

### **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**



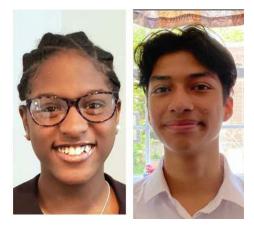
#### > Staff Recruitment and Retention

- 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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