



Superintendent Opening Remarks

February 27, 2025

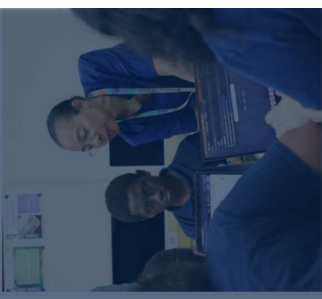
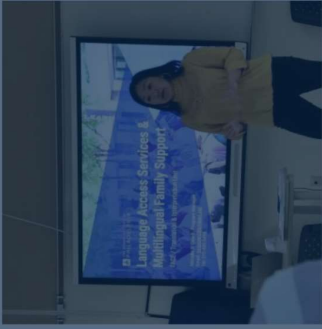
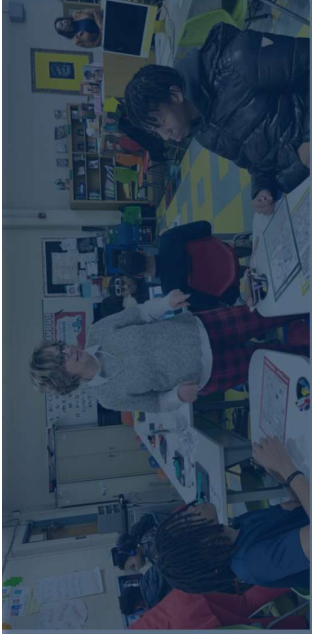
Tony B. Watlington, Sr. Ed.D.
Superintendent





Agenda

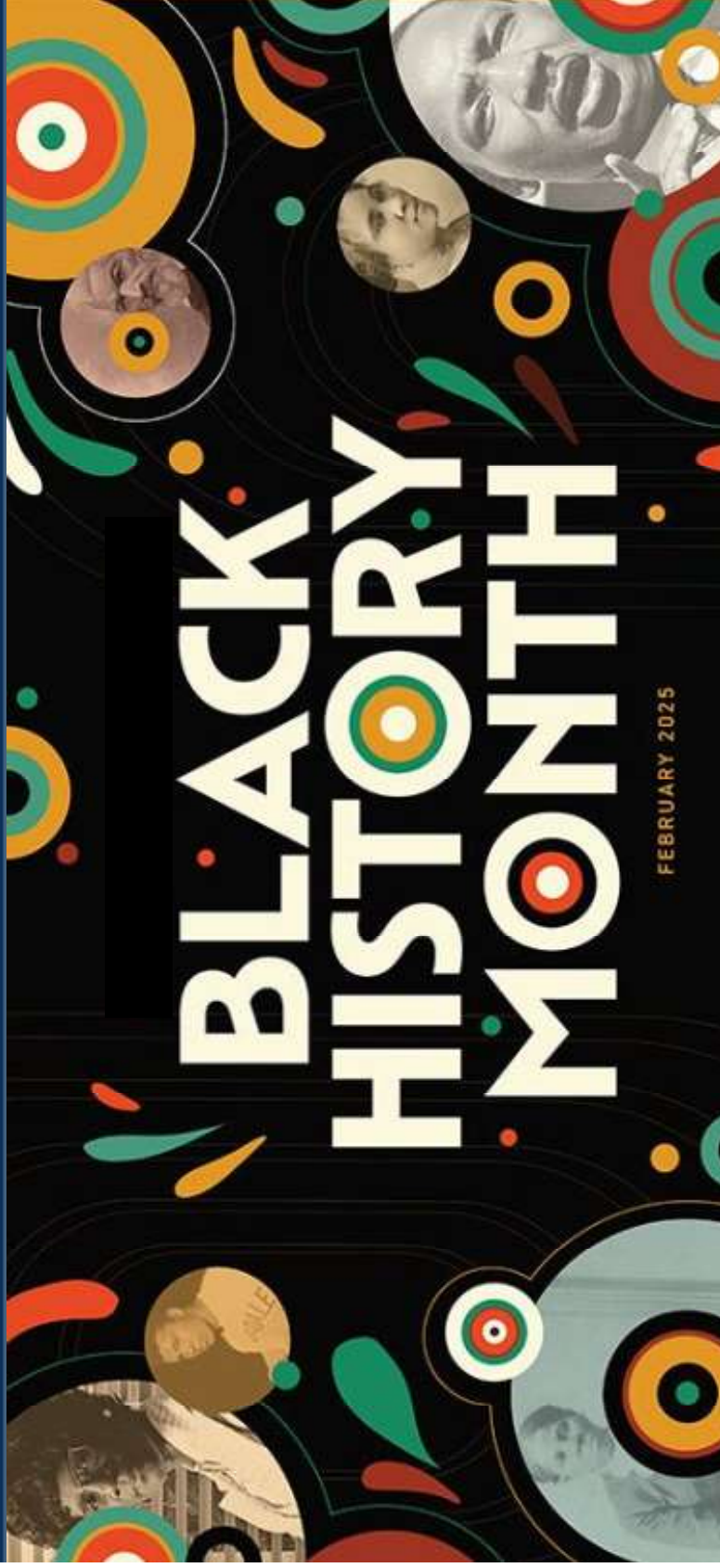
- District Recognitions
- Conditions for Success
- Safe and Welcoming Schools Protocol and Resources
- Family Engagement Initiatives
- School Selection Update
- Questions



