



Superintendent's Report

Newark Public Schools
Advisory Board Meeting

March 26, 2013

FINAL

In this Report:

- **District Priorities**
- **21st Century Newark Public High Schools**
- **High School Fair**
- **Renew Schools**

District Priorities...

This is our **ultimate goal...**

Ensure all students graduate college-ready

All students master academic, social, and emotional skills to succeed in college

...we will get there by dramatically **transforming teaching and learning...**

Develop effective professionals in every classroom

All teachers are professionals who focus on what students learn rather than what they are taught

Cultivate transformational school leaders

Principals maintain laser focus on college readiness for all students and have decision-making flexibility and accountability to drive results

...and creating the **enabling conditions** for this transformation to occur

Re-imagine NPS as a service-oriented team

Central office exists to serve and support schools as the primary unit of change

Provide top tier school options for all students

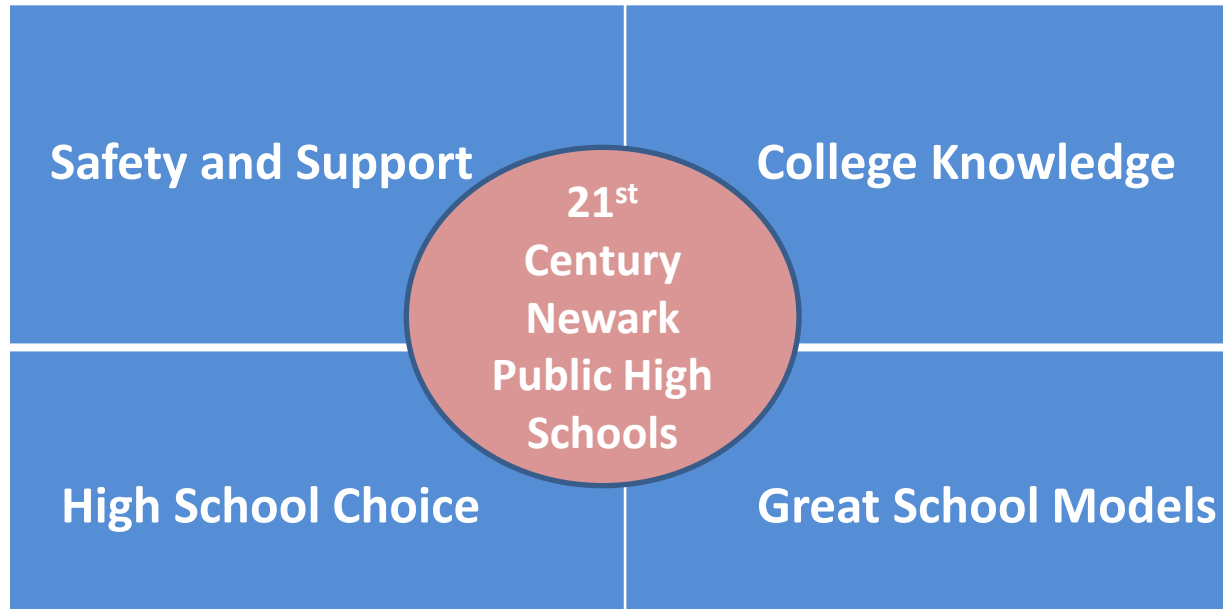
Every Newark school ensures that all students are on track to graduate college-ready

Engage and involve stakeholders to contribute to college readiness

Families and communities recognize and advocate for great teaching and schools; families actively partner with schools to ensure their students are on the path to college readiness

21st Century Newark Public High Schools

As we continue to redesign our high schools, we have found that there are four key elements of a thriving 21st Century Newark Public High School.



With these elements, our goals continue to be:

- Ensure college-readiness for all students—including those who start behind
- Ensure racial and socio-economic diversity in all high schools
- Ensure families and students are empowered to choose among many great high school options

21st Century Newark Public High Schools

College Knowledge

- More early college programs across high schools to increase future college graduation and decrease remedial courses in college
- A blended high school experience exposing students to college culture and academics
- Innovative partnerships with local colleges in order to earn college-level credits while in 11th and 12th grades

What we've done

- Supported **REACH Program** for students to take earn college credit at Rutgers
- Launched **Bard Early College High School** that aligned high school and college-level expectations
- Administered **ACT to 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th graders** to ensure students are on track to graduate
- Approved **International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at Science Park High School** to offer college-level courses and college credit
- Implemented **new English Language Arts programs** aligned to the Common Core State Standards

Desired outcomes

- Train peer leaders to organize college knowledge campaigns at their schools
- Institute a “college knowledge” curricula starting at the 9th grade and culminating in an entire senior year

21st Century Newark Public High Schools

High School Choice

- NPS' first citywide high school admissions process for the 2013-2014 school year
- A way to increase high quality school options and empower students and families to choose a school that best fits their needs
- A process to support transparent, efficient and equitable access to the high school admissions process
- Provides NPS critical 'demand' data to evaluate past and future investments in our schools

What we've done

- Launched a **High School Redesign** process in Fall 2012
- Revamped the **high school application** process
- Hosted a **citywide High School Fair**

Desired outcomes

- Ensure school choice for 100% of students
- Notify students and families of their high school placement on May 1, 2013
- Implement middle school choice process
- Students and families feel process was clear and fair, with high levels of customer service

