

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NJ DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCED 16 PATERSON SCHOOLS ELIGIBLE TO EXIT “PRIORITY” AND “FOCUS” STATUS

PATERSON, New Jersey, March 28, 2018 – On Friday, March 23, 2018, Paterson Public Schools received notification from New Jersey Department of Education’s Commissioner, Dr. Lamont Repollet, informing the district that 16 schools were eligible to exit “Priority” or “Focus” status as of June 30, 2018. The Commissioner’s letters noted that “multiple factors informed the decision-making progress, including student achievement and other accountability measures, feedback from the Comprehensive Support Network, and the sustainability of noted improvements.”

The 16 schools that are now eligible to exit status are:

Elementary Schools: Schools 2, 3, 5, 8, 11, 13, 15, 18, 21, 24, 25 and 26

High Schools: STARS Academy and Eastside’s three academies – School of Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism; School of Government and Public Administration; School of Information Technology

Acting Superintendent Eileen Shafer commented, “This is good news for our school district and for these specific schools. As a school system, we have been working very hard to make significant improvements in student achievement as well as other factors tied to ensuring healthy school cultures. I want to thank our principals, school staff and district staff for their role in helping these schools become more successful and exit ‘status’. For the sake of our children, we must stay focused on continued improvements at these schools, and at those schools which have been identified as *comprehensive* or *targeted* schools.”

Schools in the district which have been identified in need of Comprehensive or Targeted support and improvement in accordance with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) are:

Comprehensive: Rev. Dr. Frank Napier Jr. Elementary School and School 10 (previously Priority schools), School 12 and School 20 (previously Focus schools) and School 14 and Young Men’s Academy

Targeted: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary Schools (previously Focus school) and New Roberto Clemente Middle School (previously Focus school)

For more information about criteria for identification of Comprehensive and Targeted schools, please see the attached information.

About Paterson Public Schools

Paterson Public Schools is the third largest school district in New Jersey with over 28,000 students from pre-k through grade 12. The district’s mission is to prepare all children for college and career...together we can! For more information, visit www.paterson.k12.nj.us.

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