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Gov. Christie On Camden Schools: We Have Empowered Parents To Choose What They Believe Is Best For Their Child

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Gov. Christie: We Have Empowered Parents To Choose What The...


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Transcript:

Governor Christie: There is so much to be proud of, both today and for the future. Students across the district are performing better on statewide tests than they were in 2013. Additionally, instructional and operational structures are being put in place so that more students are becoming proficient, and each year, more students are improving, demonstrating growth on all those statewide assessments, and have even, in recent times, outperformed some of their academic peers around the State from the school district that was last, they are now outperforming school districts across the state. Let's be specific, in all elementary and middle schools 15 out of 15, from School Year '14-'15 to School Year '15-'16, student growth rose in Math. In 12 schools, student growth had an increase of over 10 points, which is a faster rate of improvement than almost all of their peers in New Jersey. We've seen progress in PARCC test as well. In 2016, all but two of the elementary/middle schools showed progress in math at every school, and all but one showed progress in English as well. In addition to academic progress, we've also set an aggressive and progressive agenda for to empower parents to choose what they believe is best for their child. We have opened or expanded 4 high quality charter schools in Camden during our Administration. In School Year 2017-2018, the school year we're in, charter schools, in Camden, public charter schools, remember they are public schools will serve over 4,700 students. For some of these students, a charter school education in Camden has led to a desire to come back where it all began. At Camden's Promise Charter School, 8 members of the staff were once students in the school and have now returned to serve as teachers. Unlike others, we have always put politics aside, we've made decisions on the merits, and we hold every school in this district accountable to the mothers and fathers who entrust their children with them. That should be the measure, and under this Administration and I pray

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that in the future that will continue to be the only thing that matters to people in positions of power. Are we serving our children and their parents? And if we're not those schools should close and if we those schools should expand.

Press Contact:

Brian Murray
609-777-2600



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Office of the Governor
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625
609-292-6000