

**DREAM DELEGATION**

# Sabis 'outstanding' at AIC Model Congress

SPRINGFIELD – Sabis International Charter School in Springfield received the Outstanding Delegation Award at the 70th annual Model Congress at American International College.

The AIC Model Congress, the longest running event of its kind in the country, attracted more than 300 high school students from throughout New England and New York. The students wrote, amended, debated and voted on a variety of bills during the three-day event, while competing for nearly \$200,000 in AIC scholarships.

Sabis students taking part in the Model Congress were Juliana Cotto, Grant Kuehl, Olivia Guilbert, Hannah Sul-

livan, Caitlyn Normand, Danielle Lessard, Chelsea Orefice and Brandon Santiago.

Local schools participating included Agawam, Belchertown, Chicopee, Minnechaug Regional, Sabis, Holyoke, Cathedral and Southwick-Tolland Regional.

The Model Congress is organized and run by AIC students, while faculty and staff members served as judges, rating the participants on their debating skills and knowledge of parliamentary procedure.

U.S. Rep Richard E. Neal, D-Mass., delivered the keynote address to a joint session of Model Congress on Jan. 15 in the Griswold Theatre.

Newly elected Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen was the featured speaker at the Awards Banquet on Jan. 16.

Among the bills debated at this year's Model Congress was legislation to implement the withdrawal of the U.S. from the United Nations; repeal the prohibition of marijuana; and stopping animal abuse.

There were also bills aimed at prohibiting the sale of personal information to third parties; and correcting the imbalance between the number of primary care physicians and specialists.

For more information, contact the AIC office of public relations at (413) 205-3231.



Submitted photo

**Sabis International Charter School in Springfield students receive the Outstanding Delegation Award from Peter Miller, vice president of admission services at American International College. Sabis students taking part in the Model Congress were, in alphabetical order: Juliana Cotto, Olivia Guilbert, Grant Kuehl, Danielle Lessard, Caitlyn Normand, Chelsea Orefice, Brandon Santiago and Hannah Sullivan.**

