

Croton-Harmon Board of Education Goals for Calendar Year 2021

Hire a new Superintendent: The Board will seek candidates who will support the district's Mission and Vision and continue the ongoing work of the Croton-Harmon Strategic Coherence Plan (now in years four-five). The Board will work inclusively with our community to incorporate their voices throughout the hiring process.

Addressing Post-Pandemic Needs: Recognizing the pandemic may have affected the academic progress and social-emotional health of the district's students, the Board will focus its efforts to address any potential adverse effects of the pandemic on students, faculty and staff. The Board will consider allocation of district resources to address learning recovery where it may be indicated and social-emotional wellness among all members of the school community and will also engage in advocacy at state and federal levels for legislation and adequate funding to support public schools in these endeavors. The Board will review regular updates from the superintendent and administration and will provide representation on any appropriate related committees and/or the task force in furtherance of this goal.

Inherent Bias/Cultural Responsiveness: The Board will continue to educate itself about inherent bias and cultural responsiveness in an effort to improve its decision-making and awareness of what it means to be a culturally responsive school district. The Board will participate in training similar to that planned for district staff and explore the topic through a variety of means, including retreats, board presentations and recommended reading. The Board will consider the recommendations of the district's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion ("DEI") Stakeholders Task Force, which is expected to complete its work in June 2021, and will develop policies to reflect and support those recommendations that are approved, and will incorporate consideration of cultural responsiveness in its decision-making process, including in the development of the district's budget. As part of its DEI work, the Board will educate itself about the best practices in restorative justice and discipline in educational settings, while it deepens its understanding of the Croton-Harmon school district's present practices and how such best practices can be incorporated by the district.

Sustainability: The Board will seek to identify and educate itself about tenable and lasting changes, improvements and practices that are the most effective and feasible to affect positive changes in the environmental impact of our schools. This information will help the Board strategize and prioritize in its planning to meet its commitment to reduce energy consumption and decrease carbon emissions and activities that may be harmful to the environment. The Board will use a variety of resources, including mini-forums, surveys, readings, and presentations from administrators, experts, other school districts, our governmental leaders and community members, to further its understanding on these issues. In addition, the Board will consider advocacy to pursue its commitment to sustainability.