



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

BOARD OF
EDUCATION

Budget Hearing

May 4, 2022

Presentation Overview

- ❖ Welcome to Our New Superintendent
- ❖ District's Budget Priorities for Goals & Guardrails
- ❖ City Council Support



Meet Our New Superintendent



Tony B. Watlington, Sr., Ed.D.

- ❖ On April 7th, the Board voted to approve a 5-year contract, beginning June 16, 2022.
- ❖ Dr. Watlington has 27 years of educational experience.
 - He has been a teacher, principal, Chief of Schools, and most recently Superintendent of Rowan-Salisbury Schools.
 - Rowan-Salisbury School District has a history of innovation.

Meet Our New Superintendent



Photo Source: The Philadelphia Inquirer 3/16/22

Key Stakeholders Meetings

- ❖ Board Members
- ❖ Educators and Staff
- ❖ Elected Officials
- ❖ Community Members

30-60-90-Day Plan

- ❖ Vision Statement
- ❖ Plans to address achievement and the School District's pressing issues

Our Plan for Student Achievement

GOALS

- Reading
- Math
- College & Career Readiness

GUARDRAILS

- Welcoming & Supportive Schools
- Enriching and Well-rounded School Experiences
- Partnering with Parents/Family Members
- Addressing Racist Practices

Budget Priorities Aligned to Academic Goals

- ✓ **Student-Focused Investments to Support Educational Recovery and Accelerate Learning**
 - Enhanced summer school programs
 - New partnerships with external providers for before- and after-school programming
 - Increased number of psychologists, occupational and speech therapists, Special Education teachers, ESL teachers and bilingual counseling assistants
 - Funding for maintaining the District's 1:1 technology policy with additional technology supports for students and families
- ✓ **School and Staff Focused Investments to Improve Instruction and Retention**
 - Retention and re-engagement bonuses for all staff
 - 21st Century Learning Schools Model
 - Professional Development & Training

Budget Priorities Aligned to Guardrails

- ✓ **Social-Emotional Supports to Improve School Environment & Experience**
 - Increased social services and trauma response initiatives at schools
 - Increased number of Behavioral Health Counselors
 - Double hours for climate supports
 - Decrease student to counselor ratio
 - Climate and trauma response specialists

- ✓ **Facilities Investments to Achieve Safe, Healthy & Modernized School Buildings**
 - Ventilation projects
 - Electric and HVAC upgrades
 - Air conditioners
 - Classroom renovations

Your Support is Needed

- **Addressing Gun Violence**
 - Safe Path Program
 - Safe places for young people
 - Safety Zones
 - Expand mental health services



Your Support is Needed



- **Staff Recruitment and Retention**
 - Affordable housing
 - SEPTA passes
 - Parking permits near schools

Your Support is Needed

- **Supporting Student Achievement**
 - Partnership with local businesses and colleges for paid internships and apprenticeships
 - Involvement with Student Board Representatives and promotion of application process



*Rebecca Allen and Armando Ortez,
Student Board Reps, 2021-2022*

CONTACT US



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