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# News Release

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## **Superintendent Maria Goodloe-Johnson Unveils Entry Plan** **Plan Focuses on Listening and Learning to Improve Academic Success**

At the July 11 School Board meeting, Superintendent Maria Goodloe-Johnson expressed how pleased she was to be in Seattle and revealed details of her entry plan. "I have truly enjoyed my first several days on the job," said Dr. Goodloe-Johnson. "It was a pleasure to meet some of our elementary school teachers, learn more about the standardized math curriculum, and to observe and talk with high school summer school students who are working on their literacy skills. Over the course of my first year, I plan to visit all of our schools in order to celebrate the many successes and work together on our challenges."

Dr. Goodloe-Johnson presented an entry plan whose theme is to listen and learn to improve academic success. Goals include improved academic achievement, improved fiscal accountability, improved systemic accountability, and improved strategic communication. "If we expect to improve as a system, we must all hold ourselves accountable for the results," said Goodloe-Johnson. "The entry plan will guide the ways in which I will invest my time over the next six months. I am ready and eager to listen and to learn about our schools, our students, our families, our staff, and our community. I will analyze the information gathered, and then share plans for improvement and outcomes of our efforts."

The plan includes initial strategies to engage with the media, the School Board, district senior staff, students and schools, political leadership, community leaders and families, and national educational groups. It is posted on the district's website at [http://www.seattleschools.org/area/sup/Superintendent\\_Entry\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.seattleschools.org/area/sup/Superintendent_Entry_Plan.pdf).

Outreach with media includes plans for weekly walking tours of schools, bus tours of each district, regular in-depth briefings on key issues, and one-on-one meetings with reporters and editors.

Dr. Goodloe-Johnson will work with School Board members to establish protocols for internal communications, public engagement, and board agendas. An initial joint retreat and one-on-one meetings with board members have been scheduled.

The Superintendent will work with the district's senior leadership team to review student success plans. She also has a focus on cultivating outstanding leadership, and including principals in the team.

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As Dr. Goodloe-Johnson visits schools, she will build an understanding of teaching and learning in each building; and identify successes and focus areas. Spending time in each district will help her gain an understanding of the city and of the unique characteristics of each community. “As Superintendent of Seattle Public Schools, I have a responsibility to understand what's going on in classrooms as well as the communities in the district as we strive to serve all our children,” said Dr. Goodloe-Johnson.

Collaboration and partnership with government and community is critical to student success, so Dr. Goodloe-Johnson plans to meet elected officials, union leaders, the Governor of the State of Washington, and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

“Establishing relationships with families and other community members is especially important to our students, and I look forward to meeting and building partnerships with parent groups, philanthropic and business groups, faith-based groups and community-based organizations,” said Superintendent Goodloe-Johnson.

Throughout her career in education Dr. Goodloe-Johnson has participated in national level educational groups. She plans to collaborate with national experts to build support for Seattle’s financial and academic success. Dr. Goodloe-Johnson will involve other superintendents, foundations, and key national educational associations. She welcomes comments on her draft entry plan at [superintendent@seattleschools.org](mailto:superintendent@seattleschools.org).

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