PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
90 Delaware Avenue, Paterson, NJ 07503
Office: (973) 321-0980 Fax: (973) 321-0470

Laurie W. Newell, PhD
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Paterson Public Schools,

Welcome to the 2025–2026 school year! As we embark on a new academic year filled with opportunity and promise, I want to take a moment to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your continued partnership and support. Our collective efforts during the 2024–2025 school year laid a strong foundation for growth, and I am proud to highlight two important accomplishments that reflect the commitment and dedication of our entire school community.

Organizational Audit: We successfully completed a comprehensive Organizational Audit across the following areas: Student Academics, Family and Community Engagement, Human Resource Services, and District Operations. This in-depth review allowed us to evaluate our current practices, identify areas of strength, and develop strategies for improvement that will directly benefit our students and staff. The insights gained from this process will guide our decision-making as we complete our Strategic Plan and ensure we are aligned with our mission to provide equitable, high-quality education for all learners.

Reducing Chronic Absenteeism: We made measurable progress in one of our most critical areas—reducing chronic absenteeism among students across the district. Through targeted interventions, enhanced family engagement, and support from dedicated educators and community partners, we saw a meaningful decline in chronic absenteeism rates. This achievement is more than a statistic—it means more students were present, engaged, and on track to succeed academically and socially.

Looking ahead, I remain steadfast in my commitment to building a school environment where every student thrives, every family feels connected, and every staff member is valued. Together, we will continue to cultivate a culture of excellence, equity, and care. Thank you for being part of this journey. I wish each of you the very best as we strive for a successful and inspiring 2025–2026 school year!

Sincerely,

Laurie W. Newell

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