



Waterbury Public Schools

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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WATERBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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ACADEMIC ACADEMY SITE SELECTION

WATERBURY, June 4, 2019 --

Dr. Verna D. Ruffin, Superintendent of Waterbury Public Schools, is excited to announce that the location of Academic Academy slated to open in August 2019 will be Wallace Middle School. Wallace provides the physical space along with connectivity and collaboration with the adjacent Crosby High School which align well for the launch and growth of the Academic Academy.

“As I have spoken to the Board of Education, parents, educators and stakeholders it is clear that there is a shared desire to offer a vigorous, academically stimulating, creative, exciting, thought-provoking, inspiring, scholastically challenging learning environment that is the Academic Academy”, said Dr. Verna D. Ruffin.

The program of the Academic Academy includes the following:

- Begin with one Academy of grades 4-8 at Wallace Middle School operating as a “school within a school model”;
- Appropriately Certified Teachers will be selected for the Academy based on a mutual hiring model where the Teachers and Staff are applying for the opportunity and selected into the Academy based on the needs of the students and the Program;
- Students will participate in an enrichment based learning model including Project Based Learning;
- Grade-level and above grade-level instruction for students will be offered;
- Students will have access to advance fine arts and foreign language (Spanish).

MORE

ACADEMIC ACADEMY SITE SELECTION - 2

The student application process is open and available online at the Waterbury Public Schools Home Page. A direct link to the Application page is as follows: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3TH77QZ>. Details of the Student Application Process are as follows:

- The deadline to submit student application is June 17, 2019.
- Application screening will follow from June 17 through 21, 2019.
- Student/Family interviews will be held from June 24 through 26, 2019.
- Notification of Admission Decision by July 8, 2019.
- Academy Signing Date by July 19, 2019.
- School begins on August 26, 2019.

Dr. Ruffin stated “As we learn and progress with the Academic Academy model we will consider expansion of the program and learning model in order to support talented and gifted students within our District and students who desire a more rigorous and enriched learning environment”.

“This is a very exciting time for Waterbury Public Schools as we seek to leverage our resources and talents to meet the needs of our students today and into the future. This program along with other programs, as well as our firm commitment to supporting our traditional schools, represents elements of our desire to meet the needs of the Portrait of a Graduate. Together we can build on our past successes and identify new initiatives, like the Academic Academy, in order to allow for all of our students to reach their greatest potential” said Dr. Ruffin.

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