

# Allentown School District Response to Curriculum Audit Findings

December 6, 2018

# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

## ASD Theory of Action

1

Cultivate a culture in which students feel safe, valued, and nurtured.

2

Center the Districts' work on personalized learning and instruction

3

Collaborate meaningfully and deeply with families and community

4

Create and expect organizational effectiveness and accountability

5

Calibrate leadership and learning at all levels

# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

- a Community-Based approach to identifying a new Superintendent is implemented
- Multiple stakeholder groups participate in national search process

- Meetings scheduled throughout the city of Allentown to give the community voice and opportunities to engage
- Prioritization of equity, transparency, and systems of support aimed at improving student achievement

New superintendent identified 4 initial priorities as apart of entry into the district:

1. Strategic Plan
2. Curriculum Audit
3. Fiscal Audit
4. Community Engagement

Fall 2016

Winter 2016

Spring 2017

Summer 2017

- National search resulted in 3 finalist
- Community organizers, local clergy, parents, students and business community members participated in process
- Thomas Parker identified as final candidate to be officially appointed July 1, 2017

- Partnership with Upside Allentown developed to support community meetings throughout Allentown
- Multiple stakeholder groups are convened with community developer Michael Felix
- Development of Strategic Framework begins
- District adopts Equity Policy

- Focus groups continue as ASD works to include community voice in the District transformation process under new superintendent's leadership
- Partners identified to conduct both the fiscal and comprehensive curriculum audit
- Thomas Parker officially begins as Superintendent

# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

- Conversations about PDE School Improvement Process begin at the state level
- ASD begins to prioritize strategic actions and realign Community partnerships in support of District mission and vision

- School Board leadership and Superintendent begin conversations with local and state level legislators regarding financial status of ASD

- School Board of Directors approves partnership with IU21 and Insight Education Group
- Curriculum Audit Findings released

Fall 2017

Winter 2017

Spring 2018

Summer 2018

Fall 2018

- ASD launches its Strategic Framework
- PDE invites ASD to participate in School Improvement Pilot

- Local legislators begin advocate on behalf of ASD at state level
- Governor's budget includes 10 million dollar allocation to ensure fiscal solvency

- Comprehensive Curriculum Audit concludes and findings are publicly release
- IU 21 is engaged a partner to support fiscal realignment and transparency
- Insight Education Group is engaged to develop instructional alignment, systems, and process to improve teaching and learning in ASD

# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

## The Curriculum Audit

### GOAL OF THE AUDIT

- comprehensive, multi-faceted examination of ASD instructional and operational practices, and policies in support of all student learning.
- Utilized research-validated criteria to provide the ASD system with an agenda for organizational improvement and positions the District for effectiveness.

### THE PROCESS

- on-site visits,
- interviews
- Curriculum, financial, facilities, and technology documentation review

### PRIMARY OUTCOME

Systems alignment in support of:

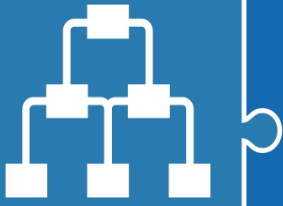
- High quality Tier 1 instruction
- Work activities directed toward our commitment of equity

# **The ASD Commitment to Excellence**

Dr. Stevenson, Curriculum Management Solutions, Inc.

# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

## Standard 1: Governance & Control



- **PARTNER ORGANIZATION**  
PSBA, PDE
- **STATUS OF WORK**
  - **IN PROGRESS**

### Recommendations

District Policy Review and Revision

Audit and review alignment of expenditures to goals and policies

Development of an instructional vision and process for framework development aligned to the ASD Strategic Framework.

# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

## Standard 2: Direction & Expectations for Learning



- **PARTNER ORGANIZATION**
  - Insight Education Group
- **STATUS OF WORK**
  - **IN PROGRESS**

### Recommendations

Development of an instructional vision and process for framework development

Alignment of curricular resources to a common set of instructional expectations district-wide.

Alignment of community and family engagement framework in support of students and families



# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

## Standard 3: Connectivity & System Equity



- **PARTNER ORGANIZATION  
INSIGHT EDUCATION GROUP,  
PDE**
- **STATUS OF WORK**
  - **IN PROGRESS**

### Recommendations

Alignment of Curriculum with an equity focus on supporting all subgroups

Development of annual professional development plan aligned with instructional framework and assessment plan

# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

## Standard 4: Assessment & Feedback



- **PARTNER ORGANIZATION  
INSIGHT EDUCATION GROUP,  
PDE, BRIGHT BYTES**
- **STATUS OF WORK**
  - **IN PROGRESS**

### Recommendations

Development of an assessment and evaluation plan aligned with state standards and forthcoming instructional framework.

Implementation of EarlyInsights Platform

# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

## Standard 5: Productivity & Resource Use



- **PARTNER ORGANIZATION**  
**INSIGHT EDUCATION GROUP, PDE,**  
**BRIGHT BYTES**
- **STATUS OF WORK**
  - **IN PROGRESS**

### Recommendations

Establishment of ad hoc  
Equity and Budgeting  
Committee

Implementation of  
EarlyInsights Platform  
(Resource Mapping  
Module)

# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

## What's Next?

*In collaboration with all Partners, input from our teachers, principals and families the ASD Commitment to Excellence will progress as follows:*



*Change is a journey, not an event  
-Author Unknown*

# The ASD Commitment to Excellence

## Year 1 Priorities

- Continue Board policy review and revision process
- Develop instructional framework
- Focus on Literacy and Math curriculum review and alignment
- Finalize District reorganization at building level and within Central Office
  - Review and revise all job descriptions
- Refine and revise Core and non-Core content Areas
- Establish a curriculum approval process
- Develop and implement evaluation procedures for curriculum guides
- Improve ELL program design and staffing model
- Engage community in the identification of funding priorities