

Link Community School
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Serving Newark's Youth for 40 Years

For Immediate Release

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LINK COMMUNITY SCHOOL BENEFITS FROM NOVARTIS COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP DAY

(Newark – September 28) **Ludwig Hantson**, CEO and head of Pharma North America, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation will visit **Link Community School** in the Central Ward of Newark on October 1, 2009 as part of Novartis' annual Community Partnership Day. Joining Mr. Hantson will be NJ Secretary of State **Nina B. Wells**, whose participation kicks off the state's Volunteer Month initiative. Additionally several Novartis volunteers will make science and career presentations to classes during the day.

Mr. Hantson and Ms. Wells will speak to Link students about leadership, a character trait that Link works hard to instill in its students, and then they will work with students in an interactive leadership and teambuilding activity. Community Partnership Day – a day of service and volunteerism initiated at Novartis 13 years ago - involves over 1500 employees reaching out to over 85 non-profit organizations throughout New Jersey

Link, an independent middle school serving students with a range of abilities from families of limited means living in and around Newark, has been the beneficiary of a long-time partnership with Novartis. Over a period of years, Novartis has provided the school with grants for science and health related education, invited Link students to "Bring Your Child to Work" days and, for the past four years, has sponsored Link female students in the Sally Ride Science Program in the hope of inspiring the young women to consider careers in science and health.