



CPSU UPDATES

JANUARY, 2026

Camden Parents & Students Speak Out: Stop State Sabotage of Our Schools

The Camden Parent and Student Union (CPSU) is sounding the alarm: our public schools are being run without the voices of those who matter most—students, families, and educators.

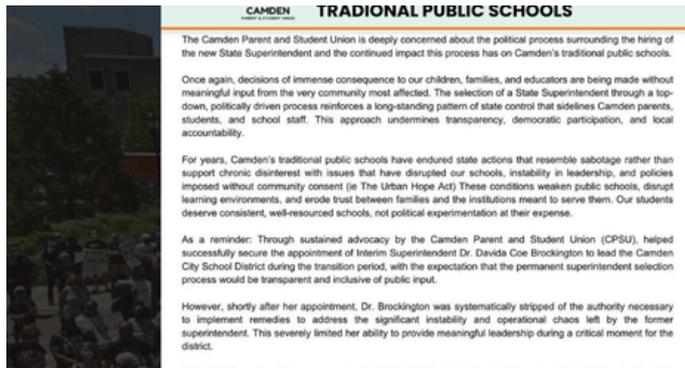
For years, state policies have weakened our schools, disrupted learning, and eroded trust.

Public education is a right, not an experiment. Thanks to CPSU advocacy, Interim Superintendent Dr. Davida Coe Brockington brought stability and collaboration—but her efforts were undercut, and now a new superintendent was appointed with almost no transparency.



enough is enough. True educational equity comes from authentic community partnership, not political maneuvering.

–CPSU



STATE SABOTAGE OF Camden Traditional Public Schools

SINCE 2013:
11 SCHOOLS CLOSED
1,100+ STAFF FIRED

Public School Enrollment Decline

2013	11,660
2024	5,764

CCSD 2025-26 General Budget

Renaissance	\$ 171.3 MILLION
Traditional Public	\$ 71.2 MILLION
Charter	\$ 63.6 MILLION

Timeline:

- 2012**
 - Urban Hope Act authorizes Renaissance Schools in Camden ONLY.
- 2013**
 - State takes over Camden City School District
 - State appoints Paymon Rouhaniford as CCSD Superintendent
- 2015**
 - One Camden Enrollment app launches, hurting public school enrollment
- 2018**
 - Paymon Rouhaniford resigns
 - State appoints Katrina McCombs as CCSD Superintendent
 - Community wins back LOCAL school board ELECTIONS
- 2025**
 - CCSD lays off 117 staff, merges schools, and makes major cuts due to \$91 MILLION budget deficit for 2025-26 school year
 - Katrina McCombs resigns, takes state role
 - Community pushes for Dr. Davida Coe-Brockington to become Superintendent
 - State appoints Dr. Davida Coe-Brockington as INTERIM Superintendent and strips her of full power
 - State excludes community from Superintendent search process
- 2026**

CPSU believes true educational equity requires authentic community partnership.

WE'RE CALLING FOR:

- A Camden Traditional Public Schools Education Justice Town Hall to hear directly from parents, students, and educators.
- The creation of a Community Advisory Board with real decision-making power.

Camden Families Demand a Voice: Schools Deserve Justice, Not Politics

Camden families are essential partners, not obstacles. Our schools deserve wisdom, transparency, and fairness, not state politics. CPSU calls for a town hall and a Community Advisory Board to give families and educators a real voice.

It's time to take a stand. Our children's future can't wait.

Stay informed. Join the movement:



Vineland Superintendent Alfonso Llano Named New Leader of Camden City Schools



Image courtesy of © www.tapinto.net

The New Jersey Board of Education has officially appointed Alfonso Q. Llano Jr. as the next state superintendent of the Camden City School District.

Llano, who was sworn in during the board's Wednesday meeting, currently serves as superintendent of the Vineland Public School District, a role he has held since July 2021. He is scheduled to begin his new position in Camden on March 1.



Image courtesy of © whyy.org

In remarks following his appointment, Llano emphasized the importance of building relationships within the city. He said his early focus will be on listening and learning directly from those most connected to the schools, including families, educators, administrators, and local organizations. Llano noted that several community partners are already supporting Camden students and that he plans to meet with them as part of his transition.

Llano will take leadership of a district facing significant challenges, including declining enrollment and deep budget reductions tied to a reported \$91 million deficit. Camden schools are also navigating increased competition from charter and renaissance schools for both students and funding. Llano said he carefully considered these realities before applying for the role, explaining that he wanted to ensure the district aligned with his professional goals and experience.

