

March 2017

Dear Families:

In the Syracuse City School District, we are seeing academic success and progress. Despite recent improvements, the SCSD remains a "focus" district and the New York State Education Department has designated your child's school a "priority" school for 2017-18.

The State Education Department rates each school and district yearly to determine its status. Focus schools and districts are designated as such because of their low performance and lack of sufficient progress in English language arts and math, and/or low graduation rates, particularly for certain racial/ethnic groups, low-income students, English language learners and/or students with disabilities. Schools with a 2015-16 performance that places them among the lowest performing in the state for combined ELA and mathematics performance or graduation rates are identified as "priority" schools.

Each spring, the district conducts a school transfer process in accordance with its School Transfer Program and Policy. In addition, in accordance with federal law, all students enrolled in a focus school are offered the opportunity to request a transfer to a school that is in good standing. Transportation is also available in accordance with the existing Transportation Policy. Schools in good standing include:

- *Selective Enrollment Schools** (online application extended through April 15):
- Expeditionary Learning Middle School (Grade 6)
 - Institute of Technology (Grade 9)
 - Public Service Leadership Academy (Grade 9)
 - Syracuse Latin (Grades K-4)
- *Open Enrollment Schools** (online application April 1 – April 30):
- Delaware Primary (Dual Language, Grades K-3)
 - Franklin Elementary School (Grades K-5)
 - Huntington School (Grades K-8)
 - Salem Hyde Elementary School (Grades K-5)

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** If the New York State Department of Education changes the status of a school in good standing to a Local Assistance Plan (LAP) School, the District will remove that school from the lists above and from the 2017-2018 Focus and Priority School Transfer application options.

If you are interested in submitting an application for your child to attend any of the above referenced *Selective Enrollment Schools*, the application deadline has been extended through **April 15, 2017**. You will be required to submit an online application by visiting www.enrollinsyracusecityschools.com, and clicking on the appropriate selective enrollment school link. Please note that the Institute of Technology and the Public Service Leadership Academy applications can be found by clicking on the High School Choice button. All *Selective Enrollment* applications will be reviewed and considered based on program-specific criteria.

If you would like to transfer your child to any of the above referenced *Open Enrollment Schools*, you will be required to complete an online *Focus/Priority Transfer* application between **April 1, 2017 and April 30, 2017**. To complete the application, please visit www.enrollinsyracusecityschools.com, click on the *Focus/Priority Transfer* button and follow the instructions. All *Focus/Priority Transfer* applications will be reviewed and considered.

We are committed to transforming the Syracuse City School District by providing a high-quality education for every student at every school throughout the district. We are seeing improvement and we are confident that we are positioning ourselves for greater growth in the future. Please visit our website at www.syracusecityschools.com/registration for detailed information on the focus/priority school transfer process.

Sincerely,



Jaime Alicea
Superintendent of Schools