



MEDIA ADVISORY

National Showcase to Feature Top Middle and High Schools

17 high-performing schools to share best practices at the NASSP Conference in Tampa

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Reston, VA--October 20, 2011—Haymon-Morris Middle School is one of only seventeen high-performing middle level and high schools selected to present at the *Breaking Ranks*™ 2012 School Showcase as part of the NASSP *Breaking Ranks* K-12 Conference, March 8-10, 2012, in Tampa, FL. NASSP and the Center for Secondary School Redesign (CSSR) annually host this unique and highly informative national showcase that convenes school leaders, teachers, and students from the nation's top middle and high schools to discuss effective practices, programs, and strategies with colleagues from across the country.

This one-day school showcase will take place on Thursday, March 8, 2012, from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. at the Tampa Convention Center.

"The showcase provides a wonderful opportunity to learn from and interact with principals, teacher leaders, and students representing exemplary middle level and high school practices," said NASSP Executive Director JoAnn Bartoletti. "The event is a tremendous value-added benefit to conference attendees."

Schools are chosen to present on the basis of their outstanding reputations for quality and innovative practices with challenging populations. At the showcase, they will share stories of implementing the *Breaking Ranks* Framework for school improvement created by NASSP.

"The schools presenting at this year's showcase are truly inspirational," said CSSR President Joe DiMartino. "As they share their stories of implementing *Breaking Ranks II* and *Breaking Ranks in the Middle*, participants will become energized about the possibilities. They will bring back with them accounts of success that will provide a vision for transformation of their own schools."



The 2012 *Breaking Ranks* Showcase Schools are:

- Amityville Memorial High School, NY
- Barberton High School, OH
- B. F. Terry High School, TX
- Crockett County High School, TN
- Franklin Middle School, IL
- Haymon-Morris Middle School, GA
- Lincoln High School, NY
- Mater Academy Middle High School, FL
- M. O. Ramay Junior High School, AR
- Noble High School, ME
- North Brunswick High School, NC
- Park View High School, VA
- Plymouth South High School, MA
- San Diego Met High School, CA
- TechBoston Academy, MA
- Tefft Middle School, IL
- Worcester Technical High School, MA.

The school showcase offers 90-minute interactive presentations, plenty of team collaboration time, and informal discussions that provide participants an opportunity to engage with school representatives, students, and other educators from around the country. Secondary school administrators are highly encouraged to bring teams of educators from their school to learn new techniques and strategies that will motivate and inspire the redesign process. Past participants have called the showcase “powerful,” “incredibly informative,” and “some of the best professional development I’ve ever received.”

Recommendations and strategies discussed at this year’s showcase will include, personalized learning and teaching, utilizing data to improve student achievement, learning beyond the classroom, using technology to improve instruction, creating and sustaining a student-centered school culture, project-based learning, student involvement, professional learning communities, teaming initiatives, instructional leadership, and ninth-grade teacher teaming.

The school showcase is a separate registration cost from the two-day NASSP *Breaking Ranks* K-12 Conference and registration is required to attend. For information on the annual conference, and to read full session descriptions from each of the presenting schools, visit www.nasspconference.org. For information or other questions on the school showcase, please contact Jay Midwood, director of Quality Assurance for CSSR by calling 401-828-0077 or via e-mail at jaymidwood@cssr.us.

About NASSP: NASSP is the leading organization of and national voice for middle level and high school principals, assistant principals, and all school leaders from across the United States and more than 45 countries around the world. The association provides research-based professional development and resources, networking, and advocacy to build the capacity of middle level and high school leaders to continually improve student performance. Reflecting its longstanding commitment to student leadership development as well, NASSP administers the National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, National Elementary Honor Society, and National Association of Student Councils. For more information about NASSP, located in Reston, VA, visit www.nassp.org.



About CSSR: Founded in 2005 by Joe DiMartino, The Center for Secondary School Redesign, Inc. (CSSR) has become a leading provider of ground breaking technical assistance to support both policy change and change leadership at the district and school level leading to a richer secondary school experience for all youth. CSSR provides education leaders with the tools and strategies to create schools that have collaborative leadership, are professional learning communities that personalize the school culture, and have student-centered instruction, assessment, and curriculum. CSSR has been designated by NASSP as the primary technical assistance provider of *Breaking Ranks II™* and *Breaking Ranks in the Middle™*. For more information about CSSR, located in West Warwick, RI, visit www.cssr.us or call 401-828-0077.