Before his time in Vineland, Llano spent a decade with Trenton Public Schools, where he advanced through multiple leadership positions — from elementary school principal to assistant superintendent, chief academic officer, and ultimately interim superintendent. His career also includes administrative roles in the Readington Township and Howell Township school districts.

According to his professional background, Llano earned degrees from Rowan University, Kean University, and New Jersey City University, and he is currently pursuing a doctorate at Seton Hall University.

Llano succeeds Katrina T. McCombs, who departed the district in July to take a position with the state. Since her departure, Davida Coe-Brockington, the longtime principal of Creative Arts High School, has served in an interim leadership role.

While the superintendent search process has remained largely out of public view, a search firm gathered input from Camden parents earlier this year as part of the selection process.

[Read full articles here](#)

Stay informed, stay connected



Subscribe now for the latest updates and news.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



JANUARY, 2026



Introducing Neighborhood News – Your Community, Your Voice!

We're excited to announce the launch of Neighborhood News, the show that brings our community closer than ever. Hosted by Ronsha Dickerson, aka Ronnie D, join us live on Thursdays at 7:30 PM on Facebook and YouTube for the latest updates, inspiring stories, and conversations that matter.

From local events and neighborhood highlights to

interviews with community leaders and everyday heroes, Neighborhood News is your front-row seat to everything happening around you. Whether it's celebrating achievements, sharing important announcements, or shining a light on the people and places that make our neighborhoods special, this is the space where your voice counts.

Celebrating Black History: Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future

February is Black History Month – a time to celebrate the achievements, resilience, and contributions of Black individuals throughout history and today.



This month, we reflect on the trailblazers who paved the way for change and the everyday heroes shaping our communities. From innovators and artists to educators and activists, Black history is a story of courage, creativity, and perseverance. Join us in honoring their legacy, learning from their stories, and committing to a more inclusive future.

"The time is always right to do what is right." – Martin Luther King Jr.

www.camdenpsu.com

UPCOMING SCHOOL BOARD AND CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 10, 2026 @ 5:00PM

REGULAR ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS

Administration Office, 990 Morgan Blvd.

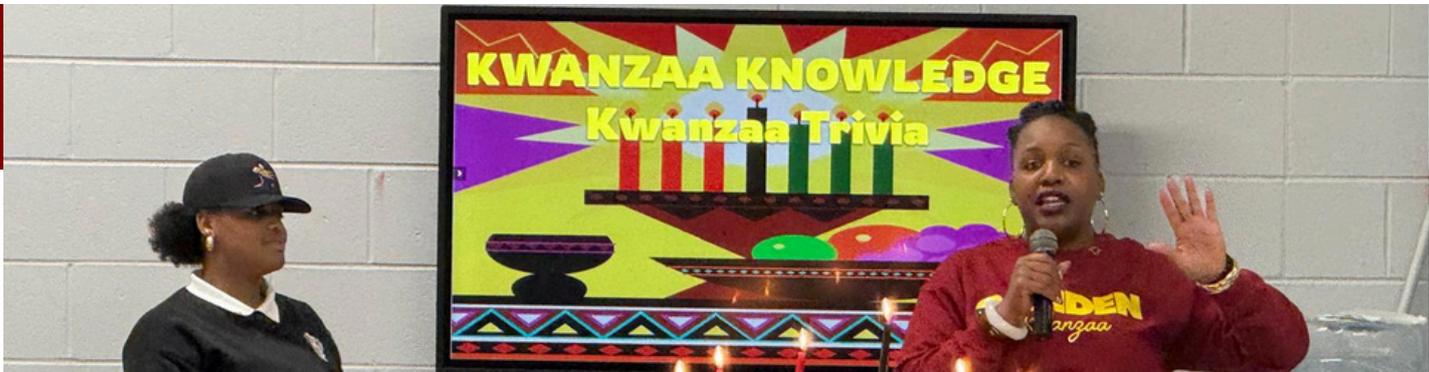
FEBRUARY 24, 2026 @ 5:30PM

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING
City Council Chamber, 2nd floor, City Hall, Camden, New Jersey.

Support CPSU – Strengthen Our Community!

Help empower local families and students by supporting the Camden Parent and Student Union (CPSU). Every donation makes a difference!





Celebrating Black History: Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future



This past December, our Kwanzaa Celebration brought the community together to honor culture, family, and unity. We are deeply grateful to everyone who joined us — your energy, stories, and smiles made the event truly special.

From music and dance to meaningful conversations and shared traditions, our celebration wouldn't have been the same without you. Thank you for being part of a community that uplifts, celebrates, and connects.



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[DONATE NOW](#)

We look forward to creating more moments like this together. Stay tuned for upcoming events and ways to get involved!