

Hillcrest Mock Trial Team Competes in Regionals

Members of the Hillcrest Middle School Mock Trial Team participated in the regional middle school Mock Trial competition at Bethel Middle School on December 10, 2008. Although the team did not advance to the finals, the students' case presentations earned complimentary feedback from the distinguished panel of judges.

Advisor Brian Hendrickson, who led the Hillcrest teams, noted the students' special thanks to all of their supporters, including Principal Rosemary Seaman, Assistant Principal Rita Nappi, their parents, and attorney advisor Carolyn Collins.

Co-sponsored by the Connecticut Consortium for Law and Citizenship Education and the Connecticut Bar Association., the middle school competition is in its eighth year as it draws upon the rich heritage of the high school program's 27-year history. More than three hundred students from over thirty middle schools participated in this year's statewide competition.

"The middle school Mock Trial program not only provides an enriching experience for the students, it also prepares them for participation in the high school Mock Trial program," said Mr. Hendrickson. He also noted that, under the direction of advisor Eric August, Trumbull High is in its first year of participating in the high school Mock Trial program.

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On a related note, the Connecticut Consortium for Law and Citizenship Education is offering its first-ever week-long Mock Trial Camp, co-sponsored by the State Judicial Branch, this summer in Hartford. The camp is open to students entering grades 7-12 and will take place in the State Legislative Office Building and local courts from July 27-31. Cost is \$150 per student. Hillcrest Mock Trial team advisor Brian Hendrickson is the program's Assistant Director. More information about the camp is available at www.cclce.org.