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News Release

For Release
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Friday, April 24, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.

City high schools launch next level of high school redesign by combining college and career preparation

State Senate pro Tem Darrell Steinberg will join Sacramento City Unified School District President Roy Grimes, Interim Superintendent Susan Miller, educators, city leaders and students as Sacramento schools kick off the next step in the system's high school redesign—combining college and career preparation for every student—at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, April 24 at the Serna Center. The Center is located at 5735 47th Ave. near Stockton Blvd.

Also participating in the effort to merge rigorous academic preparation and career preparation are Gary Hoachlander, President of ConnectEd. ConnectED was founded by the James Irvine Foundation in 2006 to promote development of multiple pathways, a high school improvement approach that can lead to increased graduation rates and stronger preparation for postsecondary education and careers.

Multiple pathways offer programs that connect challenging academics with demanding technical curriculum focused on an industry theme such as business and finance; biomedical and health sciences; building and environmental design; arts, media and entertainment; and other major industries.

Sac City began a major high school reform effort dubbed “e21” in 2000 which included breaking down comprehensive high schools into theme-based small learning communities and creating a network of six small high schools. Other parts of the reform included more time for teachers to collaborate with one another about their students, increased graduation requirements, greater student participation in governance at all levels and more emotional and social support for students. This work was done in cooperation with the Carnegie Corp. of New York and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

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