

# **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACHIEVES 100% IN 2 OF 5 FOCUS AREAS OF THE NEW JERSEY QUALITY SINGLE ACCOUNTABILITY CONTINUUM (NJQSAC) PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

Results Announced to Board of Education and Public at Board of Education Meeting, Thursday, July 31, 2014 at Franklin Middle School 415 Francis Street, Somerset, NJ 08873

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Franklin Township Public Schools achieved a perfect score in two of the five focus areas in its recent New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) Performance Review. The district received 100% in the areas of Governance and Personnel, as well as commendable scores of 94% in the area of Fiscal Management and 85% in the area of Operations. The district scored 72% in the area of Instruction and Program which was 8 percentage points higher than the initial scores of the preceding QSAC review in 2011.

“We are pleased with our QSAC results,” said Dr. LeRoy Seitz, Interim Superintendent of Franklin Township Public Schools. “To achieve a perfect score in two areas is commendable and reflects the efforts of our Board of Education and staff.”

The QSAC review is an obligation that all school districts are required to complete every three years. During a QSAC review, school districts analyze their practice as it relates to five focus areas; Fiscal Management, Personnel, Operations, Instruction and Program, and Governance. A Board approved committee reviews each focus area for specific practices and determines a self-rating for the district.

Franklin Township Public Schools completed its self-evaluation in November of 2013. In the spring of 2014, the Interim Executive County Superintendent of Hunterdon County, Dr. Gerald J. Vernotica, as well Dr. Beverly Hetrick, the Education Program Development Specialist of Somerset County visited the District and met with Dr. Seitz and other members of the Administrative staff. Classroom visits and staff interviews were also conducted during four dates in April and May. The results from the Department of Education were received by the district earlier this month.

The District scored an impressive 100% in the areas of Governance and Personnel. These areas include specific indicators such as updated policies and procedures;

accurate recording of Board meeting minutes; appropriate job descriptions and required background checks for personnel.

The district scored a note-worthy 94% in the Fiscal Management focus area. This area includes specific indicators such as the use of standard operating procedures for business; cash flow management and consistent reconciliation of accounts. In the area of Operations the district score was 85%. The Operations focus area includes employee training and requirements in the areas of guidance, nursing, intervention services and transportation.

If a district does not satisfy 80% or more of the indicators in one or more of the focus areas, it must create and submit a District Improvement Plan to address those areas. “As a result of the District’s 72% score in Instruction and Program, the District is developing an improvement plan which we will present to the Board of Education for approval in September,” said Dr. Seitz.

The score in this area was driven by the results of the state assessments taken by Franklin Township Public School students in the 2012-2013 school year. A thorough analysis of those assessment results was presented at a special Board of Education meeting in December of 2013 and strategies to address those students’ needs were implemented during the remainder of this past school year. “We will review that analysis and the strategies implemented as we create the improvement plan,” said Dr. Seitz.

It should be noted that the score in this area may be adjusted when test scores for 2013-2014 are released in August. “We hope that when the results of the 2013-2014 state assessment are released, our score in this area will improve as has occurred in the past. In the interim we will proceed with the creation of the District Improvement Plan which we will share with the Board and the public in September,” said Dr. Seitz.

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