

Welcome Commissioner Cerf!

As you know by now, Acting Commissioner of Education Christopher Cerf is scheduled to visit Paterson on Tuesday, May 24. We appreciate the efforts of Assemblyperson Nellie Pou in arranging for this visit to the Paterson Public Schools.

We are extremely pleased to know he will actually be joining us on that day, and hope he is here to see what the school system really looks like rather than touring the “District showcases”.

P.E.A. also hopes that you will show the Commissioner that we stand together:

- ▶▶ in our support for restored funding for our district;
 - ▶▶ in our support for the restoration of art, music, and library programs
 - ▶▶ in support of the return of complete guidance and SAC program funding
 - ▶▶ in support of the restoration of funds for supplies, materials, text books, teachers’ editions and other classroom necessities that other school system receive on a regular basis.
 - ▶▶ in our support of upgraded facilities that provide a safe workplace for students and staff
 - ▶▶ in our utter disgust that our schools are still plagued by mice and rats
- ▶▶ in our opposition to the plans of the administration that would take even more money from our schools with vouchers and charter schools, weaken tenure and seniority rights and place “blame” for “failing schools” while ignoring the many factors that create difficulties in meeting success.
 - ▶▶ in our dismay that after 20 years of intervention, the State has failed to provide the leadership in Paterson to provide stability in our schools that is necessary for parents and staff to be able to strive for success together rather than the constant “revolving door” of staff and programs.

We ask all P.E.A. members to wear their P.E.A. T-shirts on May 24 to show the Commissioner that we are united in our desire for a better school system and reject the contention that any one segment of the educational community is at fault for the problems we face every single day that the State has utterly failed to address or resolve in over two decades of intervention.



We Know That We Should Be Part Of The Solution, But By Excluding Us, By Refusing To Consult Or Negotiate, By Pretending To Have All Of The Answers, Our Students And Our Schools Are Being Left Behind By The State!

Let's Urge the Commissioner to STOP Placing Blame and Join With Us to MAKE PATERSON SCHOOLS GREAT ONCE AGAIN!