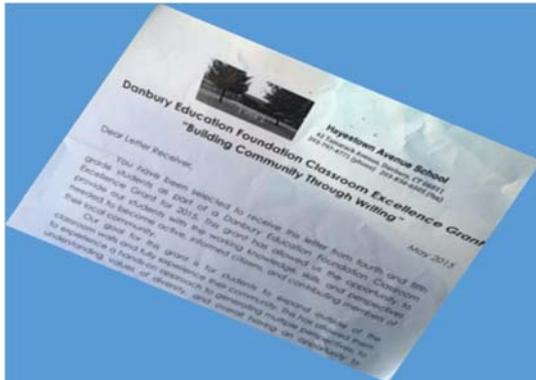


It began with a simple, penciled letter from 4<sup>th</sup> grader Daniela and her 5<sup>th</sup> grade pen pal Rachel. Ms Viola, their teacher, explained the assignment was for each pair to research & contact an entity that contributes to the community they are a part of. This unique assignment kicks a *typical career day* up a notch by expanding their classroom learning. The students are becoming active & informed citizens. The children were prepared with very thought-provoking questions. The teachers organized several small panels of different disciplines from law enforcement to the fire department to pizza makers & EMTs! Sean Boyle, DCF SWS Danbury & RA5 Vanessa Dorantes were paired with a representative from Union Savings Bank. SWS Boyle, had done student-teaching at this particular elementary school before he was bitten by the social work bug that changed his career path so this experience was particularly meaningful to him. This time spent with some pretty awesome kids illustrated what it means to partner with communities! Hats off to **Stadley Rough & Hayestown Ave Elementary Schools** in Danbury !!!!



**Region 5 BUILDING STRONG  
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