District Recognition



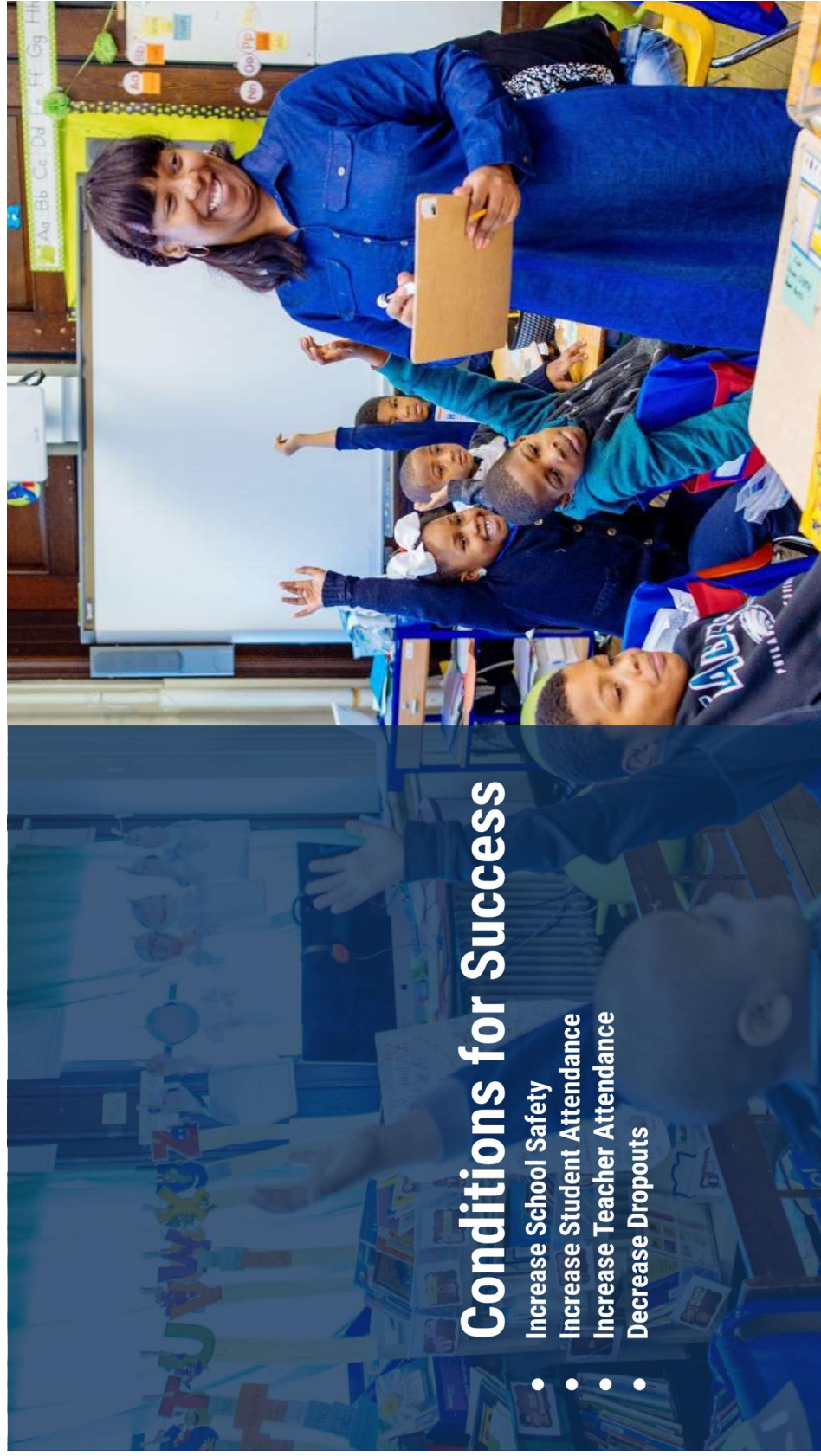
Black History Month



American Heart Month

**February is
American Heart Month**



