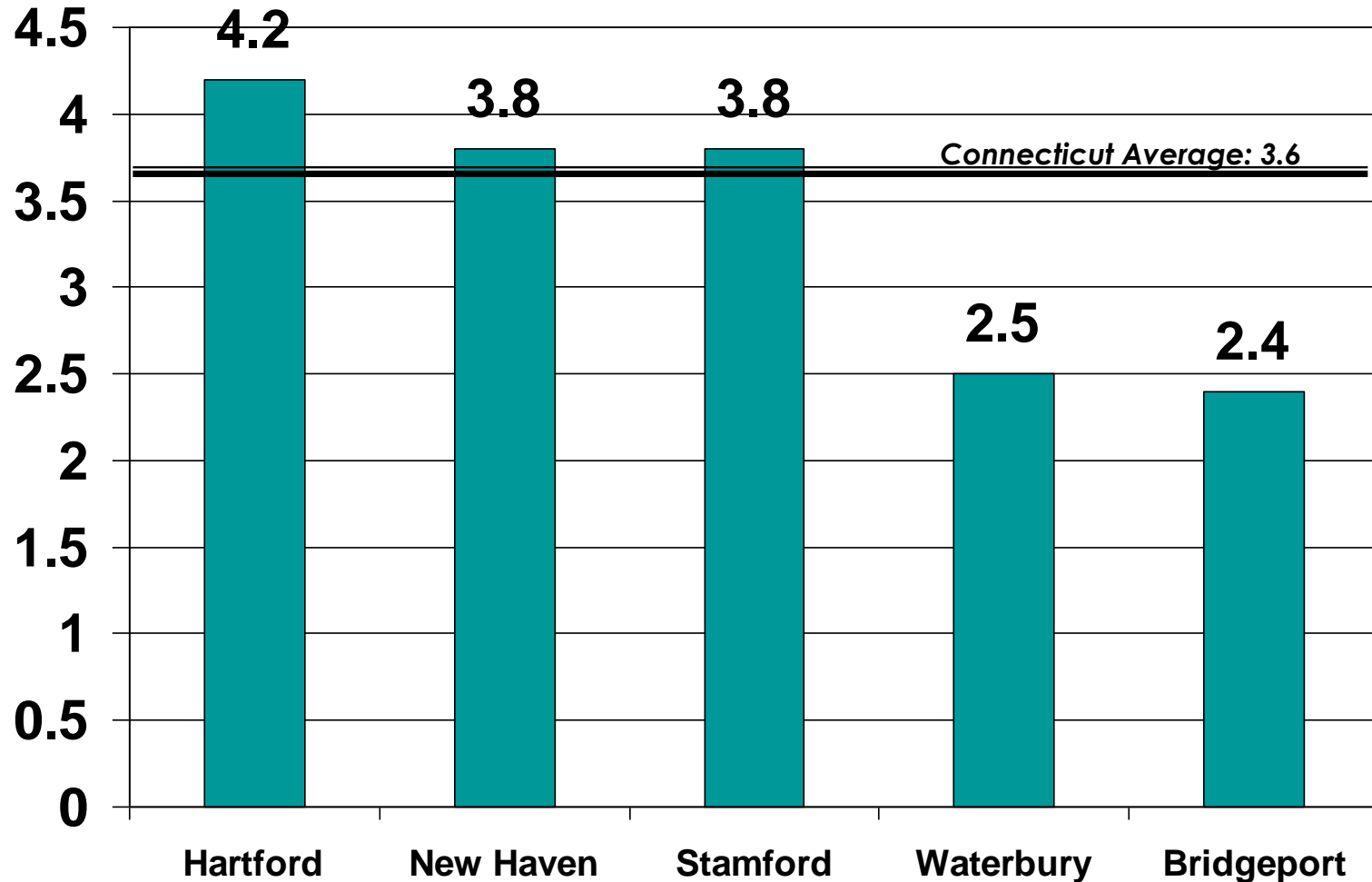
ConnCAN's analysis of the 2007 and 2008 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) results reveals that Connecticut's three largest districts-Hartford, New Haven, and Bridgeport- secured bigger gains in the percentage of students within goal range on the CMT than the statewide average, with Connecticut's capital city leading the way.



