FERGUSON LIBRARY AND STAMFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHARE RESOURCES IN NEW, COOPERATIVE VENTURE

STAMFORD, April 4, 2016 – The Ferguson Library and the Stamford Public Schools have joined together to form Linked Libraries, a far-reaching partnership that will provide students and teachers with unprecedented access to the Library’s full array of resources. The pilot project began last month.

Linked Libraries will give students in Stamford’s public schools access to The Ferguson Library’s online catalog, allowing them to check out books from the Library and have them delivered directly to their school. Students will also be able to create and share reading lists, reviews and recommendations about books, movies and music, fostering shared learning and collaboration, and cultivating a lifelong love of reading for knowledge and pleasure.

“Linked Libraries represents a growing trend in American cities, including Nashville and Washington DC, enabling school districts and libraries to share an educational mission, and come together to deepen learning opportunities for children,” said Alice Knapp, President of The Ferguson Library. “We are thrilled to be one of the first libraries in the country to embrace this dynamic new model that will benefit so many children in our community.”

The project is currently a pilot with Northeast Elementary School and Scofield Magnet Middle School. Over the next three years, the delivery system is expected to be rolled out to all the schools in the district.

“We are excited to begin this initiative with our longtime friends at The Ferguson Library,” said Assistant Superintendent-Elementary Tamu Lucero. “The project will provide an opportunity for more Stamford students to have access to books and experience a shared learning among their peers.”
The Ferguson Library is Stamford’s public library system, consisting of the Main Library, DiMattia Building; the Harry Bennett Branch; the Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch; the South End Branch and a traveling Bookmobile. It provides free and equal access to information, ideas, books and technology to educate and enrich the Stamford community.

Stamford Public Schools (SPS) comprises more than 16,000 students, over 1,500 professionals and 20 schools, including six magnet and two International Baccalaureate schools. SPS has a total of 12 elementary schools, five middle schools and three high schools. The mission of SPS is to prepare each and every student for higher education and success in the 21st century.

SPS is proud that our district is as rich in diversity as it is in talent. We have students from many cultural backgrounds and geographic locations—as demonstrated by the more than 65 languages spoken in the homes of our families. SPS offers our students a learning experience rich in cultural diversity and reflective of the global society in which they will work and live.