

Perth Amboy City School District, Middlesex County



The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) Lighthouse District Initiative recognizes districts that have demonstrated measurable progress across diverse groups of learners. The NJDOE is proud to welcome the Perth Amboy City School District to the second cohort of Lighthouse Districts.

The Perth Amboy School District's mission is to provide all students with a solid academic foundation through the efforts of all staff, with parental support and collaboration that establishes high expectations, with resources, support services and fiscal management that focuses on achieving or exceeding the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. The district believes that sound and practical professional programs are positive links to establishing effective instructional practices. For the 2019-20 school year, the district has five professional development goals: New Jersey Student Learning Standards alignment, social emotional learning, bilingual education, support services and high school academy development.

The district is very proud of its stand-alone Dual Language Program, which educates students in both Spanish and English. Students begin this program at the pre-K level. The Dual Language Program is based upon three pillars: 1) bilingualism and biliteracy; 2) academic achievement in both languages and 3) cross-cultural competency.

The district has found success with its academy model and plans to continue development to increase opportunities for all students to experience learning in an engaging environment. The district's Communications Academy has a curriculum that organizes instruction around academic subject areas with a focus on the communications industry. In the program, which is open to all students, communication professionals provide real-world input. Entrance into the academy is based on student interest, which fosters an equitable admissions process for students in the district. The district will also launch the Health Science Academy (HSA) in Fall 2019. HSA will offer dual enrollment courses for students to build a college resume while still earning credits for graduation.

For the 2018-19 school year, each high school student in grades 10-12 was given a district owned Chromebook to use in school and at home to support learning inside and outside of the classroom. The vision of the 1:1 is supported by the three pillars of student engagement, collaboration and personalized learning, which create a strong foundation to support academic achievement. For the 2019-20 school year, the student 1:1 will be expanded to the Grade 9 Freshman Academy students.

Improving student achievement takes commitment on every level. The school district recently revised the Code of Conduct. The Departments of School Counseling and Related Services and Special Services joined efforts to ensure that Perth Amboy Students develop strong social and emotional skills. The 3 Tier Model of Student Supports in conjunction with the Code of Conduct, provide a proactive approach towards maintaining behavior expectations for students through prevention, targeted intervention, and wraparound services. The district-wide initiative helps students develop prosocial skills and nurture positive social interactions among all members of the school community. Through this progressive approach, Perth Amboy is changing school environments and developing meaningful relationships with students and their families to allow them to compete in a global market. As a testament to their growth and improvement, Perth Amboy High School was recently recognized as a 2019 National School of Character.

Perth Amboy City School District Demographic Information

Grades Served: Pre-K to 12

Schools in District: 11

Total Enrollment: 11,095

Economically Disadvantaged: 85.6%

Students with Disabilities: 9.6%

English Learners: 27.6%

Ask Perth Amboy City to Share Their Story

- 1) 2019 National School of Character
- 2) Dual Language Program
- 3) Chromebooks for each high school student
- 4) Social and emotional learning
- 5) Empowering paraprofessionals and educators

Contact Information

Superintendent Dr. David Roman