



Hudson County, New Jersey
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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Immediate Release

Hudson County Board of Commissioners Applaud, Congratulates and Commend the Administrators, Teachers, Staff, Students and Parents of the Hoboken Public School District on being recognized as a Lighthouse Awardee during the 2021-2023 Term by the New Jersey Department of Education

Jersey City-The Hudson County Board of Commissioners honor, congratulates, and commends the administrators, teachers, staff, students, and parents of the Hoboken Public Scholl District on being recognized as a Lighthouse Awardee during the 2021-2023 term by the New Jersey Department of Education.

The Hudson County Board of County Commissioners is pleased to honor the Hoboken Public School District for being recognized by the New Jersey Department of Education (DOE) as a Lighthouse Awardee during the 2021-2023 term. The DOE's Lighthouse District Initiative recognizes districts that have demonstrated measurable progress towards equitable disciplinary outcomes.

In the spring of 2017, the Hoboken Public School District analyzed attendance, student achievement and suspension data from September 2015 through June 2017. Data revealed that Black and Brown students were suspended at higher rates than their White

and Asian peers. During the summer of 2017, the Administrative Team participated in a leadership retreat to reflect upon practices and to develop frameworks to increase equity in disciplinary outcomes. At the conclusion of the retreat, a strategic and focused plan was developed that included data presentations to all stakeholders, restorative justice/practices professional development for Administrators, Deans and Teachers, and policies and regulations updates. By September 2017, the district kicked off the school year with newly updated Codes of Conduct from Kindergarten through twelfth grade that specified the definition of, and rationale for, restorative justice/practices and the ways in which the approach would be employed within our schools.

The Hoboken Public School District used the professional development and learning platform to include staff in a district-wide Diversity and Equity Committee and to participate in meaningful learning opportunities to increase equity in disciplinary outcomes. Since the summer of 2017, the Hoboken Public School District is an active member in the North Jersey Consortium for Excellence and Equity. Groups of teachers are rotated through workshops, seminars, learning series, and summer conferences to learn as much as possible to increase equity in disciplinary outcomes, promote self-efficacy and resilience, and to promote appropriate decision-making on the part of all students.

The Hoboken Public School District also studied the rate and frequency of after school and Saturday detentions, along with the correlation between out of district suspensions (absences) and end of marking period grades. All data was and continues to be collected, analyzed and dis-aggregated by student groups. In the summer of 2019, the district created and staffed a new Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and hired a Director. In 2020, the Board of Education passed a comprehensive resolution, committing their work and that of the district to social justice and educational equity.

The Hudson County Board of County Commissioners takes great pride in lauding the Hoboken Public School District as a model for increased equity in disciplinary outcomes and commends the district's administrators, teachers, staff, students and parents for their efforts to make their district a symbol of pride not only to them but also to their City, County and State.

Board Chairman Anthony Vainieri, Commissioner Anthony Romano and the Hudson County Board of County Commissioners congratulate the administrators, teachers, staff, students and parents of the Hoboken Public School District on the district's impressive recognition as a Lighthouse Awardee during the 2021-2023 term. The Board also recognizes and honor the Hoboken Public School District for receiving this prestigious award and for its leadership in disciplinary equity and helping all students achieve at high levels.

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