



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

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For Immediate Release:

TODAY'S STUDENTS TOMORROW'S TEACHERS PARTNERS WITH THE LANZA FAMILY FOUNDATION TO CREATE THE LANZA TSTT INSTITUTE- A MAJOR HIGH SCHOOL INITIATIVE

(Worcester, MA) Dr. Bettye H. Perkins, TODAY'S STUDENTS TOMORROW'S TEACHERS ("TSTT") Founder and CEO and Mrs. Patricia Lanza, President of the Lanza Family Foundation announced on March 27th, that 50 high school freshman will participate in TSTT's teacher career development program. In TSTT's 18-year history, this is the single largest group of students to be enrolled.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony, at North High School in Worcester, MA, commemorated the launch of the new **Lanza TSTT Institute**. The participating 9th graders are very focused and motivated to participate in the teacher prep program. By receiving early training and development, this next generation of teachers will be better prepared as educators because of their cultural diversity and knowledge of the community. They will receive 8 years of mentoring, college readiness, and teacher training along with the opportunity to qualify for at least a 50% tuition scholarship from one of 23 TSTT college partners. The goal is for all of these young people to ultimately become certified and placed as teachers back in their communities.

TSTT now has over 636 high school and college students in the pipeline across four states, and more than 100 alumni, teaching around the country.

Mrs. Lanza, a New York philanthropist, and a long time supporter of TSTT and its education initiatives in Yonkers, NY believes the long term investment will support the students on their journey to become teachers from 9th grade, through college, and back into their classroom and communities as teachers. This commitment will also help to ensure the academic performance of the growing number of diverse students in Worcester public schools.

For this effort, TSTT's partners include Dr. Melinda Boone, Superintendent of Worcester Public Schools and the principal and assistant principal at North High School, Matthew Morse, and Elizabeth Lupafya. All are excited about this commitment from a single



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family foundation. Dr. Perkins praised Mrs. Lanza, the Worcester Public Schools administration and the parents of the future educators for their decision to support these young people, “This is a collaborative effort on behalf of the generations of Worcester public school children who will be inspired to learn and achieve through the efforts of all of us involved in the **Lanza TSTT Institute’s** mentoring, college readiness, and career development program”.