

LEA Name:	Cairo-Durham Central School District
BEDS Code:	190301040000

**ENTER DATA INTO ALL YELLOW CELLS.**

## 2015-2016 District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (DCIP)

Contact Name	Anthony Taibi	Title	Superintendent of Schools
Phone	(518) 622-8534	Email	<a href="mailto:ataibi@cairodurham.org">ataibi@cairodurham.org</a>
Website for Published Plan	<a href="http://www.cairodurham.org">www.cairodurham.org</a>		

**APPROVAL OF THIS PLAN BY THE SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD OF EDUCATION (IN NEW YORK CITY, THE CHANCELLOR OR THE CHANCELLOR'S DESIGNEE) IS MANDATORY.**

Implementation is required no later than the first day of regular student attendance.

Signatures confirm the respective parties certify that the DCIP addresses all of the required components of the ESEA Flexibility Waiver as detailed on page 1 of this document and understand that any significant modification of the school district's approved plan require the prior approval of the commissioner.

### THE SIGNATURES BELOW CONFIRM APPROVAL.

Position	Signature	Print Name	Date
Superintendent		Anthony Taibi	
President, B.O.E. / Chancellor or Chancellor's		David Infantino	

## Statement of Assurances

**By signing this document, the Local Education Agency certifies that:**

1. The District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (DCIP) has been developed in consultation with parents, school staff and others in accordance with the requirements of Shared-Decision Making (CR 100.11) to provide a meaningful opportunity for stakeholders to participate in the development of the plan and comment on the plans before they
2. If the school has been identified as Persistently Failing and Failing, as per Education Law 211-f, it will form a Community Engagement Team, "which shall include community stakeholders, including but not limited to the school principal, parents and guardians, teachers, and other school staff and students." This team is charged with developing recommendations for the improvement of the school and "shall solicit input through public engagement." Further, "the team shall present its recommendations periodically to
3. The District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (DCIP) has been formally approved by the school board and will be made widely available through public means, such as posting on the Internet, distribution through the media and distribution through public agencies.
4. The District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (DCIP) will be implemented no later than the beginning of the first day of regular student attendance.
5. A comprehensive systems approach will be established to recruit, develop, retain and equitably distribute effective teachers and school leaders as part of the implementation of the Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) system required by Education law §3012-c.
6. Professional development will be provided to teachers and school leaders that will fully support the strategic efforts described within this plan.
7. Meaningful time for collaboration will be used to review and analyze data in order to inform and improve district policies, procedures, and instructional practices.
8. If the school has been identified as Persistently Failing or Failing, as per Education Law 211-f, the district will, prior to the beginning of the 2015-16 school year and in a form determined by the Commissioner, complete an addendum to the School Comprehensive Education Plan (SCEP) that includes the following: rigorous performance metrics and goals that are in addition to those listed in the leading indicators section; a list of the Community Engagement Team members and the Team's recommendations; and any changes made to the plan by the Superintendent Receiver, including addition of activities supporting the conversion of the school into a community school.

### District Leadership Team

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM: The DCIP must be developed in consultation with parents, school staff, and others pursuant to §100.11 of Commissioner’s Regulations. Participants who are regularly involved in your district and school improvement initiatives, such as community organizations or institutes of higher education should be included. By signing below, stakeholders ascertain that, although they may not agree with all components of the plan, they have actively participated in the development and revision of the DCIP.

Instructions: List the stakeholders who participated in developing the DCIP as required by Commissioner’s Regulations §100.18. Provide dates and locations of Local Stakeholder meetings. Boxes should be added as necessary.

