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Laurie W. Newell, PhD  
Superintendent of Schools

August 9, 2023

Dear School No. 3 Parents/Guardians:

I hope that you and your family have had an enjoyable summer. This letter is to inform you of an important update regarding School No. 3 located at 448 Main Street, Paterson, NJ 07501.

On Friday, July 28, 2023, we discovered that a portion of the ceiling on the first floor of School No. 3 collapsed. I am pleased to inform you that no one was injured. However, this incident has created an environment that is unsafe for students and staff members. To that end, **Paterson Public School No.3 will be closed for extensive repairs until further notice.** These repairs will include, but will not be limited to, the following:

- Replacing of surfaces with new drywall
- Installation of new ceiling tiles

We will be working very closely with professional contractors in the coming days, weeks and months to ensure that these repairs are completed in both a timely and diligent manner.

At this time, my team and I are developing a plan to re-locate our School No. 3 family to a facility that is both safe and conducive to teaching and learning. I assure you that this plan will be fully developed and in action, in time for the start of the 2023-2024 school year on September 7, 2023. More detailed information will be shared in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, I would like to take this opportunity to assure you that the safety and well-being of our students and staff members is and will remain a top priority of mine. I would also like you to know that I am keenly aware of the inconveniences this situation may create for you and your family. We will do all that we can to lessen the impact of these changes; however, we will never compromise the safety of our students.

Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation. As always, it is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie W. Newell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

Laurie W. Newell, PhD  
Superintendent of Schools

- c: Board Commissioners
- Ms. Kesha Drakeford, Interim Executive County Superintendent
- Dr. Cicely Warren
- Mr. Jose Correa, Principal