

PRESS RELEASE

Hamden Middle School 2623 Dixwell Avenue Hamden, Connecticut 06518

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 7, 2015
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Hamden Middle School Community Dinner

Hamden, Connecticut 06518 – Parents, Guardians, and all Hamden Public Schools' 6th, 7th and 8th grade students are invited to participate in a community dinner and dialogue on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at Hamden's newest community gathering place, *1253 Whitney* (at the Putnam Avenue and Whitney Avenue intersection, next to the Whitneyville Congregational Church).

This is an opportunity for parents, guardians and youth to *break bread* together in a forum where they can share their voices and perspectives with each other, their school community, and Town of Hamden community officials. Our goal is to develop a shared understanding of a safe and welcoming school environment, and implement those ideas in order to ensure that all students are treated with equity, and to discuss ways in which Hamden Middle School can be more inclusive of all families. Students from the HMS *Allies'* Leadership Group will prompt discussions through commentary on their own insight on *life* at Hamden Middle School. Free dinner will be provided to all guests.

Please join us on June 2nd for what we hope to be the first of many community engagements. This event is sponsored by Hamden Middle School and Hamden Youth Services with support from the Town of Hamden, Hamden Police Department, Hamden Human Rights and Relations Commission, Ali Baba's Fusion Restaurant, Smokin' Skillet, and Soup Girl.

Space is limited. Please register by Thursday May 28th. Babysitting will be available if needed. Parking at the event will be available in the Town lot across the street and behind the Board of Education offices at 60 Putnam Avenue.

For additional information or to register, please contact Dan Levy, Principal of Hamden Middle School at 203 407-7131 or dlevy@hamden.org, Chris Vega, Chair of the Hamden Human Rights and Relations Commission at (203) 331-2629 or vegachristopher01@gmail.com, or Susan Rubino, Coordinator of Hamden Youth Services at (203) 777-2610 ext. 1120 or srubino@hamden.com.