



Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

75 Pleasant Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-4906

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Jeff Wulfson
Acting Commissioner

August 18, 2017

Dr. Pia Durkin, Superintendent
New Bedford Public Schools
455 County Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Dr. Durkin:

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 69, § 1J(w) and 603 CMR 2.00, I have determined that the John Avery Parker School will remain in chronically underperforming status (Level 5) and the turnaround plan will be renewed for a three year period. The renewed turnaround plan is attached.

The authority of the New Bedford Public Schools School Committee to establish policies for the school; to make employment decisions; to approve budget transfers, encumbrances, and expenditures; to enter into any contracts; and to take any other action remains suspended for the duration of the receivership. Under state law, the receiver exercises all the powers of the superintendent and the school committee.

You will continue to exercise the authority of a receiver for the school. Please feel free to contact Senior Associate Commissioner Russell Johnston (781-338-3564 or RJohnston@doe.mass.edu) if you need any additional information.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Wulfson".

Jeff Wulfson
Acting Commissioner

Cc: Russell Johnston, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Mayor Jonathan Mitchell, Chair, New Bedford Public Schools School Committee