



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Science and Engineering Alliance (SEA) Establish the Winston & Strawn Educational Training Institute**

*“The Institute creates the opportunity for District of Columbia Public School (DCPS) teachers to participate in training programs aimed at improving their day-to-day classroom performance, and provides DCPS students with an in-depth understanding of the complicated and intimidating financial aid process from beginning to the end.”*

Drawing on 13-years of accomplishments, the Science and Engineering Alliance, Inc. (SEA) has established the Winston & Strawn Education Training Institute (WSETI) to address various educational needs in the Washington, D.C. community. The WSETI will focus on training District of Columbia Public School (DCPS) teachers to deepen their understanding of content and pedagogical methods in their subject area, and improve their professional teaching abilities in the classroom. Additionally, the Institute will conduct formal workshops to assist and serve DCPS students who desire to attend college, but are struggling with the complicated and intimidating financial aid process.

“I am delighted the SEA, through its teacher enhancement workshops, will provide DCPS teachers with hands-on laboratory experience through a collaboration with Howard University. We know that the quality of science and mathematics teachers and teaching is fundamental to raising the achievement levels of DCPS students in these fields, and this working partnership through SEA links with our effort to create a seamless K-16 educational experience for our students,” noted Dr. Paul Vance, DCPS Superintendent. “And the financial aid workshops will help our DCPS students take advantage of the postsecondary education options available to them. This partnership with SEA will greatly help DCPS is meeting both the improvement needs of its teachers and the K-16 academic goals of its students,” continued Dr. Vance.

The strategy will involve engaging teachers in advanced summer training and aligning their new experience and knowledge with what should be taught and covered in the

DCPS classroom. The new knowledge gained through the in-service summer training experience will ultimately result in curriculum enhancements/modifications within DCPS instructional laboratories and classrooms.

Financial aid such as the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process, with its many detailed attachments, presents a problem for many students. FAFSA, however, opens the door to the federal financial aid process, which many of the DCPS students need. Every step students take in completing the process gets them closer to achieving their education goals.

“We are excited about this new partnership with the DCPS, and look forward to drawing upon our vast network to support DCPS teachers and students,” noted Dr. Robert Shepard, SEA executive director.

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