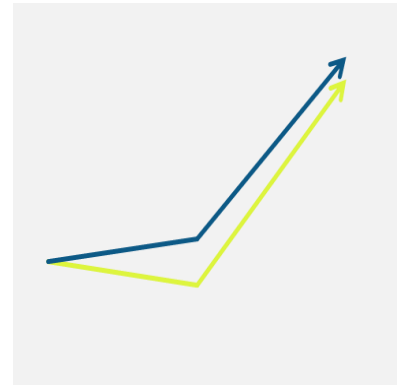


# LOCAL CONTROL PLANNING MEETING

INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRANSITION TO LOCAL CONTROL



# AGENDA

- WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
- BACKGROUND
- TIMELINE OF EVENTS
- RESPONSIBILITIES OF LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD
- TRANSITION AREAS OF FOCUS (FOR DISCUSSION)

# WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR



# WELCOME FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



# BACKGROUND



- **The State Board of Education voted on September 13<sup>th</sup> to “return operational control to Newark Public Schools following the creation and completion of a transition plan.”**
- This process represents a historical moment and is a tribute to the many years of hard work by the Mayor, School Board, District employees, and all Newark community members.

# BACKGROUND

The State identified a few drivers for the return to local control of Newark's schools:

- 1. Instruction & Program: The progress Newark educators are making with students** is essential to moving back toward local control and providing a foundation on which to build.
- 2. Governance: Newark leaders are working collaboratively** – and are uniting around the common goal of sustaining and improving learning gains for students.

Improved QSAC scores in these areas allowed the Commissioner to recommend the return of local control and the State Board of Education to vote for it.

# BACKGROUND

- In line with regulations, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) will develop this plan with collaboration on certain components from NPS, the local School Board, and Mayor's Office.
- **The plan will cover:**
  - The full withdrawal of state intervention
  - Return of governance
  - Return of instruction and program
  - Additional considerations for areas already under control
- Tonight our goal is to share information about the transition and to gather input from the community in the core focus areas of the plan to be provided to school board, district, and city leaders

# PREPARING FOR LOCAL CONTROL

January 2007 –  
August 2016

- State Board of Education votes to return control to Newark of QSAC three areas: operations, fiscal management, and personnel.

September 2015  
– August 2016

- The Newark Education Success Board (NESB) develops and publishes a report, *Pathways to Local Control*, to guide the transition to local control.

September 2016

- Newark district and school board leaders finalize a strategic plan titled *The Next Three Years* with significant public input.



# EARNING LOCAL CONTROL



September 2016  
– August 2017

- A transition plan for personnel is developed and, in August, approved by the Commissioner.
  - The District begins implementing local oversight over Personnel actions, giving the Board voting authority over all personnel decisions taken by the District.

September 2017

- **State Board votes to return local control**
  - In the remaining QSAC domains, Governance and Instruction & Program, and
  - To begin the process of returning full control to the local Newark Board.

September 2017  
– Winter 2017/18:

- **NJDOE is drafting a full return transition plan** with collaboration from NPS, the local School Board, and Mayor's Office.

# MOVING FORWARD WITH LOCAL CONTROL



Winter 2017/18

Winter 2017/18

Moving Forward

- **The transition plan will be presented to the Newark community at a Newark School Board meeting.**
  - The plan will identify a date for the return of full control to Newark schools.
- **The Newark School Board will implement the full return transition plan.** This will include, but is not limited to:
  - Engaging in a superintendent search and hiring a superintendent
  - Holding a public referendum to determine if school board members will be elected or be appointed by the Mayor
  - Identifying specific areas for further training for board members
  - Specific provisions for Governance, I&P, and the other QSAC domains to hold board members and district officials accountable to benchmarks.

# CORE RESPONSIBILITIES OF LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS

- According to the NJSBA “The role of the school board member in school governance is not one of direct management, but one more focused on policy and goal-setting.”

School Board Responsibilities	Superintendent Responsibilities	Collective Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Advocating for all children, teachers, and staff</li> <li>○ Maintaining fiscal responsibility</li> <li>○ Making policy for the District regarding personnel matters</li> <li>○ Delegating day-to-day management and decision-making authority for policy and personnel to the District</li> <li>○ Acting in compliance with applicable law, including the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act and School Ethics Act</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Recommending all administrative policies and annual budget to the Board</li> <li>○ Supporting the board by providing information for decision-making</li> <li>○ Overseeing educational program</li> <li>○ Taking responsibility for personnel matters</li> <li>○ Developing and administering the budget</li> <li>○ Developing and supporting teachers and other staff</li> <li>○ Day-to-day administration of the school district</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prioritizing student outcomes</li> <li>○ Providing educational leadership to the community</li> <li>○ Creating strong connections with other agencies to support the achievement and development of children</li> <li>○ Setting district-wide policies and goals</li> <li>○ Ensuring safety and adequacy of all school facilities</li> <li>○ Ensuring effective Board and District communication</li> <li>○ Overseeing negotiations with employee groups</li> </ul>

Source: Adapted from Goodman and Zimmerman, (2006) *Effective Superintendents, Effective Boards*.

# CORE RESPONSIBILITIES OF LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS

## ■ Examples of this include:

School Board Responsibilities	Superintendent Responsibilities	Collective Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approving district-wide curricula and assessments</li><li>• Approval of district-wide budget (ensuring budgets are balanced).</li><li>• Selecting the superintendent</li><li>• Approving hiring recommendations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Managing schools and their staffs</li><li>• Developing school-based and district-wide budget for Board review and approval</li><li>• Conducting hiring processes and making recommendations to the board</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Engaging in reviews of and discussions about student outcomes data and ensuring accountability for addressing identified gaps</li><li>• Engaging with one another responsibly and with transparency</li></ul>

# CORE AREAS OF FOCUS FOR TRANSITION (FOR DISCUSSION):

## ■ School Board Ethics and Expectations

- What are some expectations you have for board members' ethical behavior during and after this transition? What are some examples of how their ethical behavior might look in practice? (see NJSBA [code of ethics](#) at tables)

## ■ Hiring a Superintendent

- What are some of the criteria for the superintendent search *process* that you would like to be included in the plan to select a new superintendent? (see sample search process at tables)

## ■ School Board, District, and Community Collaboration Going Forward

- What are some things you think are important for the school board and district to consider as they prepare to collaborate with each other - and the larger Newark community - going forward in this new era of local control? (see backside of one-pager for discussion)

# TABLE DISCUSSIONS

- We will now have 45 minutes to discuss each of these topics at tables. Please join a table with a tent card for the topic you would like to discuss:

- 1. School Board Ethics and Expectations**
- 2. Hiring a Superintendent**
- 3. School Board, District, and Community Collaboration Going Forward**

Your facilitator will provide you with a resource document to review and then will begin the conversation.

**THANK YOU**