



SEP 13 2011

**United States  
Department of  
Agriculture**

Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

Northeast Region

10 Causeway St.  
Room 501  
Boston, MA 02222

Dr. Winifred Hamilton  
Acting Superintendent of Schools  
Stamford Public Schools  
888 Washington Boulevard  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Government Center  
Stamford, CT 06901

Dear Acting Superintendent Hamilton :

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that twelve of your district's elementary schools have been awarded the USDA's *HealthierUS* School Challenge (HUSSC) Bronze award.

The HUSSC awards are a way for the USDA to recognize schools that have created healthier school environments through improvements in the quality of food while providing both nutrition and physical education to promote healthy lifestyles. The HUSSC is a key component in Michelle Obama's "Let's Move!" campaign and is also helping schools to prepare for the school meal pattern changes currently being developed by USDA for nation-wide implementation. Your twelve schools join a very select group of 1504 schools throughout America that are certified as HUSSC schools. We will be working with the Connecticut Department of Education and your staff in the near future to plan an awards ceremony to fully recognize this accomplishment. At this ceremony, a senior USDA official will present banners, plaques, and a check for \$500 to each school.

Please express my congratulations to Food Service Director Albert Benjunas and to food service staff as well as to the administration at the Davenport Ridge Elementary School, Northeast Elementary School, Roxbury Elementary School, Springdale Elementary School, Stillmeadow Elementary School, Hart Magnet Elementary School, K.T Murphy Elementary School, Julia A. Stark Elementary School, Newfield Elementary School, Westover Magnet Elementary School, Rogerts International Elementary School and **Toquam Magnet Elementary School** for their great initiative and hard work! I would also like to acknowledge the outstanding work of former Food Service Director Ken Wolfe for taking this challenge, allowing the Stamford Elementary Public Schools to be recognized as HealthierUS Schools.

Sincerely,

James C. Arena-DeRosa  
Regional Administrator  
Northeast Region

cc: Cheryl Resha (CT DOE)  
Jackie Schipke (CT DOE)  
Al Benjunas (Stamford FSD)  
Michael Pisseri (Davenport Ridge Elementary School Principal)  
Dr. Connie Stevenson (Northeast Elementary School Principal)  
Gloria Manna (Roxbury Elementary School Principal)  
Anne Downey (Springdale Elementary School Principal)  
Dr. Michael Sanders (Stillmeadow Elementary School Principal)  
Frank Rodriguez (K.T Murphy Elementary School Principal)  
Linda Darling (Hart Magnet Elementary School Principal)  
Mark Bonasera (Julia A. Stark Elementary School Principal)  
Miriam Arango (Newfield Elementary School Principal)  
Kathy Wunder (Westover Magnet Elementary School Principal)  
Cathleen Cummings (Rogerts International Elementary School Principal)  
Mark Woodard (Toquam Magnet Elementary School Principal)  
Ken Wolfe (Applying Director)