

## Murphy Administration Announces Transition of Paterson Public Schools to Full Local Control

## For Immediate Release

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**Trenton, NJ** – The New Jersey State Board of Education today approved two resolutions that allow for the return of local control to the Paterson Public Schools following the creation and completion of its transition plan. The Paterson Public Schools have been under state control since 1991.

The State Board of Education approved a <u>resolution</u> that begins the transition of the final two functional areas of oversight – governance and instruction and program – from state control to the authority of the Paterson Public Schools. The State Board of Education also adopted a <u>resolution</u> authorizing the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Paterson Public Schools, to begin development of a transition plan to full local control.

"This is an important milestone for the students, parents, educators and leaders of the City of Paterson that worked diligently to improve district QSAC scores." said State Board of Education President Arcelio Aponte.

"This is a result of collaborative efforts that involved parents, students, teachers and administrators who, working with the educators at the Department, helped put the systems in place for improved academic achievement and stable governance," said Acting Education Commissioner Lamont O. Repollet.

The tool that facilitates the return to local control is the state's school-monitoring system – the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) – which evaluates districts in five functional areas: governance, fiscal management, personnel, operations, and instruction and program. The law provides for state-operated districts to regain control of areas in which they have demonstrated strong scores on the NJQSAC accountability scale, as long as the district has adequate programs, policies and personnel in place to sustain the growth.

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