

333 Westchester Avenue Suite S-208 White Plains, NY 10604 www.tstt.org Contact: Rhetta Vinson rvinson@tstt.org 914-345-3444 ext. 18

## TODAY'S STUDENTS, TOMORROW'S TEACHERS' VOICES ARE HEARD AT <u>NBC NEWS EDUCATION NATION SUMMIT TEACHER TOWN HALL</u>

## For Immediate Release

*(New York City, October 6, 2013)* .... "The many demands on educators today are greater than ever," was a common refrain voiced by teachers during the MSNBC News Education Nation Teacher Town Hall on Sunday October 6, 2013. Teachers must meet the needs of an increasingly diverse student population in terms of ethnicity, ability, languages and life circumstances. While 45% of today's public school students are from ethnically diverse backgrounds, only 13% of US teachers are from diverse backgrounds.

For nearly 20 years, Today's Students, Tomorrow's Teachers (TSTT) has addressed this problem by recruiting, mentoring and training culturally diverse and economically challenged students from high school through college. To date, TSTT has placed over 110 alumni as certified teachers in communities with a shortage of minority teachers. TSTT alumni teachers tend to stay in the profession longer and become school leaders. They are making a tremendous social *impact by serving as mentors and role models for future leaders in education and other crucial professions.* 

Among TSTT alumni teachers:

- 93% remain in the profession beyond 3 years as compared to 67% in the overall teacher workforce,
- 90% of TSTT alumni continue teaching after 5 years compared to only 50% of teachers nationally.
- 24% are male while across the US only 2% are male teachers of color.



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TSTT alumni teachers with 10+ years of experience are recognized as Perkins Scholars for their commitment and potential to become school leaders. Here are a few profiles of the TSTT Perkins Scholars who participated in the MSNBC News Education Nation Teacher Town Hall and Common Core Teacher Institute.

## **TSTT Teacher Profiles (Attached)**

The National Commission on Teaching and America's Future, reports that 56% of teachers made their decision to become teachers, prior to attending college. Among TSTT college students 25% are STEM majors, 47% are African American and 32% are Hispanic.

TSTT works to ensure our high school students reach the  $12^{\rm th}$  grade, ready for college:

- 90% of TSTT high school students graduate and 96% are admitted to college.
- 70% of TSTT students graduate college versus 41% nationally and 24% on average among minority students.

## <u>About TSTT</u>

TSTT, a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization, brings hundreds of students, teachers, superintendents, colleges, universities, businesses and community leaders together to improve the educational outcomes of students. Students use a research-based program 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 876 students in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia. For more information visit: www.tstt.org.