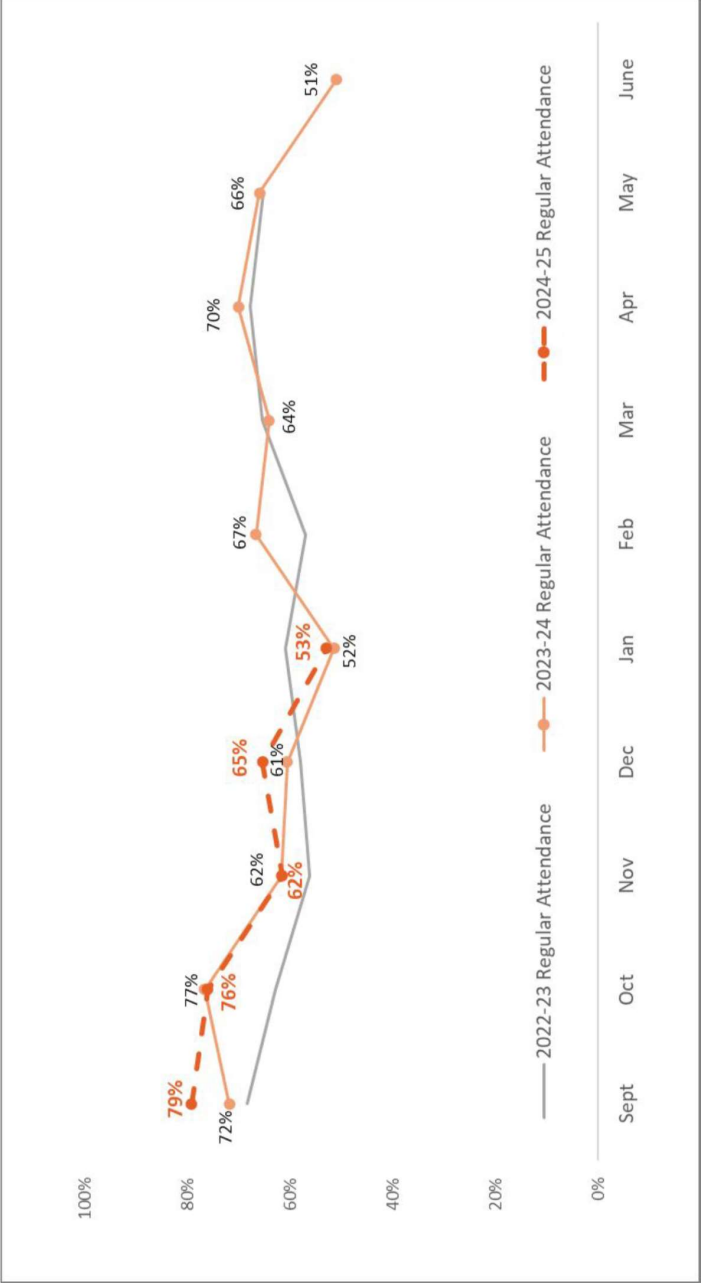


Conditions for Success

- Increase School Safety
- Increase Student Attendance
- Increase Teacher Attendance
- Decrease Dropouts

