

Advocate Report

(Continued from front page) According to Gordon, “more than one of every five black students enrolled at Stamford High School was suspended or expelled during the 2010-11 academic year, making black students 2.7 times as likely to be removed from class as white students, of which one in 12 were issued suspensions or expulsions.” Although they align with national trends, these rates are still alarming.

The article also pointed out that the numbers were particularly different when it came to the offense of insubordination. Gordon stated that “While the numbers were pretty even at Stamford High, where 10 black students and eight white students

were suspended for being insubordinate, the disparity at Westhill was huge: 32



Photo by Tsering Yangzom

black students and seven white students.” One thing, however, that the Stamford Advocate did not take into account was the

number of students of each race at each school.

In response to the article, Principal Dr. Donna Valentine said that it is important to note that we only started collecting accurate data regarding number of suspensions according to ethnicity two years ago. “Sometimes these types of stories attract more readers,” Valentine said. “It is really a great school.”

Maggie Gordon’s original article can be viewed at: <http://www.stamfordadvocate.com/news/article/Fair-punishment-Racial-disparities-in-school-2448504.php#page->>

Two Students Hit By a Car Due to Absence of Crosswalk in Front of School

By: Carl Louis

Some Stamford High students are upset because of a lack of a crosswalk painted in front of Stamford High after the incident that happened last month, in which two students were hit by a car. Students, Vinny Sunky (age) and Kimberly Quiroa (age), required hospitalization for their injuries. Although both have recovered, some people believe that if there was a crosswalk at one of the busiest streets in downtown Stamford, this would have never happened in the first place.

Though he acknowledges that the accident was partially his fault (“I was jaywalking,”

says Sunky), he still thinks there should still be a crosswalk or crossing guard placed in front of Stamford High School. Junior Pam Marquez agrees, saying that “there should be a crosswalk so an accident like that doesn’t happen again.”

It was discovered recently by some members of the Round Table Staff that there is indeed a cross-walk there, however it is faded so greatly, no car driving by can see it. A faded cross-walk does not necessarily serve its purpose.



Photo by Tsering Yangzom

A Picture is Worth 1000 Words – MYLC Members “Speak” Up

By: Dawn Winsor

Members of the Mayor’s Youth Leadership Club (MYLC) conducted a Body-Art photo-shoot on Monday, January 23, throughout the campus of Stamford High. Pictures were taken outside and in the school’s cafeteria of members with phrases painted on their bodies that condemned bullying and teen-dating violence. This would not be the first time the club has done an out-of-the box activity such as this one. The organization is always looking for creative and impressionable ways to make known the dangers that exist in the lives of today’s youth. Through their efforts, MYLC members hope to prevent and raise awareness of teen-dating violence.

Phrases such as “No more secrets,” and “He’s in

control” were written on the arms of MYLC members. Their photos were taken with no facial expressions; just the words painted on them sent the message. The photographs demonstrated how victims are silenced by their abusers, but should no longer live in fear. According to the Lindsay Ann Burke Memorial Fund, only 33% of teens involved in abusive relationships have reported it. Stamford High junior Samantha Lyman was one of the participants of the Body Art Photo Shoot. A three-year member of MYLC and on the executive committee, Lyman hopes the growth of this organization will lower statistics such as these.

Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women—more than car accidents, muggings, and rapes combined, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. “It happens more than you think; even in this school” says Lyman. Join MYLC and spread the awareness.



Photo by Cole Savona