



Charter School of Educational Excellence

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Westchester's First and Only Charter School Celebrates Achievement and Announces Plans for Expansion

June 19, 2010 - Yonkers, NY – **The Charter School of Educational Excellence** (CSEE), located at 260 Warburton Avenue in Yonkers and the first Charter school in Westchester County, has much to celebrate at their “Celebrating Achievement” event on June 19th from 4pm to 8pm. In just five years since its opening, the school has reached a student body of 380 in grades K-6 and last year received a 5-year charter renewal, the maximum term from the New York Board of Regents.

The school has also won the “2010 Exemplary Reading Program Award for New York State,” a very prestigious recognition from The International Reading Association, the world’s leading organization of literacy professionals. In May of this year the New York State Education Department’s S3TAIR Project (Supporting Successful Strategies to Achieve Improved Results) validated CSEE as *A School for Best Practices in Literacy*. The philosophy of the teachers and staff at CSEE is to work as a team with colleagues, parents, students and community in its commitment to providing children with a nurturing, safe and secure environment that holds optimum opportunities to learn, thrive and succeed. “I am proud of our faculty and equally proud of our children. Together

they work hard and push themselves to be the best,” says Ms. Catalina Castillo, Principal of CSEE.

As a result of this success, the school is moving forward with plans to expand their programs to 7th and 8th grade by the 2010 school year. “The model that we established is proven and we want duplicate it for middle schoolers.” States Eduardo LaGuerre, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for CSEE. “We are committed to educational excellence and to ensuring the success of every student,” he adds.

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About Charter School of Educational Excellence. Founded in 2005, CSEE was the first charter school to open its doors to children in the Yonkers School District and continues to be the only public charter school to be approved in Westchester County. CSEE is a free public school open to all children through a random lottery admissions process and currently serves approximately 380 students in grades K-6.