District-Wide

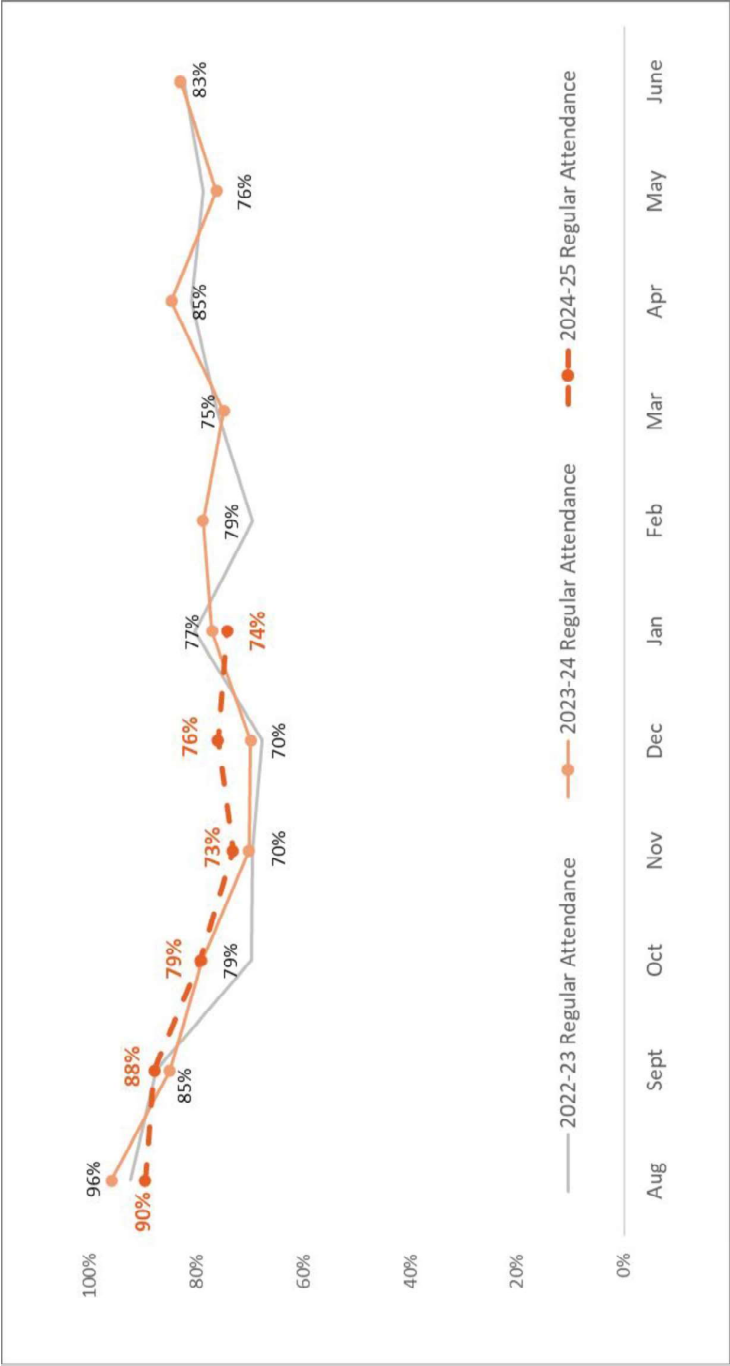
Student Attendance Within Month: 2022-23 through 2024-25



Source: Qlik Climate Matters, 2/6/25. SDP Office of Evaluation, Research, and Accountability.

