FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 16, 2019

Contact: Paul Brubaker
973-518-2298

SUPERINTENDENT HOLDS INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE ALL CITY EDUCATION COUNCIL

New initiative seeks to bring district schools and charter schools closer

***Photo Attached: Attendees of the first All City Education Council***

PATERN - For the first time in the history of Paterson Public Schools, leaders from the school district sat down with charter school leaders today to explore opportunities to work more cooperatively. The meeting was called by Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer and the educational leaders who attended are now collectively known as the All City Education Council.

The discussion covered a variety of topics from improving communications between district and charter schools when closing due to inclement weather to sharing ideas for professional development opportunities for staff and administrators.

“Everyone on the All City Education Council shares the same common ground. We want to lead out the best Paterson’s students,” said Shafer. “Today was an important first step to developing a more cooperative climate among the different schools so that we can all serve Paterson’s students and their families better.”

“The meeting was unbelievably great,” said Nihat Guvercin of iLearn Schools, Inc. “This was a turning point in charter schools and district school relations. I am very pleased that we are in the process of building a better future together.”

Among those who attended were:

- Robert Guarasci, Community Charter School of Paterson
- Curtis Palmore, Community Charter School of Paterson
- Nihat Guvercin, iLearn Schools, Inc.
- Christina Scano, John P. Holland Charter School
- Michelle Petriello, John P. Holland Charter School
- Riza Gurcanli, Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology
- Regina Lauricella, Philip's Academy Charter School of Paterson

In addition to Superintendent Shafer, other officials from Paterson Public Schools in attendance were:

- Susana Peron, Deputy Superintendent of Schools
- Lisa Vainieri-Marshall, Director of Student Assignment Services
- Sandra Diodonet, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
• Maria Santa, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools
• David Cozart, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Schools
• Eliza Rodriguez, Interim Executive Supervisor to the Superintendent for Special Projects

Theodore Best, Jr., who is working for the state as a Highly Skilled Professional as the district transitions to local control, also attended the meeting.

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Paul Brubaker
Communications Director
Paterson Public Schools
973-321-2430 (office)
973-518-2298 (cell)