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PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION APPOINTS NEW LEADERSHIP AND WELCOMES THREE NEW COMMISSIONERS

New President and Vice President Lead as Three Newly Elected Commissioners Begin Terms

Paterson, NJ (January 07, 2025) – The Paterson Board of Education is pleased to announce the appointment of Commissioner Eddie González as President of the Board of Education and Commissioner Joel D. Ramírez as Vice President of the Board during its annual Organization Meeting on January 2, 2025. Commissioner Gonzalez succeeds after former President Manuel Martínez, Jr. who completed his three-year term, while Commissioner Ramírez succeeds Vice President Kenneth L. Simmons who also completed his three-year term.

In addition to the leadership appointments, the board welcomed three new commissioners - Kenneth Rosado, Hector Nieves Jr., and Corey L. Teague - who will each serve three-year terms. The swearing-in ceremony was officiated by Mayor of Paterson Andre Sayegh and Superintendent of Paterson Public Schools Dr. Laurie W. Newell.

Following the ceremony, Dr. Newell congratulated the newly elected commissioners and expressed her enthusiasm for the collaborative work ahead. “All three of these new board members are well known in the community, with Mr. Teague having previously served on the board, with his most recent term ending in January 2023,” said Dr. Newell. “I look forward to working with each and every one of you as we move this district forward for the children of Paterson.”

Before opening the floor for public comment, President González and Vice President Ramírez addressed their fellow commissioners, outlining their vision and priorities for the district. “We have a lot of work to do, but please know that we are committed to supporting the Superintendent and making every decision with the children and taxpayers of Paterson in mind,” said Board of Education Vice President Ramírez.

President González emphasized his focus on student achievement, business opportunities and family and community relations, underscoring his commitment to transparency and accountability.

“If there are two words that I would like to highlight in terms of my tenure as Board President, they would be transparency and accountability,” President González said. “I will ensure that the public, my colleagues, and the Superintendent are kept informed in a timely and clear manner. Together, we will work in the most transformative and transparent fashion possible,” said President González.

The Paterson Board of Education looks forward to a productive and collaborative year under its

new leadership and expresses gratitude to Superintendent Dr. Laurie W. Newell for her unwavering commitment to advancing educational excellence and supporting student success in Paterson Public Schools.

About Paterson Public Schools

Paterson Public Schools serves over 26,000 students from pre-K to 12th grade in New Jersey's third-largest city. About 70.6% of the student population is Hispanic, 16.3% are Black, 6.5% are Asian, and 5.0% are Caucasian. Recognizing its proud traditions, diverse community, and strong partnerships, the mission of Paterson Public Schools is to provide an academically rigorous, safe, and nurturing educational environment that meets the social, emotional, and academic needs of all students. The district is committed to preparing students for post-secondary education and careers. Despite the Paterson community being classified as low-income, many of its students achieve high academic success. A growing number of elementary school students are reading at or above grade level, and more high school students are earning college credits through Advanced Placement exams and enrolling in college-level courses before graduation. Paterson Public Schools is distinguished as one of only 17 school districts in New Jersey to offer the competitive International Baccalaureate program and is among just four districts with a P-TECH high school. In collaboration with IBM and Passaic County Community College, the P-TECH program allows students to graduate with an associate degree in applied science and valuable tech sector experience. For more information, visit www.paterson.k12.nj.us

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