Meeting Date(s)	Locations(s)	Meeting Date(s)	Location(s)
May 28, 2015	High School Library		
June 22, 2016	High School Library		

Name	Title / Organization	Signature
Anthony Taibi	Superintendent	
Thomas Baumgartner	Director Curriculum & Instruction	
Janet McKeon	Teacher Assistant	
Tara Mentes	Reading Teacher/Elementary	
Marie Culihan	Principal/Elementary	
Nathan Farrell	Principal/Middle School	
Laura Giarusso	Teacher/HS	
Loraine Colistra	PPS Director	
Megan West	Teacher/Elementary	
Kimberly Young	Teacher/HS	
Jason Reinhard	Teacher/HS	
Shannon Krum	Teacher/HS	
Donna Trunzo	Teacher/MS	
Susan Boyle	Teacher/HS	
Jill Fortini	Parent	
Nicole Maggio	Parent	

**District Information Sheet**

District Information Sheet										
District Grade Configuration	PK-12	Total Student Enrollment	1229	% Title I Population	18%	% Attendance Rate	94%			

Racial/Ethnic Origin of District Student Population											
% American Indian or Alaska Native	1%	% Black or African American	2%	% Hispanic or Latino	8%	% Asian, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1%	% White	85%	% Multi-Racial	5%

Overall State Accountability Status											
Number of Focus Schools	1	Number of Priority Schools	0	Number of Local Assistance Plan Schools	0	Number of Schools in Status	1	Number of SIG 1003(a) Recipient	1	Number of SIG 1003(g) Recipient	0

Did Not Meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in ELA			
	American Indian or Alaska Native		Black or African American
	Hispanic or Latino		Asian or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
X	White		Multi-Racial
X	Students with Disabilities		Limited English Proficient
X	Economically Disadvantaged		

Did Not Meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in Mathematics			
	American Indian or Alaska Native		Black or African American
X	Hispanic or Latino		Asian or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
X	White		Multi-Racial
X	Students with Disabilities		Limited English Proficient
X	Economically Disadvantaged		

Did Not Meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in Science			
	American Indian or Alaska Native		Black or African American
	Hispanic or Latino		Asian or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
	White		Multi-Racial
	Students with Disabilities		Limited English Proficient
	Economically Disadvantaged		

Did Not Meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for Effective Annual Measurable Objective	
	Limited English Proficient

## DCIP Plan Overview

In this section, the district must describe the development of the plan, the degree to which the previous school year's DCIP was successfully implemented, overall improvement mission or guiding principles at the core of the strategy for executing the mission/guiding principles, the key design elements of the DCIP, and other unique characteristics of the plan (if any), and provide evidence of the district's capacity to effectively oversee and manage the improvement plan.

The DCIP must be made widely available through public means, such as posting on the Internet, by the district. The Overview will serve as the at-a-glance summary of how the district will use various funding sources to improve student achievement. A complete overview will address the following:

**1. Rate the degree to which the District achieved the goals identified in the previous year's District Comprehensive Improvement Plan (Mark with an "X").**

- Limited Degree (Fewer than 20% of goals were achieved.)  
 Partial Degree (Fewer than 50% of goals were achieved.)  
 Moderate Degree (At least 50% of goals were achieved.)  
 Major Degree (At least 90% of goals were achieved.)

**2. Rate the degree to which the District successfully implemented the activities identified in the previous year's DCIP (Mark with an "X").**

- Limited Degree (Fewer than 20% of activities were carried out.)  
 Partial Degree (Fewer than 50% of activities were carried out.)  
 Moderate Degree (At least 50% of activities were carried out.)  
 Major Degree (At least 90% of activities were carried out.)

**3. Rate the degree to which the activities identified in the previous year's District Comprehensive Improvement Plan impacted academic achievement targets for identified subgroups (Mark with an "X").**

- Limited Degree (No identified subgroups improved achievement.)  
 Partial Degree (Some of the identified subgroups improved achievement.)  
 Moderate Degree (A majority of identified subgroups improved achievement.)  
 Major Degree (All identified subgroups improved achievement.)

**4. Rate the degree to which the activities identified in the previous year's DCIP increased Parent Engagement (Mark with an "X").**

- Limited Degree (There was no increase in the level of Parent Engagement.)  
 Partial Degree (There was a minor increase in the level of Parent Engagement.)  
 Moderate Degree (There was modest increase in the level of Parent Engagement.)  
 Major Degree (There was a significant increase in the level of Parent Engagement.)

