Achievement First Hartford High School’s Mission

The mission of Achievement First Hartford High School, a college-preparatory public charter school in Hartford, Connecticut, is to provide students from historically underserved communities with a top-quality education to prepare them for the rigor of college work and help them flourish on college campuses. AF Hartford High’s approach includes a rigorous, college-preparatory course of study, tutoring, intensive college counseling, and robust athletic and elective programs.

For more information about Achievement First, please visit achievementfirst.org.

School Leader

Laneka Thomas is the principal of AF Hartford High School. Before discovering her passion for teaching at AF Hartford High School, Laneka spent five years working with the Connecticut state legislature as a policy analyst. She then worked as a teacher at AF Hartford High for five years before spending the last two years at AF Hartford Summit Middle as a dean of students and principal-in-residence. Laneka is a lifelong Hartford resident and continues to live, work, play, and operate a small business in the city where she raises her three daughters. Laneka earned a bachelor’s degree in political science at the University of Chicago and received her doctorate from the University of Connecticut, School of Law.

Applying for Admission to AF Hartford High School

Students from Jumoke and AF Hartford Summit Middle School who complete the application process will be accepted into Achievement First Hartford High School. Application materials are due January 31, 2021. There are no entrance exams or application fees.

For more information or to obtain an application, please contact Recruitment Coordinator Troy Jackson, at 860-695-6844 or TroyJackson@achievementfirst.org.
The College-Prep Experience

Achievement First Hartford High School’s approach includes an extended school day and year, a rigorous, college-preparatory course of study, SAT preparation, intensive college counseling, and a commitment to preparing our students for the rigor of college work in a supportive academic environment, as well as through athletics and elective programs. The programming at AF Hartford High School is centered on the tenets of a rigorous, liberal arts education. Our instructional framework includes learning through discussion, a heavy focus on writing, and the development of key non-cognitive skills.

Fostering Curiosity & Independence

We want all students to cultivate a passion for independent thought and discovery, as well as to gain the skills needed to communicate those ideas for maximum impact. That’s why our school offers several courses that center writing and public speaking, including:

- Seminar discussions in all disciplines
- Rigorous composition courses in grades 9-12
- Theater class in grade nine
- Bi-weekly, student-led community meetings

SAT AVERAGES

Co-curricular Enrichment

Achievement First Hartford High values athletics, the arts, and extracurriculars. Our program is growing each year, and the following opportunities will be offered in the 2019-20 school year:

- Band/Drumline
- Boys’ and Girls’ Basketball
- Chess Club
- Cheerleading
- Dance
- Fencing
- Football
- Girls’ Volleyball

Focused Attention on College Readiness

Achievement First Hartford High exists to allow students to meet their full potential. Our curriculum is designed to push students to meet the rigors of college classes, and to develop the non-academic skills needed to realize their dreams, and to become leaders in our community. Our school provides services including:

- College readiness courses
- Reading and math interventions in grades 9 and 10
- Advisory program
- Office hours
- Math and critical reading SAT preparation courses and group counseling
- Summer enrichment programs
- College counseling
- Alumni support