



## **Christie Administration Establishes Working Group to Continue School Reform in Newark**

**For Immediate Release**

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**Trenton, NJ** – Acting Commissioner of Education David Hespe today announced the creation of a community working group to engage the community on progress and implementation of school reforms in Newark.

To ensure that the greater Newark community is fully engaged in the school improvement initiatives being implemented in the coming months, Acting Commissioner of Education David Hespe, Secretary of Higher Education Rochelle Hendricks, and Superintendent of the Newark Public School District Cami Anderson will be convening a community based working group comprised of parents, students, educators, higher education representatives, educational providers, clergy, and community stakeholders.

The group will be convened immediately, review One Newark, and make recommendations to improve its short-term and long-term implementation. It is anticipated that the first meeting will occur in early July with interim recommendations provided shortly thereafter. The group will continue to meet at least on a monthly basis as the vision for One Newark is implemented to ensure that the views of the Newark community are adequately addressed throughout the process.

"The goal is to improve communications so the school district can continue to work toward meaningful education reform," said Acting Commissioner Hespe. "I think everyone can agree that there are improvements that can be made to One Newark in order to provide a high-quality education for our students. Community support and engagement is crucial to reaching that goal."

The group will reach out to families in neighborhoods through the community to receive input, hear concerns, and to disseminate information about implementation to sustain the progress of school reform and to ensure successful implementation of future phases of school reform.