



FUTURE 5 helps motivated, low-income high school students in Stamford connect to their full potential.



THOMAS AGOSTO, DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS

Finding Future 5

Six months ago, I drove out of a middle school parking lot disheartened and discouraged about what was going on in our school system. Surrounded by constant negativity and criticism about our students, staff, community and administration, I decided that I would not return the following year as a school counselor. Discouraged by the lack of resources available to our students, I decided to leave the public school system and return to the non-profit sector, leaving behind benefits and summer vacations.

Not knowing where I would end up, I climbed the stairs at 135 Atlantic Street to interview with Clif McFeely for the position of Director of Students at **Future 5**. From the moment I walked into their space on the second floor, I noticed a warm, spirited environment in which highly motivated students walked in the door and were greeted by an energetic and caring staff. The idea of assisting students to reach their potential, despite their socio-economic background, rejuvenated my passion for working with youth. Three months have passed and I am even more inspired by the possibilities of **Future 5**.

Overheard at Future 5: *When asked by a student, "Why are you dressed up for the leadership meeting?" the student responded, "I am a leader so I am going to dress the part."*



FUTURE 5 HIRES THREE

Future 5 is thrilled to announce the hiring of three new additions to their staff: Jane Kessler Hickok, director of operations, Thomas Agosto, director of students and Ellen Berube, student advocate. Visit [Future 5.com](http://Future5.com) to read the complete stories.



Clif's Coach Camp Kickoff

Bottom row (left to right): Jenny Collins, Jack Donahue, Noreen Poulson, Fanny Moran, Jo Zeising, Brenda Connolly, Polly Perkins Johnson, Martha Cook, Frank Blod, Rob Klugman

Back row (left to right): Richard Jones, Clif McFeely, Alec Wiggan, Bill Lewis, Thomas Agosto, Peg Atchue, Lindsay Valk, Nancy Roath, Dennis Barrette.

First-ever **Future 5** Coach Camp – a fun and informative workshop event for all **F5** coaches and volunteers to discuss the joys of working with our **Future 5** students. Executive Director Clif McFeely shared his techniques for engaging students and making meaningful and long-lasting connections, the soul of **Future 5**.

Future 5 Facts

College Prep Workshop 2013-2014:
41 high school seniors participated
24 are attending 4-year colleges this fall

- **14** are attending 2-year colleges or trade schools
- **1** deferred acceptance to Parsons – lack of funding
- **2** are undecided

If you have any interest in becoming a college coach or in helping with scholarship funds for our students, please contact **Nancy Roath** or **Debb Eagan**.