Performance Gains on CMT for Five Largest School Districts

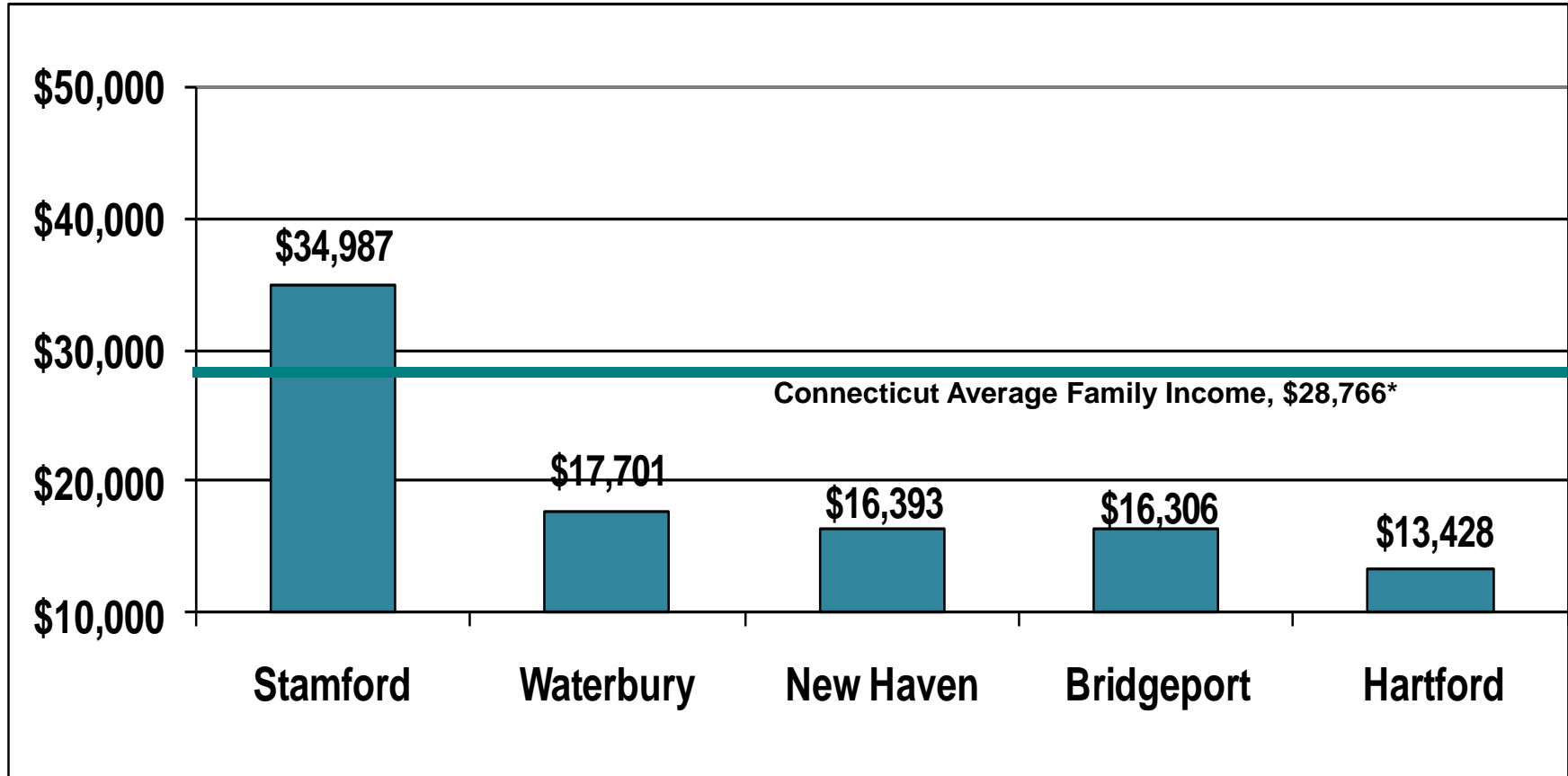
(2008 3rd grade to 2009 4th grade, 2008 4th grade to 2009 5th grade, etc.)

Average Change in % of Student Cohorts Meeting State Goals on CMT



Per-Capita Income

Source: U.S. Census Data



* US Census Data, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/09000.html>

Successful Partnerships

Successful Schools

Community Ownership

Sustainability

Common Elements

- Committed Adults
- Committed Institutions
- Autonomous Governance Boards/Advisory Committees
- Private Resources
- Data-Driven Decision making
- Innovation is encouraged
- Research-Based
- Theme-based driven by student interest

CWP Partnerships

- Adult Education Redesign
- Opportunity High School
- Academy Focused Internships
- Future Work

- Partners: CWP, City of Hartford, CREC, State of Connecticut, Capital Community College
- Research-Based Model - Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School
- Funded by Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
- First major redesign of adult education system in the U.S. in partnership with a workforce board
- Design Elements
 - ESL, ABE (Pre-GED), GED, External Degree Program, Citizenship
 - CWP One Stop Center
 - Child Care
- Outcomes
 - From bottom quartile in the state to the top quartile in one year
 - An adult center serving adults 18+

- Partnership School with OPP
- Research-Based Model: Good Shepherd Model (overage and under-credited students)
 - Recuperative Strategy
- CWP
 - Career Competencies embedded in the curriculum
 - Internships - \$150,000 for 70 to 90 internships
 - Summer Youth Employment alignment

Academy Focused Internships

- 200 Industry Specific Internships and after school Career Competencies alignment
 - Nursing Academy at HPHS (Catholic Charities)
 - Law & Government Academy at HPHS (Urban League)
 - Journalism and Media at Weaver (SAND, Inc.)
 - Culinary Arts at Weaver (Blue Hills Civic Association)
 - Pathways to Technology (Urban League)
- Career Connections Program for 125 students
 - Pathways to Technology
 - Hartford Public High School Academies
 - Bulkeley High School
 - Sports Medical Sciences Academy

- 1000 Summer Youth Employment Internships
- 300 Employer Engagement Sites including:
 - Hospitality Association
 - Northeast Utilities
 - Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology