

Mayor Newark, New Jersey

January 12, 2015

Cami Anderson State Appointed Superintendent 2 Cedar Street Newark, New Jersey 07102

In light of your deliberate circumvention of district, state, and federal regulations and laws in order to advance the experimental and unproven educational reform plan called One Newark including, but not limited to the following:

- the assignment of students with disabilities to schools that do not have the services and cannot provide the accommodations specified in their IEP (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C.§1400 et seq.; N.J.A.C. 6A:14);
- the placement of Limited English Proficient students in schools that do not have the appropriate language assistance and/or programs (Title VI Civil Rights Act; N.J.A.C. 6A:15);
- the conversion of Newark Public Schools into charter schools without a waiver for the existing criteria for eligibility (New Jersey State Charter School Program Act of 1995, NJSA 18A-36A);
- your refusal to provide intervention from the Regional Assistance Center as per the New Jersey Department of Education NCLB Waiver and New Jersey State School Turnaround and Improvement Regulations (NJ Admin. Code 6A:33).

In light of your failure to meet the academic achievement benchmarks you publicly declared for yourself when initiating the so-called Renew Schools as the centerpiece of your experimental educational reform strategy;

In light of the blatant disregard you have shown for the community you were appointed by the State to serve and the attitude of disengagement you have chosen to adopt;

In the light of the lack of transparency and public accountability with which you conduct the business of the Newark Public Schools;

In light of your refusal to work with the democratically elected Newark Public Schools Advisory Board and to attend regularly scheduled open public school board school meetings;

In light of broad-based disagreement with both the content of the educational reforms you have willfully chosen to implement and the manner in which these reforms have been unilaterally imposed upon the district;

In light of the hostile working environment that you have created for Newark Public Schools central office staff, principals, teachers, and other personnel;

In light of your manipulation of state control of Newark Public Schools to usurp the rights of Newark residents to have input into the governance of the public schools in our city;

As Mayor of the City of Newark, I demand your immediate resignation as State Appointed Superintendent of Newark Public Schools.

Sincerely

Ras J. Baraka

Mayor

Cc: Governor Chris Christie

New Jersey Commissioner of Education David Hespe Lauren Wells, Ph.D., Chief Education Officer City of Newark