District-Wide

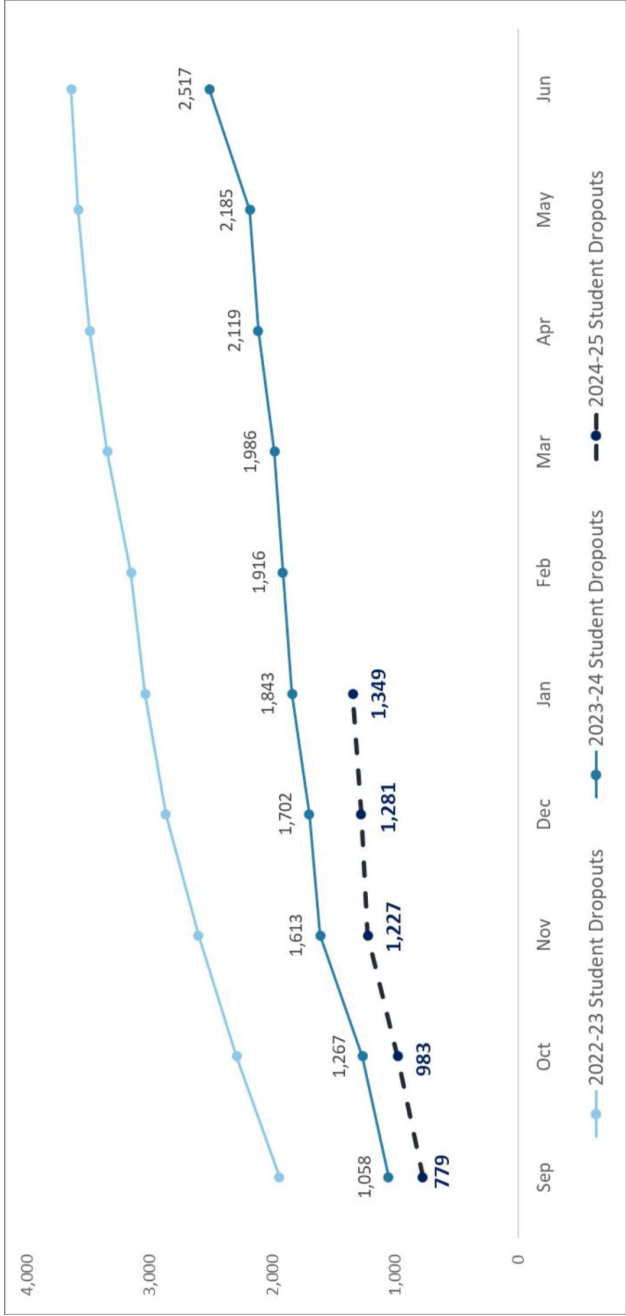
Teacher Attendance Within Month: 2022-23 through 2024-25



Source: Qlik School Employee Attendance, 2/10/2025. SDP Office of Evaluation, Research, and Accountability. Data for 24-25 does not include pre-k teachers.

District-Wide

Dropouts Cumulative: Grades 7-12, Three Year Trend Data



The cumulative by month dropout number includes students in grades 7-12, consistent with the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) "event" dropout rates reported annually. Unlike the annual PDE rate, SDP uses actual enrollment within month, as opposed to the October 1 snapshot enrollment at the end of the year. Students are attributed to the last location they were enrolled. These calculations include students in District, alternative and non-public placements. Students counted as dropouts are tracked on a rolling bases, so monthly totals may change throughout the year.

Source: Qlik App - Dropouts Monitoring, refreshed 2/5/2025. SDP Office of Evaluation, Research, and Accountability.



Safe and Welcoming Schools Protocol and Resources

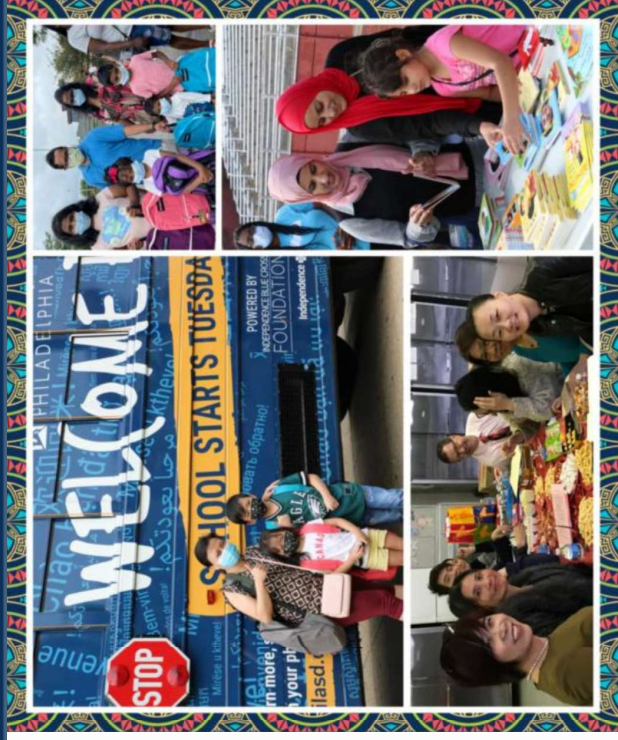
Protocol for Responding to ICE on School Grounds

