
DISTRICT 15

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE CEC

SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

ANITA SKOP –COMMUNITY SUPERINTENDENT-D15

A Heritage of Excellence for All Children



SCHOOL YEAR 2018-2019

- **OUR VISION:**
- **District 15: A Heritage of Excellence for All Students**
- **We as educators in District 15 believe that each child is born with an innate capacity to love learning. We further believe that it is our calling to nurture this capacity. By ensuring that every child is provided with an educational experience that is meaningful, innovative, enriched and grounded in uncompromising standards of academic achievement, we ensure their scholastic, social and professional success. To this end, we unite as a collaborative community that embraces our diversity and is committed to the equitable allocation of resources and opportunities. We respectfully welcome all students, parents and constituents to join us as partners in striving to guarantee that we succeed in making this vision a reality for all.**

DISTRICT WIDE SCHOOL SUPPORT GOALS-2018-2019



EQUITY &
EXCELLENCE
FOR ALL

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST DEPUTY
CHANCELLOR
Champions for Children

Executive Superintendent – Brooklyn North
Districts 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 23, 32 and HS
Karen Watts



IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE CHANCELLOR'S PRIORITIES:

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- Accelerate learning and instruction
- Provide inclusive, rigorous instruction to every child, in a safe, welcoming, and affirming environment.

GOAL ONE:

SUPPORTING LANGUAGE LEARNING AND RIGOROUS ACADEMIC DISCOURSE FOR ALL CHILDREN

- Build teacher practice to continually improve their support of English Language Learners
- Structure academic programming in all schools to move toward bi-literacy and enhanced opportunities to pursue the study of languages other than English (through dual language programs and world language courses)
- Begin the implementation of Advanced Literacy practices to support and the further the language development of students for whom English is a New Language.
- Work with all middle schools to enhance enrichment programs and asynchronous learning projects

IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE CHANCELLOR'S PRIORITIES:

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- Partner with communities
- Improve every community's experiences with the DOE.
Empower families with a shared mission for student success and equitable outcomes

GOAL TWO:

EXPAND AND DEEPEN DISTRICT WIDE DISCUSSION AND PARENT OUTREACH, NOT ONLY FOR DISTRICT DIVERSITY EFFORTS, BUT ALSO TO ENSURE THAT ALL VOICES ARE HEARD AND TRUE PARTNERSHIPS ARE ESTABLISHED

- Reflect upon and continuously refine the needs of schools
- Create forums for open discussion of all issues at the classroom, school and district levels
- Continue outreach to the Sunset Park, Red Hook and Kensington sections of the district through work with local community groups and stakeholders
- Continue to work with the CEC, President's Council, Community Boards and elected officials in expanding this work

IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE CHANCELLOR'S PRIORITIES:

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- Develop people
- Cultivate a learning culture by valuing and developing individuals and teams.

GOAL THREE:

DEEPEN OUR DISTRICT-WIDE WORK TO INTEGRATE PRACTICES THAT SUPPORT STUDENTS' SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

- Implementing structures that ensure a welcoming environment for all members of the community
- Developing the skills of teachers and school staff to support students in crisis through TCIS and RULER training
- Integrating systems and structures to promote dialogue amongst diverse groups of constituents and ensuring the curriculum honors and examines all cultural perspectives but pedagogically and in terms of content.

GOAL FOUR:

ENHANCE THE PERFORMANCE OF OUR TEACHERS AND SCHOOL LEADERS

- Enhanced command of teaching and assessment practices that boost critical thinking in all content areas and leadership strengths in supporting these practices.
- Pedagogical shifts – focusing on continuously developing increasingly stronger teaching practices to enhance student outcomes
- Continue expanding our system of teacher supports, particularly our district’s professional learning ‘safety net,’ through cross-pollination of best practices across the district.
- Recognize and celebrate the professional accomplishments and contributions of teachers throughout the school year: Achieving tenure, supporting a colleague, making exceptional gains with students, honoring years of service and retirement.

IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE CHANCELLOR'S PRIORITIES: FOUNDATIONAL FOCUS

- **Advance equity now**
- Transform outcomes by tackling inequities in all forms throughout the system.

