



Contact: Amanda Pinto; (203) 726-0168; amandapinto@achievementfirst.org

AF BROOKLYN HIGH'S FIRST SENIOR CLASS CELEBRATES 100% COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE WITH "SENIOR SIGNING DAY"

Event Details

Who: Members of Achievement First Brooklyn High's first graduating class.

What: During the school's first "Senior Signing Day," AF Brooklyn High's graduating seniors will unveil their college choices and share stories about their academic journeys before an audience of families, friends and members of the Achievement First community.

Where: AF Brooklyn High, 1485 Pacific Street, Brooklyn

When: Wednesday, May 22, 1:00 p.m.

May 15, 2013 – NEW YORK, N.Y. – Achievement First, a high-performing network of 22 non-profit, college-preparatory public charter schools in Connecticut, New York and Rhode Island, today announced that 100 percent of the seniors in AF Brooklyn High's first graduating class have been accepted to college. The school will honor this accomplishment with its first annual "Senior Signing Day."

Members of AF Brooklyn High's first senior class will stand before their families, friends and the Achievement First community as they announce their college choices and share stories about their academic journeys. Seniors were accepted to a total of 181 colleges including Williams College, Ithaca College, Syracuse University, Lafayette College and several schools in the SUNY and CUNY networks.

Traditionally, signing day events are reserved for nationally renowned high school athletes revealing their college choices. At Achievement First, "Senior Signing Day" recognizes the importance of college acceptance for all students as they work to graduate from top colleges, to succeed in a competitive world and to serve as the next generation of leaders in our communities. To learn more about "Senior Signing Day" or to reserve your spot at the event, contact Amanda Pinto at amandapinto@achievementfirst.org.

About AF Brooklyn High and Achievement First

AF Brooklyn High is a college-preparatory public charter high school that opened with ninth graders in 2009, and now serves grades nine through 12. This school year, its first year at full size, it serves 296 students, 98 percent of whom are African American or Latino, 72 percent of whom qualify for free and reduced-price lunch, and most of whom will be the first in their families to graduate from college. AF Brooklyn High combines rigorous courses and high expectations with a host of support services more common at affluent and private high schools, including SAT prep, intensive college counseling, tutoring and explicit character education.



Contact: Amanda Pinto; (203) 726-0168; amandapinto@achievementfirst.org

Achievement First, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, currently operates 22 public charter schools in Brooklyn and Connecticut, with an additional school opening in Rhode Island in August 2013. 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>.

###