

## SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

# A Historic Year, a New Vision for the 2019-2020 School Year

Dear Parents, Students & Community,

June marks the end of the school calendar year for our **nearly 70K students** in the Newark Public Schools and a historic year for our district. It's been almost one year since the Newark Board of Education was returned to local control. During this time, I am honored to say that we have made significant gains including providing nearly **1-to-1 laptops for students**, we opened a new school and renovated others, we expanded our curriculum, improved attendance, hired **Attendance Counselors**, purchased new textbooks for students and **created a strategic plan** that is putting our students on a trajectory for greater success in the 2019-2020 school year.

These are great accomplishments – few of which would have been accomplished without the support of our Board Members, Mayor Ras J. Baraka, State Senator M. Teresa Ruiz, and others. In addition, I want to thank Audible, Panasonic, Prudential, and the many foundations who have joined us on our journey of “Where Passion Meets Progress.” I also want to thank the Board of Education staff; from our teachers, principals, vice principals, and staff, as well as Central Office staff, who began the school year with excitement with the Give Me 5 Campaign. Their energy, engagement, and commitment have never wavered and for that, I am truly grateful.

Our most important partners have and continue to be our students, their parents, guardians, and caretakers. I always say the most significant heartbeat of the school is that of the student. Together we have surrounded them with ideas, hope, and vision and they have in turn become a part of the solution to creating a new educational ecosystem for Newark.

Collectively, each of these individuals and groups has chosen to not be a bystander and instead be a participant in the progress of our students and our district. Our students are the solution to getting “it” done. Education is the answer to success in everything we do at the Newark Board of Education.

In closing, thank you for everything you have done to be a part of our progress this year. I look forward to an exciting and successful 2019-2020 school year!

Sincerely,

Roger León



Superintendent León is photographed with Don Katz, Founder of Audible, at the opening of the Innovation Cathedral. Audible provides internships and programs for NBOE students.



Speaker of the Assembly & State Legislators Show Support for West Side.

**Board Members Welcome Oprah to NBOE**



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Board Member Flohisha Hill greets and welcomes Oprah to West Side H.S.



Board Members Join Speaker Coughlin to Support West Side H.S.

**2019-2020 Student BOE Representative Candidates**

The election for Student Representative to the Newark Board of Education is underway. A candidate forum will be held on June 5 at Central Office, 765 Broad Street.

**Students can vote from June 5 - 14:**

<https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/board-of-education/student-board-member-vote/>

**Students please remember to vote!**

- Deborah Okubanjo** - West Side School - Class of June 2020
- Devon Corry** - University High School - Class of June 2020
- Omolara Olorunpiomi** - West Side High School - June 2020
- Ayoko Kessouagni** - American History High School - Class of 2020
- Vilma Rodriguez** - Technology High School - Class of 2020
- Sabrina Salam** - Arts High School - Class of 2020
- Bruno Coelho** - Science Park High School - Class of 2020
- David Daughety** - Arts High School - Class of 2020
- Valerie Egharevba** - Weequahic High School - Class of 2020

**MEET THE BOARD**



**Josephine C. Garcia**  
Board President



**Dawn Haynes**  
Vice President



**Andre Ferreira**  
Student Representative



**Reginald Bledsoe**



**Shayvonne Anderson**



**Yambeli Gomez**



**Flohisha Hill**



**A'Dorian Murray-Thomas**



**Asia J. Norton**



**Tave Padilla**

**NEXT PUBLIC MEETING  
JUN 25, 2019**



**Student BOE Rep Andre Ferreira receives full-ride scholarship to Harvard**

Congratulations to Andre Ferreira on receiving a full scholarship to Harvard University in the Fall.



# GRADUATING SENIORS TRANSITIONING TO COLLEGE



University High School students pose on National Decision Day (May 1, 2019) with their college choices.



## FOCUS ON GRADUATION



The inaugural members are:  
 Jazzlyn Adams, Merques Enoe, Messiah Gillen, Ethan Rivera, Cincere Pratts, Andrew Wheeler, Azeez Dada, Tamiyah Hardy, Zy'Asia Brown, Amado Ndifor, Janiya Jackson-Paige, Sanyeah McLendon, Aniyah Bouie, Syleah Breedon, Mifdol Fayemi, Monica McCloud

Newark Board of Education

# SOCCER FOR SUCCESS JAMBOREE 2019

3RD & 4TH GRADE WINNERS: ROBERTO CLEMENTE

5TH & 6TH GRADE WINNERS: OLIVERA STREET

7TH & 8TH GRADE WINNERS: ANN STREET



2019 Soccer for Success Jamboree was an amazing day that included 37 teams from Newark Board of Education in partnership with the Office of Expanded Learning Time, Office of Family & Community Engagement, Just One Soccer and Red Bull's Soccer.



## IMPORTANT DATES

- |       |  |      |   |
|-------|--|------|---|
| 6/1   | Think Global, Act Local! - Youth Leadership Conference | 6/11 | Math Olympics                                   |
| 6/3   | Teacher of the Year Celebration 2019                   | 6/12 | Bilingual Parent Advisory Meeting #4            |
| 6/4   | Eid al-Fitr (Schools & Central Office Closed)          | 6/13 | Clarity 2020: Unveiling of the Strategic Plan   |
| 6/5   | My Very Own Library Kickoff Event - Park Elementary    | 6/13 | Student RAMP Concert at NJPAC                   |
| 6/5   | Student Board Member Voting Begins                     | 6/13 | Bilingual Parent Advisory Meeting #4            |
| 6/6   | Abington Avenue School Blood Drive                     | 6/14 | International Night at the Museum               |
| 6/6   | Parent Appreciation Dinner                             | 6/14 | Academic Awards Night for the Class of 2019     |
| 6/6-7 | Spelling Bee - Newark Museum                           | 6/14 | HS Credit Recovery for Non-NPS Students         |
| 6/7   | Senior Day 2019  | 6/20 | Last Day of School - 1:00 PM Dismissal          |
| 6/8   | Family Festival Newark - 2019                          | 6/21 | Last Day of School - 1:00 PM Dismissal (Sussex) |

For more dates and details visit: <http://www.nps.k12.nj.us/district-calendar/>