

SICCS: PRESS RELEASE, CHARTER SCHOOL FORUM, 1/30/10

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY      CONTACT: Ellen Icolari  
718-720-8182; eicolari@si.rr.com

**FREE JAN. 30 STATEN ISLAND CHARTER SCHOOL FORUM  
TO PROVIDE INFORMATION, ANSWERS TO THE COMMUNITY**

Want to know more about Staten Island's three new charter schools, and about charter schools in general? Come to the borough's first public charter school forum, to be held on Saturday, January 30 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Brighton Heights Reformed Church in St. George.

**Information and answers from  
three N.Y.C. charter school experts**

"We'll have expert panelists, such as Aretha Miller, Senior Director of School Support, and Ismael Colon, Director of School Leadership Development, from the New York City Charter Center; and Michael Duffy of the New York City Department of Education," said Ellen Icolari, representing the forum's sponsor, the founding board of Staten Island Community Charter School. "They'll explain how charter and traditional public schools differ, and how charter schools are accountable to the city and state."

"They'll also be talking about issues of direct concern to the community," added Tina Sher, also of the new charter school's founding board, "like improving student success rates, expecting more than 'passing' performance, and welcoming proven innovations."

**Presentations from  
three S.I. charter schools**

Many Staten Islanders may be surprised to learn that Staten Island already has one charter school up and running and that two others are slated to open when the new school year begins in September.

Presentations are scheduled from each of the schools--John W. Lavelle Preparatory, Staten Island's first-ever charter school, which admits students in grades 6 through 12; the New World Preparatory Charter School, for

students in grades 6 through 8; and the new Staten Island Community Charter School, whose representatives will be available to answer questions about September, 2010 enrollment at kindergarten and first-grade levels.

There will be a question-and-answer session following the presentations, and refreshments will be served.

\* \* \*

The Community Room of Brighton Heights Reformed Church is located at 320 St. Marks Place at the corner of Fort Place, St. George. The MTA S-42 bus stops directly across the street.

For more information, please contact: [INSERT CONTACT INFORMATION]

REV 2  
1/18/10