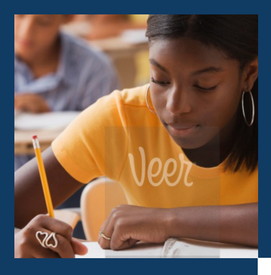
Strategic Planning



Newark Public Schools

THE NEXT THREE YEARS

Newark Public Schools (NPS) is actively engaging the community in developing a three-year strategic plan that will strengthen our public schools so that all children are prepared for college, work and life. Our overarching goal is to **ensure every child who lives in Newark has access to a free, high-quality public education**.

This strategic plan will both help improve student learning *and* pave the way for the school district's successful transition to local control. The community can use the plan to hold NPS leadership accountable for steady progress. And, after the transition, new leadership will be able to hit the ground running with a set of priorities that have been carefully thought through and embraced by the community.

Our Key Values

- We are committed to providing an excellent educational experience for Newark children and their families.
- We are focused on bringing local control back to Newark in a deliberate, thoughtful and sustainable way.
- We will engage and be transparent with all of our families and community partners.
- We will focus on progress and improvement by taking stock of where we are currently and where we should be going in the future.

Key Milestones

The planning process will have three basic phases:

Phase I: December 2015 – February 2016

This phase will focus on gathering input from community members and key stakeholders to help us as we shape our priorities to improve academics and operations. This includes a "step-back" meeting with the school board, a series of six community meetings, and a series of small group and one-on-one interviews with educators, parents, policymakers, business and civic leaders, students, and others committed to ensuring that every Newark child has access to schools that offer opportunity, equity and choice. We also will be administering a Family and Community Survey.

Locations	Dates*
East Ward: East Side High School	1/21/16
West Ward: West Side High School Campus	1/28/16
North Ward: Barringer High School Campus	2/03/16
Central Ward: Quitman Street Community School	2/04/16
South Ward: Malcolm X Shabazz High School	2/10/16
All Ward Final Meeting: Central High School	2/25/16

Please see our informational flyer for more details at: http://www.nps.k12.nj.us/blog/mdocs-posts/strategic-plan-meeting-dates-flyer/

This first phase will lead to publication of a draft set of priorities, which will:

1) Help shape our 2016–17 budget
2) Set the stage for the development of a more detailed plan during Phase III

Phase II: March – April 2016

This phase will focus on drafting our priorities and collecting community feedback on them. It will include reaching out to those we spoke with in Phase I to ensure that we have accurately captured their feedback.

Phase III: April – June 2016

Based on additional input and analyses, we will flesh out the strategic plan with additional details, action steps and timelines. We will share a draft of this plan with a review committee and gather feedback from these and other critical partners before presenting a final plan to the public.

Our Community Partners

A number of community-based organizations are taking the lead in organizing the ward meetings:

Community-based organization	Ward
La Casa de Don Pedro	North
Strong Healthy Communities Initiative	South
Ironbound Community Corp ICC	East
Newark Fairmont Promise Neighborhood and Urban League of Essex County	West
United Way of Essex & West Hudson	Central

*All meetings will take place from 6-8pm

In addition, we are consulting closely with the Newark School Board, Mayor's Office, City Council and other local elected officials. We will also be working closely with the Newark Educational Success Board and the New Jersey Department of Education to ensure that these efforts help advance us toward our goals for local control.

For more details, visit: http://www.nps.k12.nj.us/strategic-plan/

A survey will be available at the above link from January 21st until February 17th for all those unable to attend one of the ward meetings.