



SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

A Heartfelt Thank You From Chris

Dear Friends,

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to the entire Newark community as I prepare to complete my task and hand over the reins of Newark Public Schools to **Deputy Superintendent Robert Gregory**. Many of you have served alongside me in my role as the Superintendent of Newark Public Schools for the past two and a half years.

To the Board and community members—your input, passion and commitment to our students continues to inspire me and give me great hope for the future. We often worked together, sometimes on different paths, but always with the same goal – to move our students to graduation and prepare them to be educated and dedicated citizens of Newark and the world.

It has also been an extraordinary experience for me to work with such dedicated employees; from Central Office Administration and Staff to our leadership in the schools, teachers and certainly our amazing students.

Together, **we have made great progress** in the district; from increasing the graduation rate of nearly 20 points to increasing test scores, opening new schools and this week, unveiling the long-awaited Central Office. This will **save the district \$2 million annually** and will bring a state-of-the-art Student 2 Science (S2S) Laboratory to Newark, the first of its kind for Newark Public Schools students. These are extraordinary accomplishments, none of which could have been achieved without your ideas, support and input.

Historically, I am most proud that together, with shared commitment and passion, we were able to return control of Newark Public Schools back to the community and to the city of Newark. Historically, the records will show that we accomplished this goal by working together.

This accomplishment, along with the academic progress our students are experiencing, marks an excellent time for me to depart NPS with a sound foundation and infrastructure and for Deputy and soon Interim Superintendent Robert Gregory, to continue on the path to progress for our students, our families and the entire Newark Public School family.

In closing, thank you.

Sincerely,

Christopher D. Cerf



Superintendent
Christopher D. Cerf

IMPORTANT DATES

1/23 NPS Board of Education (Regular Meeting)

1/24 Bilingual Parent Meeting

1/24 Social Justice Pop-UP Shop

1/25 SEPAC Meeting

1/27 Arts High Auditions

1/31 Staff Development Day (Schools closed)

2/3 Pre-K4 Movie Night & More Event -Cityplex 12

2/6 East Side UNDOCU-NJ Community Presentation

2/7 Newark Enrolls School Application Night

2/7 Parents as Partners Institute

2/14 Parents as Partners Institute

2/15 District-Wide Parent Teacher Conferences

2/16 Newark Enrolls Applications Due

2/19 Presidents' Day: Schools/Central Office closed



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



MEET THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

A. Robert Gregory

A. Robert Gregory, a native son of the city of Newark and a product of Newark Public Schools, is the Deputy Superintendent of Newark Public Schools (NPS).

On February 1, Mr. Gregory will become Interim Superintendent. Prior to serving as Deputy, Robert served as Assistant Superintendent, where he oversaw an increase in graduation rates of 10 points during his tenure. He also served as a teacher, supervisor and principal.

Mr. Gregory served as the founding principal of American History High School (AHHS), the first of its kind in New Jersey. At AHHS, Mr. Gregory maintained a 90% or above graduation rate of which at least 90% of his students gained admissions and attended college. All students at AHHS had the opportunity to graduate from high school with 15 college credits, due to partnerships Mr. Gregory established with Essex County College and Rutgers University. Under Gregory's leadership, AHHS was ranked amongst the nation's best high schools by U.S. News & World Report.

Mr. Gregory graduated from West Chester University in Pennsylvania and is a graduate of Seton Hall University with a MA in Educational Leadership & Management. Both he and his wife are educators and the proud parents of 3 children. Mr. Gregory, like his father, who served as a teacher, vice principal, and principal in Newark, is continually reminded of the importance of history and carrying on family traditions and legacies while ensuring all students that surround him are afforded a quality public education that will enable them to thrive in a competitive 21st-century global economy.



Achievements

- Founding principal of American History High
- Maintained a 90% graduation rate
- Partnerships with local colleges & universities
- Ranked one of nation's Best High Schools by USN&WR
- Life-long teacher and educator



As of **January 2, 2018** the NPS Central Office address is **765 Broad Street**

For more info: <http://www.nps.k12.nj.us/move/>

BOARD OF EDUCATION



School Board Recognition Month

January is School Board Recognition Month. Thank you to the Board for being a visible and dedicated partner for moving our schools and students forward.



A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

On behalf of the entire Board, we want to thank Superintendent Cerf for his dedication to the students and employees of Newark Public Schools. As we transition to local control, we want to also wish Interim Superintendent Robert Gregory well. We look forward to working with you to continue moving our students forward.

Marques Aquil Lewis
Board Chairperson

Tave Padilla

Reginald Bledsoe

Dashay Carter

Crystal C. Fonseca

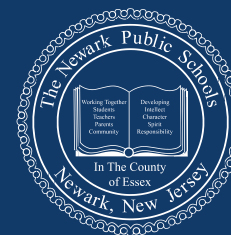
Kim Gaddy

Josephine Garcia

Flohisha Johnson

Leah Owens

Gina Matos



**NEXT PUBLIC MEETING
FEB 27, 2018**



PRODUCED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Newark Public Schools, 765 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102 • 973-733-7333 • <http://www.nps.k12.nj.us>

Photos by Rob Salagaj