



*Camden City School District
Office of the Superintendent*

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Community says it wants “better, safer” schools in Camden

New superintendent will announce findings from 100-day “listening tour” December 17

December 16, 2013, Office of the Superintendent, Camden, NJ – Camden parents, students and teachers have said loudly and clearly they want “better, safer” schools, new Superintendent Paymon Rouhanifard said Monday as he concludes his formal “100-day listening tour” and prepares for tomorrow’s announcement of the findings.

Rouhanifard began work on August 29 as the Camden City School District’s superintendent and launched the listening tour “to reach out directly to our community members and hear about their concerns, hopes and expectations of our public schools.”

The superintendent will announce the findings of the listening tour at the district’s Board of Education meeting on December 17. The meeting is scheduled for 5:30 pm at 1600 Pine Street, Camden NJ.

“We have listened very closely to the voices of our students, parents, teachers and community members, and they have spoken clearly,” Rouhanifard said. “Our community wants, and has a right to expect, safer and better schools, high quality school buildings and first-class service from our central office. And I am committed to providing all of that to Camden students and their families.”

The findings of the 100-day tour will help inform the development of the new strategic plan for improving Camden schools. Rouhanifard said the district plans to present the new strategic plan publicly in January.

The 100 day listening tour included four community town hall meetings, eight focus group sessions with parents and staff, and the review of hundreds of teacher feedback forms gathered from suggestion boxes placed in every school across the city.

“The 100-day tour is really only the beginning of the listening we’re going to do as we work to bring dramatic improvement to our schools,” the superintendent said. “We are going to actively seek out our community’s thoughts on an ongoing basis as a critical part of the work to move Camden’s schools forward.”

For additional information, please contact Marlene Coleman from the Camden City School District Department of Communications at mcoleman@camden.k12.nj.us.