



BOUNDLESS

Overview: Create where you want to go.

Boundless is a learning focused partnership between Hartford Public Library and Hartford Public Schools that redefines the model for urban learning. The Boundless partnership is based on an emerging trend in several other American cities in which school districts and libraries, which share an educational mission, have come together to deepen learning opportunities for children and adults while saving taxpayer dollars. Students who engage in *Boundless* will experience broader and richer learning opportunities to help them accomplish their personal goals and achieve their own success.

History:

Hartford Public Schools and Hartford Public Library have been planning and collaborating over the past 18 months to redefine the model for urban learning and are excited to launch their formal partnership, now called *Boundless*.

Boundless is a **learning focused partnership** based on an emerging trend in several other American cities in which school districts and libraries have come together to deepen learning opportunities for children and adults while saving taxpayer dollars. *Boundless* has three major strategies: developing zone collaborations where schools and branch libraries partner together on programs and services; creating systems and access where learning resources are dynamically available anywhere, anytime; and ensuring ongoing, collaborative communication with students, families, and the community

Boundless was piloted through the Goodwin Library Branch and schools in that neighborhood. The pilot demonstrated and provided insight as to how the schools and library can collaborate effectively to deepen learning opportunities for our children. Students participated in numerous collaborative activities including children's author visits, field trips, and visits to schools by the HPL Library-on-Wheels. There are now three (3) zones operating which include Goodwin, Ropkins, Park and Dwight.

Partnership Benefits:

- Boundless is a unique combination of integrated systems, innovative programs, and multi-media resources which offers resources across many platforms, including books, video, audio, periodicals, data, and the Internet.
- Boundless makes digital resources, broadband and wireless access available to all of our students.
- The partnership provides a Hartford Public Library card to all Hartford Public School students to increase accessibility to expanded learning resources.
- The partnership aligns with the Hartford Public School and Hartford Public Library strategic plans, as well as the White House **ConnectED Library Challenge** in which districts pledge to provide their students with easily accessible information and educational resources. Hartford is one of 60 municipalities across the nation that took the pledge.
- As part of the *Boundless* partnership, committed, knowledgeable, and engaging educators will support and bring one-on-one personal support and attention to students of all ages... making learning joyful and unpredictable.
- Opportunity to work with Nellie Mae Foundation on building the communications toolkit and web presence for the partnership.

Future:

There are several exciting upcoming partnership efforts including the expansion of the zone collaboration (zone 4 includes Downtown and Camp Field), development of a new YOUmedia center at Hartford Public High School, the launch of a Youth Voice and Leadership event in 2016, and the opening of the Mark Twain branch of the library as a fully integrated and collaborative space at West Middle School which will provide increased access to the entire community.

Launch:

We will formally launch Boundless at a press/media event the morning of **Monday, December 14 at 10:00 am**, to which you are all invited. An invitation and details are forthcoming.