GOAL FIVE:

TO EXPAND EQUITABLE ADMISSIONS AND INTEGRATION IN DISTRICT 15

- Ensure that all admissions criteria, processes, and mechanisms are transparent, easy to navigate and equitable for students of all demographic, racial, ethnic, and linguistic backgrounds.
- Remove barriers to access for students of color and low-income students.
- Implement mechanisms to develop middle schools that are more representative of the district as a whole.
- Provide support to middle schools which have historically been ranked lower by applicants so as to develop a uniform baseline of teacher quality, resources, and programmatic offerings at all D15 schools.
- Ensure that the challenge of integrating schools does not require students and families of color to travel further from their homes to middle schools; more than other students.
- Provide a phasing-in strategy for adjustments to admissions policies and practices and the integration of the district's schools over the next five years.

GOAL FIVE:

TO EXPAND EQUITABLE ADMISSIONS AND INTEGRATION IN DISTRICT 15

- Develop interschool partnerships to integrate communities and bring district families together
 - District art show
 - District youth chorus
 - Middle school anti-bullying ambassadors
- Continue to integrate systems and structures to promote dialogue amongst diverse groups of constituents and ensuring the curriculum honors and examines all cultural perspectives, both pedagogically and in terms of content.
- Continue outreach to the Sunset Park, Red Hook and Kensington sections of the district through work with local community groups and stakeholders.
- Continue to work with the CEC, President's Council, Community Boards and elected officials in expanding this work.

DISTRICT 15

SPECIAL INITIATIVES:

- District 15 Equity Congress
- District Youth Equity Congress
- Continuing Principal and School Leadership Team training in diversity and implicit bias
- Parent outreach forums in all neighborhoods across the district
- Translation at all meetings, including tours
- Ongoing reflection on admissions data and protocols

DISTRICT 15

FOCUS AND ACTION PLAN

- Coherence of focus-all meetings will consistently hear the same message
 - Principal Conferences
- AP Institute and AP conferences in partnership with the FSC
 - Model school sites-2MS/2ES
 - Ongoing support and intervisitation
- Guidance Counselor and PC shared meetings to focus on MS admissions
- CEC
- DLT
- President's Council

DISTRICT 15

FOCUS AND ACTION PLAN

- Enhancing teacher practice across the district through teacher-to-teacher interschool partnerships and shared professional development with the FSC
- Principal mentoring for APs with inter-school visits:
- New principal focus group
 - ENL Promising Practices group/Advanced Literacy model schools
 - Progressive practice shifts: Performance-based assessment group
 - Enhancing critical thinking district-wide:
 - Writers' articulation through the grades articulation across grades
 - Regents Algebra for All preparation and expansion

DISTRICT 15

FOCUS AND ACTION PLAN

- Assistant Principal Institute and teacher leader shared learning
- Reggio Emilia training for Pre-K teachers at selected schools with site visits
- Monthly Equity committee meetings with subgroup report-outs
- Principal Equity inquiry led by principals in line with our SIGA Grant
- Middle school principal meetings to continue to adjust school practices to reflect the new middle school application process
 - Parent outreach forums
 - Translation at all meetings/including tours
 - Ongoing reflection on admissions data and protocols
- Work with all middle schools to enhance enrichment programs, asynchronous learning projects, and expand accelerated Regents classes
- PPLP – Peer Learning Partners for teachers at all grade levels

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS TO BE SHARED:

- Approval of the District 15 Diversity Plan
- Parent outreach to the District Office vis-a-vis charter schools in Sunset Park
- Opening of St. Agatha's and its enrollment plan
- SIGA Grant Update
- Mark's Questions

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES IN DISTRICT 15

- PS 896-Ruth Rodriguez Rivera – new school
- PS 38-Pascal Pradel – Dr.Yolanda Ramirez retired
- PS 124-Maria Interlandi – Annabell Burrell resigned
- PS 154-Jason Foreman – replaced Michael Buckley
- PS 172-Erika Gundersen – Jack Spatola retired
- MS 51-Gregory Stanislaus – Lenore Dileo Berner is serving as a Mentor Principal for one year



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

Thank you for your support and all the work you do on behalf of our children. I wish you a wonderful, productive school year!



Champions
for
Children