

I champion Albany public schools because...

The opportunity:

"I've been involved with the City School District of Albany in a number of ways: my son attended Albany public schools, I served on a Shared Decision Making Committee, I was involved with Albany School of Humanities and I've worked with the district through the after-school programs. I think the district has a tremendous amount of resources and can provide the types of opportunities that young children need to learn and to grow.

"The YMCA provides after-school programming for the district, and we try to provide a little bit of everything. From arts programs to enrichment and leadership programs to dance and sports activities, a variety of life skills are made available to Albany public school students."

The achievement:

"One of the things I've always recognized with the Albany school district is that they are faced with many challenges because people have more educational options these days. The more offerings within the district that people can choose – like magnet schools, innovative academic courses, and extracurricular clubs and programs – the more competitive the district can become and the better product it can deliver.

"I think both the YMCA and the district share the common goal of trying to keep kids in a safe haven with positive role models. Our partnership at North Albany Academy is an especially good one. Since the YMCA is right next door to the school, when the school day ends, students are able to come to the Y and utilize the programs there. There's a public library, there are sports facilities and there are a lot of activities to keep the students involved, interested and off the streets."



David Brown
President and CEO
Capital District YMCA

With a 16-year career within YMCA, David Brown is now the president and CEO of the Capital District YMCA. He is responsible for the supervision of the day-to-day administration and operation of 11 YMCA branches, four satellite branches and 59 childcare sites. Prior to being named CEO, Mr. Brown was the chief operating officer and senior vice president. He also previously held the position of executive director at the Albany YMCA on Washington Avenue and later at the Guilderland YMCA, when the \$7 million facility opened its doors in 1999.

Mr. Brown was a founding member of the committee to establish the Capital District YMCA Black and Latino Achievers Program. He served as a member of the Shared Decision Making Committee at Albany School of Humanities and is associated with the National Black Child Development Institute and the Association of YMCA Professionals.

He has received numerous honors, including being selected by *The Business Review* for 40 Under Forty.

the Capital District YMCA President's Award (Employee of the Year) and the Community Service Award from the Association of YMCA Professionals. In 2006, Mr. Brown was the recipient of the New York State Governor's African American Community Distinction Award.