



Superintendent dispels rumors; Academy stays magnet; advanced programs may expand

By [Elizabeth G. Howard](#) on June 12, 2014 in [Latest News](#), [Lead News](#), [School News](#) · [0 Comments](#)

About author



[Elizabeth G. Howard](#)

“There is no plan to ‘de-magnetize’ the Academy into a neighborhood school, said Stratford Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Janet Robinson. She acknowledged “that rumor has been rampant.”

The Academy is known as a magnet school, because it draws students from throughout town.

Addressing another rumor among the school community, Robinson said that the district does not have any plans in place to remove the Advanced Learning Programs (ALPS) program from Stratford Academy, as it works to integrate advanced learning programs throughout the school system.

“We are working to make sure that all elementary schools have the ability to meet the needs of those advanced learners who are identified in third grade but do not fall within the top 30, (so that they) still have an accelerated curriculum in their fourth grade,” said Robinson. “Number 31 has the same needs as Number 30. There has been no discussion about eventually dismantling the ALP program (for elementary age children, currently based at the Academy). We just need to have the appropriate instruction to challenge all of our advanced learner population.”

Regarding the facilities at Stratford Academy, the district is currently building a new school at the Birdseye Street Academy campus. The new facility will replace Stratford Academy-Johnson House, grades K through 2 of the Academy, and be called Victoria Soto School.

Robinson said she expects completion of the new school by September 2015, and that the current configuration of the school — two elementary “houses,” one grades K-2 and the other with grades 3-6 — to remain the same.

Schools Chief Operating Officer Clarence Zachery said that there is no set plan for the current Johnson House, after the Soto School opens. He said the public schools administration is in the preliminary stages of conversations with the town of Stratford about how the Johnson House might be utilized.

Zachery repeated what Robinson has said a number of times, which is that the schools are currently at enrollment capacity.

Related Posts:

1. [Robinson budgets to ‘rebuild’ schools](#)

REAL ESTATE OFFICES

AND USE OUR MARKET REACH TO DO THAT ON: Hersam Acorn Networks.

Video including Facebook boosts, websites with a select three day infeed and a selected twitter market

[Click for more information](#)

Work Locally.

[Click here to check out our job postings online.](#)

[Click here for this week's e-edition.](#)
Subscription required.

Events Calendar

« JUNE 2015 »						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

TUE 02 Senior calendar: May 29-June 4
June 1 @ 8:30 am - June 4 @ 4:00 pm

TUE 02 Catholic Daughters meeting
June 2 @ 6:30 pm

2. [Superintendent targeting under-achievement](#)
3. [State grant helps with school security](#)
4. [Soto School steel topping ceremony — photos and report](#)

Tags: [Advanced Learning Programs](#), [Janet Robinson](#), [neighborhood school](#), [Stratford](#), [Stratford Academy](#), [Stratford Public Schools Superintendent Dr](#)

[Log In](#)

Previous Post
[Sounds like Peter to pay Paul](#)

Next Post
[8,000 people enjoy variety of activities at Main Street Festival](#)

By participating in the comments section of this site you are agreeing to our [Privacy Policy and User Agreement](#)

1 Comment [stratfordstar.com](#)

[smallstate](#)

[Recommend](#) [Share](#)

Sort by Oldest



Join the discussion...



Marge Sherman · a year ago

Is there still a Racial Balance Plan on file with the state of CT? If so, then Stratford Academy needs to remember that the school was conceived in the late 80's for the purpose of establishing racial balance in the Stratford Schools. To date, there's been a lot of "tinkering" with the Academy. The elimination of the Academy, two houses, one school now becoming two independent schools with two individual principals and conceivably two different approaches to instruction, negates that Stratford Academy maintains a continuity of programs from grades K-2 to grades 3-6. Additionally, naming the new school after Victoria Soto was very thoughtful, but Honeyspot House has a long history, is or was part of the Racial Balance Plan submitted to the state and naming it the Soto School further separates the two buildings. I was also disappointed when an ALP position was eliminated a few years ago. I am aware that the ALP teachers once had additional resource time, but if used correctly and wisely, that time should address the individual needs of gifted students, address the needs of accelerated learners in K-3 by tapping into the resources of the trained ALP staff. Now, I understand that there could be upwards to 30-31 students in one class. That would be acceptable, IF, there was a fourth teachers to co-teach, utilize small individual groups or differentiate instruction for the students, but that is not possible now. How can any teacher effectively meet

[see more](#)

[Reply](#) · [Share](#)

ALSO ON STRATFORDSTAR.COM

WHAT'S THIS?

