



R H O D E I S L A N D
MAYORAL ACADEMIES

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WITH MORE THAN 1150 ENROLLMENT FORMS, ACHIEVEMENT FIRST PROVIDENCE MAYORAL ACADEMY HOLDS ITS INAUGURAL LOTTERY FOR 176 STUDENTS

March 4, 2013 – PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Achievement First, a high-performing network of 22 non-profit, college-preparatory public charter schools in Connecticut, New York and Rhode Island, held on Friday a blind lottery for its initial class of 176 kindergarten and first-grade students at Achievement First Providence Mayoral Academy. The results were verified by an independent auditor (Andsager, Bartlett & Pieroni, LLC) and a separate witness from the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE). With nearly seven enrollment forms on average for every available seat, the lottery included preferences for families residing in low-income areas – which resulted in 84 percent of the kindergarten class and 81 percent of the first-grade class representing the lowest-income districts within the four feeder communities of Providence, Warwick, Cranston and North Providence.

Families have two weeks to accept their seats, with orientation sessions planned shortly after for students and parents to meet with teachers and learn how the school runs. Achievement First will serve all students, regardless of special needs, language or citizenship. There are no admission requirements or interviews, and there are no admission or tuition fees. Achievement First Providence Mayoral Academy will open in August 2013 at the former Oliver Hazard Perry Middle School building.

“Achievement First is overjoyed to welcome 176 Rhode Island families into our family, and we look forward to climbing the mountain to college graduation together as the classes of 2029 and 2030,” commented Morgan Carter, founding principal for Achievement First Providence Mayoral Academy Elementary.

Achievement First Providence Mayoral Academy will be located in Providence, but will also serve the communities of Cranston, Warwick and North Providence. Any and all age-appropriate students from those communities are eligible for the school.

About Achievement First

The mission of Achievement First is to close the achievement gap and deliver on the promise of equal educational opportunity for all children, regardless of race, economic status or zip code. With its college-preparatory focus, the Achievement First approach is attaining breakthrough academic gains throughout its network of 22 public charter schools. In the 2012-13 academic year, Achievement First is educating more than 7,000 students in historically low-performing and underserved neighborhoods in Connecticut and New York (with Rhode Island opening in August 2013).

Achievement First's approach to teaching and learning enables every student to succeed at the highest levels. This involves:

- Providing students with more time on task and intense intervention when they are struggling so that no child falls through the cracks;
- Recruiting and developing successful teachers and school leaders and empowering them to use student data to strategically drive instruction;
- Creating a joyful school culture where it is "cool to be smart" that emphasizes character education and focuses students on college.

For more information, please visit <http://www.AchievementFirst.org>.

About Rhode Island Mayoral Academies

Rhode Island Mayoral Academies is a nonprofit organization supporting and overseeing the expansion of Mayoral Academies in Rhode Island. Mayoral Academies are public schools that are run by successful charter school operators and governed by mayor-led school boards.

For more information, please visit <http://www.MayoralAcademies.org>.

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