

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND PATERSON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

All night meeting results in labor contract proposal

PATERSON, New Jersey, March 29, 2018 – After a marathon 19-hour meeting, the Paterson Education Association (PEA) and Paterson Public Schools announce that they have reached a tentative contract agreement. Representatives from both sides are pleased to have come to this agreement which is now subject to ratification by the PEA membership and Paterson’s Board of Education.

Acting State District Superintendent Eileen Shafer commented, “I made a promise to the PEA membership and I am a woman of my word. It was a long night; but we now have an agreement that I believe is beneficial to the PEA membership, and good for our students and the community. I want to thank the PEA leadership, as well as the PEA and District negotiating teams for working together.”

Paterson Education Association President John McEntee noted, “I would like to thank all of our union members who were present at our March 28th rally and who helped to place pressure to make this deal happen. I am extremely pleased that both parties rolled up their sleeves to reach a deal, and I would like to thank Superintendent Shafer and Board President Castillo for making themselves available during this marathon session. Additionally, I would like to thank Assemblyman Benjie Wimberly for all of his guidance during this process, and our NJEA Field Representatives who helped keep the parties focused and on track. Our negotiating team is looking forward to releasing the details of this agreement once the ratification vote is scheduled by both parties.”

Paterson Board of Education President Oshin Castillo added, “Our district community expects us to work collaboratively and that is what we have done. I am extremely pleased to have been a part of this process and to see a settlement reached. Ensuring that our teachers have a contract is an essential part of our School Board’s ongoing quest to have local control returned to our district. This Board remains committed to our children and their future success – and that begins with our educational staff.”

A “blackout” on the specifics of the tentative memorandum of agreement has been imposed by the Mediator.

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.

About Paterson Education Association

The Paterson Education Association represents more than 3,100 educators serving the students of Paterson Public Schools and the Paterson, NJ, community. Learn more at <http://www.patersonnea.org>

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