[Advocates want site donated for open space](#)

1 comment · 4 days ago

George Mulligan — I understand 90 % of Remington Woods is in Bridgeport and 10 % in Stratford. Please correct ...

[Judge to rule June 2 on WPCA referendum case](#)

8 comments · 11 days ago

Neil Sherman — One can hear one's jaw drop at the latest antic of the Harkins' administration in its actions ...

[LETTER: Please reconsider the WPCA sale](#)

5 comments · 25 days ago

Lorraine Cecile Benoit Calzett — Thank you Greg Baxter. I second you to Mr Gavin Forrester 7th district ...

[LETTER: Taking back the town to let the residents decide](#)

3 comments · 19 days ago

Trsh — I have no first hand knowledge of missing money or the agreement with the WPCA. I only know what I ...

[Subscribe](#)

[Add Disqus to your site](#)

[Privacy](#)

TUE 02 **CHIRP 2015**
June 2 @ 7:00 pm

THU 04 **Major League Baseball Umpire Mark Hirschbeck**
June 4 @ 10:00 am

THU 04 **Thursday Night Ballroom Dance Party**
June 4 @ 7:30 pm - 11:00 pm

Make It Happen
With a Home Equity Loan

Rates as low as
3.50% APR*
5 Year Term - Fixed Rate

MUTUAL SECURITY
Your Community Credit Union
We Work for You!
800.761.2400 [www.mscu.net](#)

HERSAM ACORN
hanRadio

@hanradio

news, sports
& entertainment
in southwestern ct

*Thanks to the Blacksmith,
Jessie's dark heart is finally full.
And for those who have crossed her,
nightmares are about to come alive.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PURCHASE, PLEASE CLICK HERE

Subscribe to the
Hersam Acorn Radio
podcasts!



Listen to your
favorite shows when it's
convenient for you.

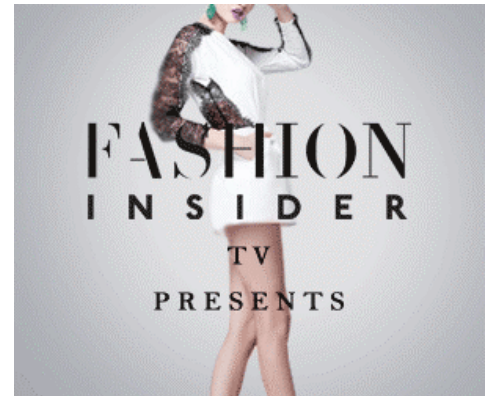
It's like DVR for the radio.



Subscribe to the HAN Radio podcasts!

Listen to the shows when it's convenient for you.
Now available on iTunes.

Subscribe to The Stratford Star
Less than 37¢ a week!



Hersam Acorn News Sites

Amity Observer | Bridgeport News | Darien Times
Easton Courier | Fairfield Sun | Greenwich Post
Lewisboro Ledger | Milford Mirror | Monroe Courier
New Canaan Advertiser | Redding Pilot | Ridgefield Press
Shelton Herald | Stratford Star | Trumbull Times
Valley Gazette | Weston Forum | Wilton Bulletin

Section B
Advertise
Classifieds
Article Reprints
Print Archives
Subscriptions
Privacy Policy & User
Agreement

Follow us on Twitter
Like us on Facebook
100 Things to Do
Stratford Answerbook
About Us
Contact Us
Submissions