



News Release

For Immediate Release

SPS salutes students of character

June 10, 2010 - More than 85 Springfield Public Schools students will be honored for their display of citizenship, trust, respect, responsibility and other traits of outstanding character during a gala event taking place on Wednesday, June 16th at the Mass Mutual Center from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The 4th Annual Kids of Character Awards Celebration primarily recognizes Springfield Public Schools and community-based organizations students in grades Kindergarten through twelve whose teachers, principals and program leaders have nominated them for the honor. Chief Parent and Community Engagement Officer Patricia Spradley said the event serves as a proud moment for the school district, students and parents.

“Content of character is the single most important quality a person will ever possess and there are so many students in our schools who are simply great kids” said Spradley. “It’s important that we recognize, encourage and support that in our youth and this event goes all out in doing that.”

Each year close to 800 people attend the invitation-only event, which is sponsored by Springfield Public Schools. James Morton, executive director of the YMCA of Greater Springfield will serve as guest speaker this year. Mayor Domenic Sarno will also be among the speakers.

Students receive t-shirts bearing their names as a “kid of character” and parents will receive a t-shirt designating them as the “parent of a kid of character.” This year, the 2010 Kids of Character class will receive a bonus, as the Mass Mutual Center displays all 89 names on the electronic billboard in front of the building.