



State of New Jersey

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Adoption Resolution
July 1, 2020

Resolution Returning The Newark Public School District to Full Local Control

Whereas, by administrative order issued on July 5, 1995, the State Board of Education removed the Newark Public School District Board of Education and created a State-Operated School District in Newark, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-34; and

Whereas, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-10 et seq. and effective January 24, 2007, the New Jersey Legislature directed the Commissioner of Education to develop and implement, after review by the Joint Committee on the Public Schools, a system for monitoring and evaluating the thoroughness and efficiency of public school districts in the State of New Jersey to be called the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC); and

Whereas, NJQSAC involves an assessment of each school district's performance in the five key components of school district effectiveness: Instruction and Program, Personnel, Fiscal Management, Operations, and Governance; and

Whereas, the State Board of Education adopted resolutions on October 17, 2007, June 4, 2014, and August 3, 2016, to return to local control the areas of Operations, Fiscal Management, and Personnel, respectively, while the remaining key components of school district performance continued under partial State intervention; and

Whereas, the State Board of Education adopted a resolution on September 13, 2017, to initiate the return to local control of the key components of Governance and Instruction and Program; and

Whereas, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.1, the Commissioner determined that the Newark Public School District met the factors for initiating withdrawal from partial intervention and a return to full local control; and

Whereas, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.2, the Commissioner recommended to the State Board of Education that the process for withdrawal from partial intervention be initiated in Newark Public School District; and

Whereas, the State Board of Education adopted a resolution on September 13, 2017, directing the Department of Education, in collaboration with Newark Public School District, to develop a full transition plan, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.2 and 7.3, and to initiate the process of withdrawal of the Newark Public School District from partial State intervention; and

Whereas, in collaboration with the Newark Public School District and pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.2 and 7.3, the Department of Education developed a full transition plan, which established the framework for the return to local control of the school district and went into effect on February 1, 2018; and

Whereas, pursuant to the transition plan, the Commissioner appointed a Highly Skilled Professional, Ms. Anzella Nelms, to provide the Newark Public School District with technical assistance in implementing the transition plan, to serve as a liaison between the school district and the Department of Education, and to provide qualitative observations regarding the school district's progress under the transition plan; and

Whereas, pursuant to the transition plan, the Department of Education partnered with an independent entity, the Bloustein Local Government Research Center of Rutgers University, to form a Comprehensive Accountability Office (CAO); and

Whereas, pursuant to the transition plan, the CAO was tasked with collecting, analyzing and publishing data regarding the ongoing operations and performance of the school district and

the school district's quantitative progress in implementing the transition plan, as measured by metrics on an Accountability Scorecard; and

Whereas, the CAO completed three reports regarding the school district's progress in implementing the transition plan -- the initial report, a progress report, and a final report; and

Whereas, the CAO's final report confirms that the school district successfully completed the quantitative metrics on the Accountability Scorecard and fulfilled the requirements of the transition plan; and

Whereas, Ms. Nelms, the Highly Skilled Professional, completed four reports regarding the school district's progress in implementing the transition plan and her final report confirms that the school district fulfilled the requirements of the transition plan and has developed systems and processes to sustain the school district's practices and progress; and

Whereas, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.6, the Commissioner has determined that the Newark Public School District has successfully implemented the full transition plan and, therefore, recommends to the State Board of Education the withdrawal from State intervention be completed and the Newark Public School District be returned fully to local control; and be it

Resolved, that the State Board of Education approves the withdrawal of the Newark Public School District from State intervention; and be it further

Resolved, that the State Board of Education, on the first day of July in the year 2020, hereby approves that the Newark Public School District is now returned fully to local control.

Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner
Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education

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