

Search

[Home](#) [Newsroom](#) [Media](#) [Administration](#) [NJ's Priorities](#) [Contact Us](#)

[Press Releases](#) [Public Addresses](#) [Executive Orders](#) [Press Kit](#) [Reports](#)

[Home](#) > [Newsroom](#) > [Press Releases](#) > 2017

# Gov. Christie: I Hope And Pray We Remain Committed To Give Each Family The Opportunity To Choose The Best Path For Their Child

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

Tags: [Education](#)



Gov. Christie: May We Remain Committed To Allowing Families T...



[Watch The Video Here](#)

### Transcript:

**Governor Christie:** As we hand over the reins back to local control, I offer nothing but support and hope for the success of this endeavor. But I also want to emphasize again that holding our children's future in our hands as leaders, is both an awesome responsibility and a great privilege. We, as leaders, as parents, as community advocates, and as teachers, are the best hope for helping these kids obtain a better future. I was born in Newark, and I lived here for the first five years of my life. My Mom and Dad, lifelong Newarkers, left for one reason and one reason only – they were worried that the Newark Public Schools would not provide for their children what the Newark public schools had provided for them. Those who could leave often did; those who could not or chose not to leave, were left with a broken, failing school system that 20 years ago left the state with no choice but to take over the district from local control. I am really proud today to be their son. They left Newark, the home they loved, the only home they ever knew, because they wanted more for me. How proud my mother would be and my father is to watch their son spend six years fighting for the school system that educated them. How proud they are that it is their son, a native Newarker too, who is the Governor who fought the special interests, who helped bring Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan to Newark, who negotiated to reward good teachers and fire bad ones, and to give parents just like them, the power to choose the best school for their child. In my parents' day they had no such choice – their only choice was binary: stay or go. They are proud of all the improvements Newark children have shown and I know that my Mom in particular would be so happy that it was her son who turned the Newark schools back to the families of Newark and out of state control, better than I found it. Let the facts about Newark students' academic success be your greatest guide as we move forward. That is all that truly all that matters in helping them achieve their dreams. It is has been an honor and a privilege to be a Governor who has worked so closely with this city and its community to give our children a better future, and I hope and pray that all of you who are as committed to this cause today will remain that committed and will give each and every family in this city the opportunity to choose the best path for their child and then help those families achieve their

**Stay Connected**  
*with Social Media*

**Stay Connected**  
*with Email Alerts*

**LIKE THIS PAGE? SHARE IT WITH YOUR FRIENDS.**



### More Information

[Governor's Proclamation](#)

dreams and goals. When that occurs, then we will have gotten everywhere we needed to get on Newark. We've come a very long way in six years. I'm proud to have been a small part of it, and I'm very, very happy to call the Newark public schools system partners in this change and in this growth. Thank you all for coming today, I really appreciate it.

**Press Contact:**  
Brian Murray  
609-777-2600



[Contact Us](#) | [Privacy Notice](#) | [Legal Statement & Disclaimers](#) | [Accessibility Statement](#) | 

Statewide: [NJ Home](#) | [Services A to Z](#) | [Departments/Agencies](#) | [FAQs](#)  
Office of the Governor: [Home](#) | [Newsroom](#) | [Media](#) | [Administration](#) | [NJ's Priorities](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Copyright © State of New Jersey, 1996-2018  
Office of the Governor  
PO Box 001  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
609-292-6000