



New Jersey
Quality Single Accountability System
NJQSAC

Report to the
Cranford Board of Education

and

Members of the Cranford Community

November 24, 2008

New Jersey has...

- 616 School Districts; public, vocational and charter.
- 3 districts under state takeover: Jersey City 1989; Paterson 1991; Newark 1995.
- 30 districts identified as special needs; previously noted as Abbott

What is NJQSAC?

- NJQSAC is the new (2006) N.J. Department of Education monitoring system.
- It's primary purpose is to improve student achievement and to ensure that New Jersey schools are being run efficiently and effectively.
- It is designed to measure student progress, school districts and school performance in meeting State and Federal standards.

The NJQSAC monitoring process is...

- A collaborative, internal review of school district performance in 5 areas.
- An internal review (self-assessment) that validates local compliance and achievement of NJCCCS based on data and compiled evidence.
- An external review process that involves a visitation by the Union County Office of the NJDOE.
- Cranford monitoring visitation is scheduled for November 25th.

5 District Performance Review Areas; DPR's

- Instruction and Programs
- Personnel
- Fiscal Management
- Operations
- Governance

1. The Instruction and Programs

DPR includes but is not limited to:

- Student achievement results,
- Program and curriculum indicators demonstrating evidence of high quality school instruction,
- Evidence of continuous improvement of services to students in special education, bilingual, gifted and talented and other areas,
- Analyzed data that drives teacher professional development,
- Review of quality teacher lesson plans.

2. The Personnel DPR includes but is not limited to:

- Evidence of staff training and on-going professional development,
- Evidence of high quality hiring, assignment, and retention of staff,
- Evidence of appropriate staff credentials,
- Evidence of evaluation of all staff in accordance with state statute.

3. The Fiscal Management DPR includes but is not limited to:

- Assurance that our fiscal goals are aligned to our instructional needs,
- A description of the budget planning process,
- An examination of our annual external audit reports,
- Copies of our district finance policies,
- Reports of our cash/asset management,
- Copies of state and federal grant applications and corresponding grant management reports.

4. Operations includes but is not limited to:

- Site visitations to ensure the safe and clean condition of our school facilities,
- An examination of our health program & food services operations,
- A review of transportation procedures and practices,
- Evidence of pro-active communication of emergent issues,
- Copies of the Annual Application for State School Aid (AASA) and the Fall Report.
- Specific information regarding the district I&RS process and committees,
- A copy of our school safety plan.

5. Governance includes but is not limited to:

- Copies/availability of all district policies,
- Copies/availability of all BOE meeting minutes,
- Evidence of BOE member training,
- Evidence of our annual budget hearing,
- Copies of the board secretary & treasurer reports,
- Evidence of communications with the public,
- Descriptions of school board/superintendent relations.

Cranford Public Schools District Committee



- Superintendent
- School Business Administrator
- Assistant Superintendent: Personnel, Special Education & Curriculum
- Principals, Teaching Staff Member
- Member(s) of the local Board of Education

Cranford Committee

- Dr. Gayle Carrick - Superintendent
- Mr. Robert Carfagno – Finance Office
- Dr. Jim McLaughlin – Personnel/Special Education
- Mrs. Dineen Seeley - Curriculum
- Mrs. Mary Venditti – BOE
- Mrs. Robin Woglom - BOE
- Mrs. Mary Sudiak – BOE
- Mrs. Jill Brown - BOE
- Mrs. Regina Gavin – BAS
- Dr. Curt Fogas – HAS
- Mrs. Janet LaBracio, HAS Teacher

The Process

- Board of Education personnel compile evidence for sub-committee review.
- Sub-committees conduct preliminary scoring of DPR's. Sign-off on DPR review.
- Superintendent attests to accuracy of sub-committee review.
- Cranford Board of Education approves DPR submission
- In-district meeting with committee members and members of the Union County Office of Education for external review/verification of DPR's.
- County scoring of DPR's.
- Submission of final results to NJ Commissioner of Education for final recommendation

Scoring

- New Jersey school districts must achieve a score of 80% or more in each of the 5 District Performance Review Areas to pass NJQSAC.
- Cranford is proud to announce that our sub-committees, after a comprehensive review of hundreds of documents to support Cranford Public School activities, has scored 4 of the 5 DPR's at 100% and 1 at 92% Instruction and Programs.

Next Steps...

- Following our site visitation in November and external scoring of DPR's, a recommendation will be sent to the Commissioner of Education to certify the final results.
- We will receive notification of our final results in a few months.
- Recommendations, internal and external, will continue to be an area of district focus.