



State Board of Education Returns an Additional Category of Local Control to Newark, Moving the District Closer to Full Local Control

For Immediate Release

Contact: Michael Yaple
David Saenz

Date: August 3, 2016

609-292-1126

Trenton, NJ – The New Jersey State Board of Education today approved returning to the state-operated Newark Public Schools District local control over the area of Personnel.

Newark now has local control in three of five categories – Newark received local control of Operations in 2007 and Fiscal Management in 2014.

The state's school monitoring system – called the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum, or NJQSAC – is the framework that evaluates districts in five separate functional areas: Governance, Fiscal Management, Personnel, Operations, and Instruction and Program. A 2005 law provides for state-run districts to regain control by demonstrating "substantial and sustained progress" through evidence that the district has adequate programs in place to ensure that demonstrated progress is sustained.

The State Board of Education passed a resolution saying that "the district scored 100% in Personnel, and the district has demonstrated its ability to sustain the substantial progress achieved to date." The return of Personnel to local control will involve a detailed transition plan that sets forth expectations and support for the district and board of education to ensure personnel continues to be managed well into the future.

In addition, Newark received an equivalency for the Instruction and Program portion of the NJQSAC review. This equivalency establishes a pathway for the district to demonstrate, through concrete achievement measures, student academic progress on the next NJQSAC review. If the district demonstrates evidence of substantial and sustained progress in the areas of Instruction and Program and Governance, the Department will recommend returning them to local control.

"Newark Public Schools continues to show it is on pace to obtain full local control," said Commissioner David C. Hespe. "We are pleased with the progress being made in the district in better serving the children of Newark."

For more information, see the letter to the district on returning Personnel to [local control](#) and the letter to the district with the full [NJQSAC scores](#).