

New Jersey Department of Education



Paterson Public School District's Progress in the Transition to Local Control

January 6, 2021 State Board Meeting



Please note that this presentation has been modified from its original version to be more accessible.

The Transition Plan (slide 1 of 2)



- The District's Transition Plan for the Return of Local Control ("Transition Plan") became effective on September 5, 2018.
- The end date of the Transition Plan was September 5, 2020.



The Transition Plan (slide 2 of 2)



- How is progress under the Transition Plan measured?
 - By the quantitative metrics on the Accountability Scorecard; and,
 - By the qualitative observations and feedback of the Highly Skilled Professionals (“HSPs”):
 - Mr. Theodore Best (Technical/Governance)
 - Dr. Stephen Cowan (Instruction & Program)
 - Dr. Alexis Colander (Special Education)



The Accountability Scorecard

(slide 1 of 5)



- The metrics on the Scorecard address the following areas:
 - Fundamental Considerations
 - Governance
 - Instruction and Program
 - Fiscal Management
 - Personnel



The Accountability Scorecard

(slide 2 of 5)



- Pursuant to the Transition Plan, the Department partnered with an independent entity (the Bloustein Local Government Research Center of Rutgers University) to form a Comprehensive Accountability Office (“CAO”).
- The CAO is responsible for collecting and publishing data that corresponds to the Scorecard and demonstrates whether the District is making “substantial and sustainable” progress on the metrics.



The Accountability Scorecard

(slide 3 of 5)



- Five Scoring Categories:
 - Not Implemented (1 point)
 - Partially Implemented (2 points)
 - Substantially Implemented (3 points)
 - Fully Implemented (4 points)
 - Not Applicable (metric cannot be measured at this time)



The Accountability Scorecard

(slide 4 of 5)



- In review of the documentation submitted by the district for the CAO's final report, the CAO concluded that:
 - The district has continued to implement systems that demonstrate sustainable policies and procedures.
 - Therefore, the CAO determined that the district fully implemented 25 out of 28 metrics and substantially implemented the remaining 3 metrics.



The Accountability Scorecard

(slide 5 of 5)



- 23 Metrics (28 scores because some metrics have more than one part):
- Summary of Scores:
 - 24 metrics were “fully implemented.”
 - 4 metrics are being “substantially met.”



The HSP's Report



- The report is based on the observations of the HSPs and their interactions with the District through September 6, 2020.
- The report complements the CAO's report by providing anecdotal information and/or addressing sections of the Transition Plan that are not on the Scorecard.
- The information provided by the HSPs demonstrates that the District is developing and improving internal controls that support sustainability and successful implementation of the Transition Plan.



Commissioner's Recommendation



- Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-7.6, the Commissioner has the authority to determine whether the District successfully implemented the Transition Plan and to recommend to the State Board the District's withdrawal from intervention and full return to local control.



Questions?



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