



**Today's
Students**
**Tomorrow's
Teachers™**

**333 Westchester Avenue
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For Immediate Release

Massachusetts Secretary of Education and Today's Students Tomorrow's Teachers address State's Need for Diversity in Education

(November 13, 2013 Boston, MA) Dr. Bettye H. Perkins, President and CEO of Today's Students Tomorrow's Teachers was a panelist at the *Annual Building Bridges Conference* held by the Massachusetts Partnership for Diversity in Education (MPDE) and discussed "*Strategies for Increasing Diversity in Educational Communities*" with local, state, and national educational leaders at Regis College. The keynote speaker, Dr. Matthew H. Malone, Secretary of Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts focused on the future of education in Massachusetts and addressed the vital relationship between a teacher and a student. Dr. Malone acknowledged the increasingly diverse student population and the lack of diversity in the state's school communities, "Of the new teacher hires in 2012-13, 89% were White, not Hispanic, and only 10.3% were minority hires. Clearly, we need to do more."

Dr. Malone emphasized the significance of recruiting, employing and retaining a diverse group of highly skilled teachers, administrators, in schools across Massachusetts and indicated one of the state's strategic goals is to accelerate student growth and achievement, "We must serve all of Massachusetts' students, regardless of their age, by creating a 21st century public education system that provides access to high-quality and inspirational educational opportunities that will transform lives."

TSTT was founded by Dr. Perkins, for just such a mission in Westchester County, New York in 1994, and has been successfully replicated in four states including Massachusetts, to create a

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pipeline for culturally diverse and economically challenged students to attend college and enter the teaching profession. TSTT has been expanding its pipeline since 2011 in Greater Boston with 50 high school students participating in the Andover, Arlington, Brookline and Lexington, MA school districts and 50 students at the Lanza TSTT Institute in Worcester Public Schools at North High School.

TSTT works to ensure gains in academic excellence and to close the achievement gap, as well as to provide a pathway for high school students to enter college and return to their communities as certified teachers and role models. TSTT's first cohort in Massachusetts will graduate high school and enter college in 2014.

TSTT partners with 24 colleges and universities including Lesley University in Cambridge, MA and the University of Connecticut that agree to provide eligible TSTT students with a minimum 50% tuition scholarship and the continued support of college mentors. TSTT is working to expand its roster of college partnerships in Massachusetts and New England.

About TSTT

TSTT is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization that brings hundreds of students, teachers, superintendents, colleges and universities, and business and community leaders together to improve the educational outcomes of students. Students use a research-based early teacher preparation syllabus that begins in high school and carries them throughout the TSTT college curriculum. Since its founding in 1994, TSTT has experienced steady significant growth—from just seven students from Westchester County to nearly 780 students and 110 alumni teachers in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia. For more information visit: www.tstt.org.

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Pictured here from left to right are: Regina Caines, Executive Director of MPDE, Jesenia Castro, TSTT RPM of Greater Boston region, MPDE Conference Attendee (Back row), Dr. Matthew H. Malone, Secretary of Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Dr. Bettye H. Perkins, TSTT CEO and Liza Nyamekye RPM of Worcester

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