If an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent requests access to a school building and asks to detain or interview a student for immigration-enforcement purposes, the following procedure should be followed:

School Principal

- 1) **IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY** the Office of General Counsel
- 2) **OBTAIN DOCUMENTATION FROM THE AGENT** such as subpoena or warrant that authorizes access to school
- 3) **ADVISE THE AGENT** that before proceeding with their request, and absent exigent circumstances, school personnel must first receive notification and direction from the Office of General Counsel
- 4) **WAIT FOR FURTHER DIRECTION AND ADVICE** from the Office of General Counsel
- 5) **NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION (P&I)**
- 6) **CONVENE A SAFETY TEAM MEETING** and work with P&I Liaison to formulate School Crisis Response Plan.
- 7) **COMPLETE INCIDENT REPORT**

Safe and Welcoming Schools Training



**SAFE AND WELCOMING
SCHOOLS**

[START COURSE](#)

Safe and Welcoming Schools Website



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

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Services

Our District

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YOU ARE HERE

The School District of Philadelphia

Immigrant Resources

Welcoming Schools

Support Your Family

You Should Know...

Responsibilities of Schools

Resources



Welcoming Schools

The School District of Philadelphia is committed to creating safe, welcoming spaces for our students and families, in alignment with the U.S. Constitution, Pennsylvania State law, and in the spirit of the Board of Education's Welcoming Sanctuary Schools Resolution. Our commitment includes all students, no matter their race, ethnicity, immigration status, national origin, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, familial status, religion, or abilities.

[Read Superintendent Watlington's full statement here.](#)

Local Organizations to Contact for Support

- **Juntos**
(215) 218-9079
- **HIAS Pennsylvania**
(215) 832-0900
- **The Welcoming Center**
(215) 557-2626
- **Nationalities Service Center**
(215) 893-8400
- **Pennsylvania Immigration & Citizenship Coalition**
- **New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia**
(215) 279-7060
- **PA Immigrant Family Unity Project**
- **Esperanza Immigration Legal Services**
(347) 719-1402

The District’s website includes a resource library that includes the resolution, protocols, and other helpful materials for school communities and families



Family Engagement Initiatives

Family Engagement Initiatives

Phase 1



Phase 2

- Launch Parent Ambassadors
- Launch Parent Engagement App



Parent & Guardian Advisory Council



SUPERINTENDENT'S
Parent & Guardian
ADVISORY COUNCIL

Parent & Family University Kickoff Tour



KICKOFF TOUR

Join us at a session to learn
more provide your feedback
on future programming.

UPCOMING SESSIONS 5:30PM TO 7:00PM

Tuesday, March 11
Carver Engineering & Science
1600 W Norris St.

Wednesday, March 26
Abraham Lincoln HS
3201 Ryan Ave.

Monday, April 7, 2025
George Washington HS
10175 Bustleton Ave.

Wednesday, March 19
Martin Luther King HS
6100 Stenton Ave.

