



PAYMON ROUHANIFARD
SUPERINTENDENT

CAMDEN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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PRESS RELEASE

District celebrates new parent supports, delivers on Camden Commitment promises

Nine months after launching the Camden Commitment, Superintendent Rouhanifard reports on progress toward giving every child access to an excellent school

October 21, 2014--Office of the Superintendent, Camden, NJ – Superintendent Paymon Rouhanifard today announced that all 26 District schools are staffed with a full-time Community School Coordinator (CSC), as part of his quarterly [Camden Commitment](#) progress report. The improvement marks a 70 percent increase in District CSCs, because in recent years nearly half of Camden’s 26 District schools lacked this critical school-parent liaison role.

Community School Coordinators give families the tools and support they need to get involved in their children’s education. The CSCs also offer important support to teachers, helping them maintain contact with their students’ parents by calling home and conducting home visits. CSCs work with teachers and families to resolve issues at home that could impact on a student’s ability to learn. More than 60 percent of the newly recruited CSCs are bilingual, better reflecting Camden’s parents.

Other highlights from this quarter’s Camden Commitment update include: the launch of the first of four new District Parent Centers; an investment in interpretation equipment for all large public meetings; and weekly one-on-one coaching sessions for every District teacher. In addition, this school year principals have access to bi-monthly support meetings with the Central Office to increase their instructional excellence.

“Community School Coordinators are critical partners for principals in shaping a school’s culture and improving academic performance,” Rouhanifard said. “Great schools are a part of their communities, and Community School Coordinators build and strengthen a school’s ties with the families and neighborhoods it serves. The updates in this quarter’s progress report mean that Camden families have access to more support from the District than ever before.”

“Our Community School Coordinator plays a major role in keeping Hatch’s parents informed and engaged in what’s happening in our classrooms,” said Ms. Laura Boyce, Principal of Hatch School. “From organizing parent classes and open houses to coordinating volunteers to fundraise for our new playground project, our CSC fills the halls with community spirit and makes Hatch a welcoming place for parents to visit. I am glad to learn that all District schools will now have the same support from a dedicated Community School Coordinator.”

Click [here](#) to download the full Camden Commitment quarterly progress report.

To learn more about the Community School Coordinator working at your child's school, families are encouraged to contact the Office of Family and Community Engagement at families@camden.k12.nj.us or 856.966-2000, ext. 38109.

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For images, case studies, interviews, or additional information, contact Maita Soukup from the Camden City School District Office of Communications at: msoukup@camden.k12.nj.us.