21st Century Newark Public High Schools

Safety and Supports

- A safe and supportive learning environment for all high school students
- Adults who are knowledgeable in restorative practices and youth development
- A focus on building deeper relationships with students and understanding the triggers of violence

What we've done

- Engaged with **Newark Police Department to plan joint training** that includes both proactive and responsive strategies around school safety
- Convened **student lead focus groups** to assess school safety needs and improve school culture

Desired outcomes

- Summer training on restorative practices for school safety personnel
- Opportunities for community members to become more involved with supporting school safety efforts
- Students and families report they feel welcomed and safe in school

21st Century Newark Public High Schools

Great School Models

- Several comprehensive high schools will be transformed into personalized, intimate learning communities with compelling academic and career-based themes
- School models will support our high school design priorities of clear “themes” that drive the vision and mission of the school, deeper social and emotional supports for students, and a clear plan to support struggling students

What we've done

- Identified the **core elements of successful high schools** to inform the selection of planning partners
- Undergoing initial conversations with **prospective models** with area expertise

Desired outcomes

- Secure anchor partners for Barringer 1, Barringer 2 and Westside
- Secure additional partners for Shabazz, Central, Weequahic, Newark Vocational, and East Side High School
- Establish planning teams for each school by April 15th

21st Century Newark Public High Schools

Get involved and help:

- Envision mission, vision, and core values of the school
- Propose out-of-the-box ideas for social-emotional supports and closing the gap between school and home
- Organize gatherings for staff and families to build relationships, build momentum, and build community support
- Review data to ensure the Renew Schools are on-path to reaching their goals
- Pilot new programs that focus on technology and closing the digital divide

21st Century Newark Public High Schools

High School Engagement Calendar

March

- 3/22 High School Application closes
- 3/25 Barringer Space Meeting (@ Barringer HS)
- 3/28 West Side Community Meeting (6:00-8:00pm @ West Side HS)
- 3/28 Weequahic HS Alumni
- Meetings with high school alumni associations (to continue throughout the spring)

April

- 4/01 Barringer Community Meeting (6:00-8:00pm @ Barringer HS)
- 4/01 Week of: Launch of Design Teams and formation of Planning Teams
- 4/06 Barringer and West Side High School Fair (9:15am-12:00pm @ L.A. Spencer School)
- 4/08 Launch of Barringer and West Side Planning Teams
- 4/11 Barringer & West Side Joint Community Meeting: Meet the Planning Partners (6:00-8:00pm, location TBD)
- 4/15 Week of: Launch of Planning Teams at remaining Comprehensive High Schools
- 4/22 Week of: Convene Barringer and West Side Planning Teams
- 4/25 High School Showcase: Community Presentation of High School Design Plans (6:00-8:00pm, location TBD)
- 4/29 Week of: Convene ALL High School Planning Teams

21st Century Newark Public High Schools

High School Engagement Calendar

May

- 5/9 High School Family Input Meetings (All Comprehensive High Schools)
- 5/13 Week of: Convene ALL High School Planning Teams
- 5/23 High School Family Input Meetings (All Comprehensive High Schools)
- 5/27 Week of: Convene ALL High School Planning Teams

June

- 6/6 High School Family Input Meetings (All Comprehensive High Schools)
- 6/10 Week of: Convene ALL High School Planning Teams
- 6/20 Barringer High School/West Side High School Family Input Meetings
- 6/24 Week of: Convene ALL High School Planning Teams

July

- 7/11 Barringer High School/West Side High School Family Input Meetings
- 7/15 Week of: Convene Barringer and West Side Planning Teams
- 7/25 Barringer High School/West Side High School Family Input Meetings

All Family Input Meetings will take place at the respective school sites from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Day of the week for meetings at each school, to be determined in April and added to the calendar.

High Schools Fair

Results:

- The High School Fair was Saturday, March 9, 2013
- 11 high schools participated
- Over 700 8th grade students registered at the fair
- Information shared with families included:
 - High School Guide Book including a two-page summary on each high school
 - Frequently Asked Questions
 - Map of Schools
 - Special Needs Information
 - English Language Learner Information
- Accommodations were made for multi-lingual families:
 - Spanish
 - Portuguese
 - French
 - Arabic
 - Bengalese

High School Application Process

2,735 = Total NPS 8th grade student enrollment

Applications submitted by NPS 8th grade students 2,470
(90% of total)

Applications submitted by Non-NPS 8th grade students 242

Total Applications submitted as of 3/20 **2,712**

Note:

a) 8th grade enrollment does not include students at JFK and New Jersey Regional Day.

b) In the 2011/2012 school year, NPS received approximately 300 applications from non-district students.

School Year 2013/2014

5 Key Ingredients	Going Forward
Great School Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhance cohort professional development (PD) in schools, greater systems of support, tailor coaching
Great Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7/8 enhancement of staff, 1/8 larger turnover expected• Teacher Framework allows more tailored professional development and coaching• More time and more data (ELT on Day 1 and ANET)• Personalized Technology PD
Engaged Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular community meetings and engagement continue• End of year meeting to focus on student and school performance data
Clear Mission, Vision & Core Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhancement of values, revision of strategic goals and operationalizing strategic plans
Safe Building & Flexible Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify strategic partnerships – Blended Learning / Greater Social and Emotional Supports

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