

# **SouthCoast Alliance**

## *New Bedford Subcommittee*

October 25, 2007/FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **SouthCoast Alliance Subcommittee to Sponsor School Committee Forum**

An alliance of SouthCoast community organizations is hosting a forum on Tuesday, October 30, at 7:00 p.m., at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, featuring candidates for the New Bedford School Committee. This event is free and open to the public.

During the 90-minute forum the six candidates will be asked a series of questions developed by the New Bedford subcommittee members. The questions are designed to probe each candidate's vision for the School Committee, their personal values and positions, and their perspectives on the search for a Superintendent of Schools to succeed retiring Superintendent Michael Longo.

The questions will be posed by three panelists, Gloria Williams, Director of YouthBuild New Bedford, Anthony Sapienza, CEO of Joseph Abboud Manufacturing Corp., and Lisa Yates, Executive Director of Our Sisters' School. Bristol Community College President Dr. Jack Sbrega will moderate.

The School Committee Candidates are Thomas R. Clark, Michael Monteiro, Marlene Pollock, Dana L. Rebeiro, Jill Marie Ussach, and, as a write-in candidate, Ramona Silva.

All Forum sponsors have a keen interest in public education and the role of the School Committee in setting policy for New Bedford's Public Schools. They include the Cape Verdean Recognition Committee Inc., the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts, Greater New Bedford Chamber of Commerce, Greater New Bedford Industrial Foundation, Interchurch Council, NAACP, The Martha Briggs Club, Neighborhoods United, The Standard-Times, United Interfaith Action, Wasted Away, and the Women's Fund of the Community Foundation.

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