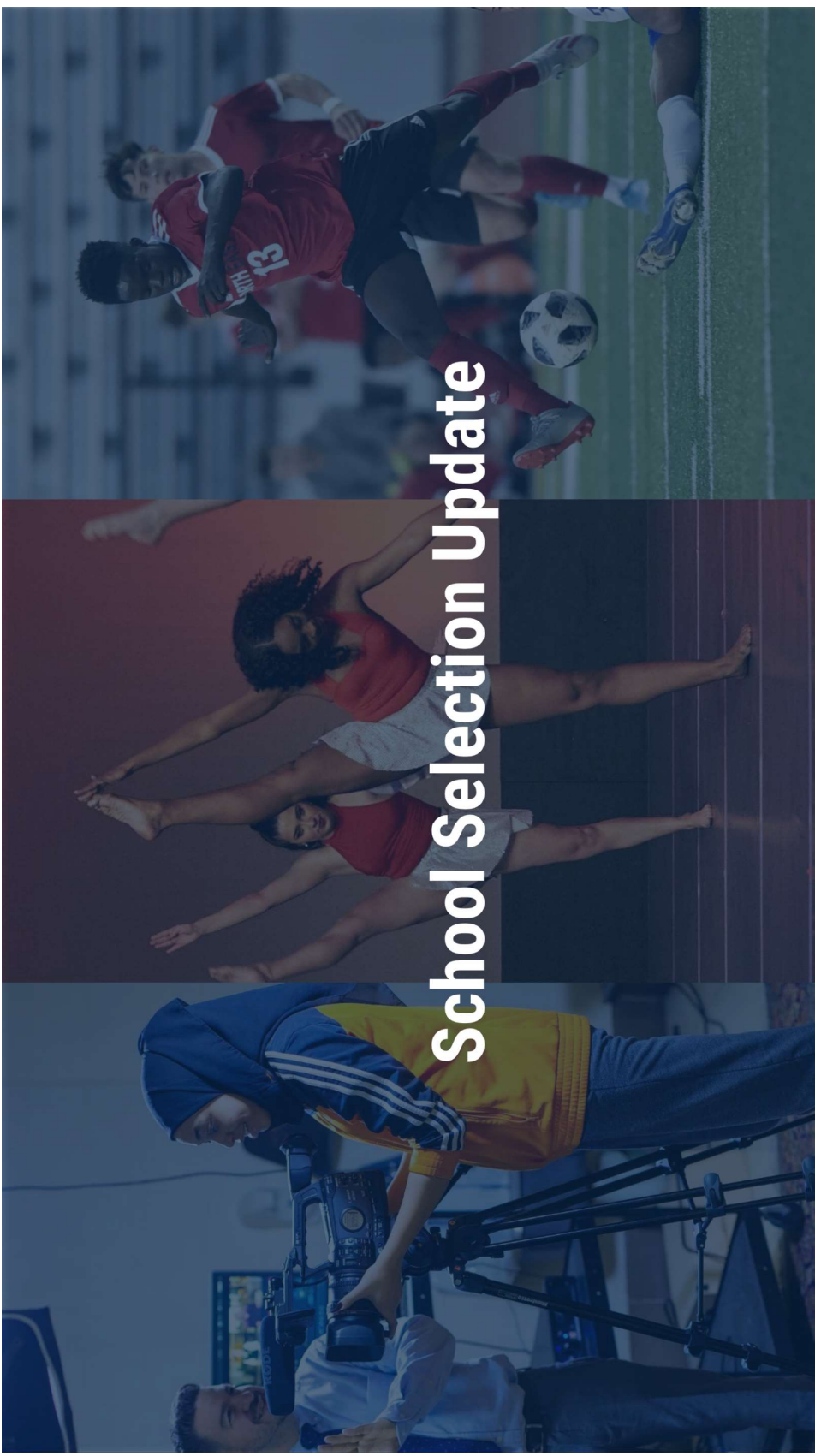
Wednesday, April 2
S. Weir Mitchell School
500 Kingessing Ave.

Thursday, April 10
Lewis C. Cassidy School
6523 Lansdowne Ave.

Monday, March 24
South Philadelphia HS
2101 S Broad St.

**Register for a session
at bit.ly/pfufusion**

CHILDCARE, SNACKS, INTERPRETATION, & SEPTA PASSES AVAILABLE



School Selection Update

School Selection Process for SY 25-26

This Fall, as part of the District's School Selection Process we did the following:

- Launched a new school selection system, which allows ranked choice (Avela).
- Participated in the annual K-12 Philly School Fair
- Offered nine (9) School Selection Training and Assistance Labs across the City.
- Hosted student and family open houses at all criteria-based high schools.
- Created a school selection hub on the District's website that includes FAQs, toolkits and how-to-guides.





THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

Thank you and Questions