

# PRESENTATION TO THE NJ STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

NEWARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SUPERINTENDENT CHRISTOPHER CERF  
OCTOBER 7, 2015

**Newark Public Schools** | [www.nps.k12.nj.us](http://www.nps.k12.nj.us)



# PROGRESS



**Thanks to the commitment of NPS teachers, school leaders, and staff**

# PROGRESS: TODAY

- Today, a higher percent of our kids are graduating:
  - Our graduation rate is up from 56% in 2011 to 70%
  - HSPA rate is up 22%
- We have doubled the percentage of African American children who attend schools in Newark (traditional and charter combined) that beat the state average.
- Suspension rates are down 37% as the result of our restorative justice approach to school discipline.

# PROGRESS: TODAY

- Students are no longer limited to school options based on zip code.
  - Parents have more choices and are engaging in those choices. For the 2015-16 SY:
    - 75% of kindergarten families preferred a school that was not their neighborhood school.
    - 42% of families selected a high performing charter as their first choice.
- We have more school options for our children, not just new charters, but also new District Schools:
  - Bard High School Early College
    - 51 students graduated with an AA degree from Bard in 2015.
  - Eagle Academy for Young Men
  - Girls Academy of Newark
  - Two new transfer schools, for our overage, under-credited youth

# PROGRESS: TODAY

- We are seeing the results of our ground breaking teacher contract:
  - Compensation is no longer based on time served alone.
  - Since 2012, we have filed 115 tenure charges:
    - 89 of those individuals are no longer in the district.
      - Compare this with the prior decade where virtually NO tenure charges were filed.
  - 95% of our highly effective and effective educators have remained in our classrooms.
  - We have expanded the school day in more than half of our schools.
  - We designed a common-core aligned masters program for our teachers.
  - We successfully signed the SEIU Local 617 Contract.

**STEPS  
TO ENSURE  
READINESS FOR  
SCHOOL OPENING  
SEPTEMBER 2015**

# STEPS TO ENSURE READINESS FOR SCHOOL OPENING

Network	Enrollment/Student Placement/Summer School					Special Education		Staffing					Mat'l & Supplies			School Safety/Environment & Facilities					Renew, Consolidation, Co-location & Reloc.		Transportation & Food Service				
	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27		
Mitchell F. Center	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	0	0	3	3	3	3		
Brad Haggerty	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	0	0	3	3	3	3		
Mitchell F. Center	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	1	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	2	3	3	3		
Brad Haggerty	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	0	0	3	3	3	3	3		
Herb Daughtry	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	0	0	2	2	2	2	3		
Brad Haggerty	2	3	3	3	3	2	1	3	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	0	0	2	2	2	2	3		
Brad Haggerty	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	0	0	3	3	3	3	3		
Brad Haggerty	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	0	3	3	3	3	3		
Roger Leon	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3		
Herb Daughtry	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	0	0	2	3	3	3	3		
Mitchell F. Center	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	3	3	3	3		
Herb Daughtry	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	0	0	1	1	1	1	3		
Brad Haggerty	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	0	0	3	3	3	3		
Herb Daughtry	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	2	3	3	1	1	3	0	0	3	3	3	3		
Herb Daughtry	2	2	2	0	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	1	1	3	0	0	2	2	2		
Roger Leon	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3		
Mitchell F. Center	3	3	3	0	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3		
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Mitchell F. Center	3	2	3	0	3	0	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	3	0	0	2	3	3	3	3		
Mitchell F. Center	3	2	3	0	3	0	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	0	0	0	3	3	3	3		
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Mitchell F. Center	3	2	3	0	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	0	0	2	3	3	3	3		
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Roger Leon	3	2	3	0	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	3	0	0	2	2	1	3	3		

# SUMMER PREPARATION FOR SCHOOL OPENING

- **Students: Summer School**
  - 3,200 K-8 students served
- **Families: Family Support Center**
  - 7,400+ students served since July 13
- **School Staff: Summer Training**
  - 13,500+ hours of training attended by teachers and school leaders
- **Schools: 800 Summer Safety and Health Projects for School Buildings**
  - 102 Smart Boards installations, 22 classroom floor replacements, and 148 repainted classrooms
  - Brick-work and roof replacements at Arts High School, Abington Avenue Elementary, and Ann Street Elementary



# SCHOOL OPENING – LESSONS LEARNED

- Improve systems to update student addresses for bus pick-up.
- Support students with disabilities in magnet schools.
- Identify creative solutions for recruitment for hard-to-staff subject areas.

# BUDGET UPDATES

- The budget gap as of July 1, 2015 was \$63.4 million.
- Since July 1, the District has made and proposed \$48.4 million of reductions to close the gap.
- The budget gap as of October 7 is \$15 million.
- The \$48.4 million reductions consist of:
  - \$17.1 million in non-salary accounts **at Central Office**
  - \$25 million in placement of EWPS employees **in vacant positions**
  - \$4.3 million reduction **in central office vacant positions**
  - \$2 million proposed reduction **in central office unaffiliated staff**

# BUDGET UPDATES

## **Employees without Placement Sites (EWPS)**

- September 2014: ~300
- September 2015 (10/6/15): 169

## **Engagement:**

- Executive Session with Board: October 14th
- Public Forum on Budget: November

## **Next Steps**

# FALL 2015 – SEEING RESULTS AND PROGRESS

## Recent School Visits:

- Bard Early College High School
- Barringer Academy of the Arts & Humanities
- Barringer S.T.E.A.M. Academy
- Benjamin Franklin School
- Chancellor Avenue School
- Eagle Academy for Young Men
- East Side High School
- Fast Track Success Academy
- First Avenue School
- George Washington Carver Elementary School
- Girls' Academy of Newark
- Hawkins Street School
- Hawthorne Avenue School
- Ivy Hill Elementary School
- John F. Kennedy School
- Malcolm X Shabazz High School
- Mount Vernon Elementary School
- New Jersey Regional Day School
- Oliver Street School
- Quitman Street Community School
- Rafael Hernandez Elementary School
- South 17<sup>th</sup> Street School
- Thirteenth Avenue / Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School
- Weequahic High School
- West Side High School Campus
- Wilson Avenue School

