



Contact: Sarah Arnold (203) 977-4095 sarnold@ci.stamford.ct.us

SCOFIELD MAGNET MIDDLE SCHOOL WINS 2011 CONNECTICUT QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AWARD INNOVATION PRIZE

(September 20, 2011) Scofield Magnet Middle School won a silver 2011 Connecticut Quality Improvement Award Innovation Prize for its MyChinese 360 program. The Connecticut Quality Improvement Award Partnership, Inc. was founded in 1987 as America's first state level quality award using the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality for Performance Excellence criteria. The award was given to Principal Jan Rossman and Assistant Principal Bryan Olkowski at the CQIA's 24th annual conference on quality and innovation at the University of Hartford on Tuesday, September 20, 2011. Scofield was the only school to win the award this year.

MyChinese 360 is a language learning program offering for-credit online Mandarin classes. MyChinese360's U.S.- and China- based teachers use up-to-the-minute, innovative educational technologies to connect with American students in real-time, creating a virtual classroom experience. All standards-based courses are built around the most effective and respected curricular materials available. In the past two years, 45 grade 6 students have participated in the program.

"Scofield's award from the CQIA would not have been possible without Acting Superintendent Dr. Winnie Hamilton and Chief Academic Officer Mona Hanna," said Principal Jan Rossman. "Both of them strongly supported this curricular offering for our students."

"Even in an uncertain economy, Scofield Magnet Middle School has shown that forward-looking organizations continue to introduce and bring to market new products and services," said Sheila Carmine, Founder and Executive Director of the 24-year old Connecticut Quality Improvement Award Partnership, Inc.