



Christie Administration Renews Newark Superintendent Contract, Continues School Reform in Newark

For Immediate Release

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Trenton, NJ – Acting Commissioner of Education David Hespe today announced the renewal of Cami Anderson as superintendent of the Newark Public School District.

"School reform is a complex, multi-year change process that requires many phases of implementation," said Acting Commissioner Hespe. "As the district moves through implementation, it is important to frequently assess where the district is and what leadership is necessary to continue moving the district forward. Cami's knowledge, talent, and determination will help move our school reform efforts forward."

The contract provides for a compensation package that is consistent with her current contract, comprised of both base salary and merit pay. The superintendent will receive a 1.6% annual increase in her base salary to reflect inflation. Severance payments are provided in the contract, as a condition of separation, and are consistent with state regulations, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-31, that govern these agreements for all school districts. The State and the superintendent have established a hybrid agreement that spans three years and requires at the end of each year an agreement by both the commissioner and superintendent to extend the contract for an additional year.

In a presentation to the State Board of Education earlier this year, Anderson highlighted some of the progress that has been occurring in the district:

- From 2011 to 2014, graduation rates have increased by 10 percent, and High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) graduation rates have increased by 8 percent;
- Worked with teachers to implement a landmark contract focus on comprehensive reform, including awarding teachers merit pay;
- Hired 50 new principals who now have the flexibility and support to transform their schools;
- Opened 10 Renew schools (eight K-8 and two high schools) in place of the 12 lowest-performing schools, and opened five new district schools (e.g., Eagle Academy for Young Men and Newark Academy for Girls); and
- Reorganized central office to focus on supporting schools, parents and families.