



Contact: Cassandra Sullivan
Telephone: 860.761-7371
Email: Cassandra.Sullivan@OPP.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 2014

Path Academy-Windham Launches Website for Community and Students

Path Academy - Windham, a state charter school has officially launched its school website -- <http://www.WindhamPathAcademy.org>. Located in Windham, Connecticut, Path Academy will work with over-age, under-credited English Language Learners to help them find the success in high school they could not find in their traditional high school. While there are many components to the school, a main component is learning and support through technology. The website's development is the first step in the state-of-the-art use of technology at Path Academy.

Slated to open in August 2014, <http://www.WindhamPathAcademy.org> currently features a summary of Path Academy and facility information, such as architectural drawings and space for building progress. In the coming months, the website will feature an application for enrollment, building progress, social media links, community involvement information, student/parent resources and portals for academic information access.

Path Academy was unanimously approved as a state charter school in June 2013 by Connecticut's Board of Education and is managed by Hartford-based non-profit Our Piece of the Pie. Opening in August 2014 with up to 120 students (200 by 2015), Path Academy will re-engage over-age, under-credited students in the Windham, Connecticut region by supporting them through mastery of the critical skills necessary for success in college, career and community.

Our Piece of the Pie will serve as the Charter Management Organization for Path Academy. OPP's mission is to help urban youth become economically independent adults and works with young people in Connecticut communities, high schools and community colleges. With the belief that success in adulthood includes being able to meaningfully contribute to society, OPP provides a framework to guide youth, with the specific goals of high school graduation, achieving a postsecondary degree and obtaining rewarding post-education employment.

"Since we began developing the Path Academy model for over-age, under-credited students in 2010, we have been eager to see the school come alive," OPP President & CEO Bob Rath exclaims. "Since submitting the application and gaining State Board of Education approval last summer, we have been busy working to rehabilitate the former YMCA building on Main Street in Willimantic, finalize academic pieces and build human capital. The development of the website is another key component to the development of the school -- it's really starting to come alive!"

The website was designed and executed by Linda I. Valentin, a former OPP participant. Like many of OPP's youth, Linda overcame much adversity to achieve her goals. In 2009, she graduated from American InterContinental University with a Bachelor in Fine Arts and Visual Communication. Linda has made a successful transition into the workforce through contract work and by serving as the Internet and Graphic Arts Assistant with Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance. Linda redesigned OPP's website (www.OPP.org) in 2011.