**5. Rate the degree to which the activities identified in the previous year's District Comprehensive Improvement Plan received the funding necessary to achieve the corresponding goals (Mark with an "X").**

- Limited Degree (Fewer than 20% of planned activities were funded.)  
 Partial Degree (Fewer than 50% of planned activities were funded.)  
 Moderate Degree (At least 50% of planned activities were funded.)  
 Major Degree (At least 90% of planned activities were funded.)

**6. Identify in which Tenet the district made the most growth during the previous year (Mark with an "X").**

- Tenet 1: District Leadership and Capacity  
 Tenet 2: School Leader Practices and Decisions  
 Tenet 3: Curriculum Development and Support  
 Tenet 4: Teacher Practices and Decisions  
 Tenet 5: Student Social and Emotional Developmental Health  
 Tenet 6: Family and Community Engagement

**7. Identify in which Tenet identified schools made the most growth during the previous year (Mark with an "X").**

- Tenet 1: District Leadership and Capacity  
 Tenet 2: School Leader Practices and Decisions  
 Tenet 3: Curriculum Development and Support  
 Tenet 4: Teacher Practices and Decisions  
 Tenet 5: Student Social and Emotional Developmental Health  
 Tenet 6: Family and Community Engagement

**In reflecting on the PREVIOUS YEAR'S PLAN:**

- Describe the most significant positive impact(s) that resulted from the previous year's plan (may include such examples as specific changes in adult behavior and/or measurable changes in student outcomes).

The district adopted a shared decision making team that created more oversight, an increase in collaboration and a greater focus on key areas in need of improvement. As part of the shared decision making team, sub-committees were formed for the purpose of focusing on curriculum, professional development, human resources, resource allocation and student emotional health. As a result, the district was able to develop several plans and protocols in each of these areas this past year. This has had a direct impact on adult behavior by increasing the amount of discussion among the professionals on topics related to these key areas, by adopting best practices and by adding consistency through all of our programs. In addition, the district has made great strides toward aligning its curriculum. It has adopted a common curriculum data platform and universal curriculum design. Teachers are monitoring their curriculum by using professionally developed rubrics and by utilizing team time.

- Describe all mid-course corrections to the previous year's plan in response to data review and needed adjustment. Include details of current impact and expectations for sustainability moving forward.

Mid-course corrections to last year's plan that occurred in response to reviewing data and feedback were:

Upon observing Shared Decision Making Meetings and reviewing sub-committee minutes adjustments to this process needed to be made. The number of sub-committees was not sustainable due to the size of our district. As a result, planning in key areas, such as professional development, resource allocations and community engagement was falling behind. Therefore, consolidation of duties and oversight was needed. In so doing, our sub-committees became more productive and our overall shared decision making team became more efficient.

Upon reviewing curriculum maps of K-12 courses it was determined that there was a need for more professional development. Therefore, the district engaged several of its teacher leaders in curriculum design training. This included webinars, online courses and direct work with curriculum experts in Understanding by Design. In addition, the district determined that several of its programs lacked the curriculum necessary to effectively drive instruction. Thus, the district provided student release time on several occasions and consultation support to assist in curriculum development.

In developing the CURRENT YEAR'S plan:

• List the highlights of the initiatives described in the current DCIP.

1. Renewed focus on newly hired teachers and district's mentoring program. 2. Embodiment of district's Theory of Action. 3. Greater emphasis placed on utilizing student achievement and teacher observation data to inform PD. 4. The creation of common benchmarks. 5. The continued development and alignment of K - 12 curriculum.

• List the identified needs in the district that will be targeted for improvement in this plan.

1. Recruiting and retaining highly effective personnel by improving hiring and mentoring process. 2. Increasing student achievement by establishing a process that prioritizes the allocation of resources to the district's greatest needs. 3. Establishing a system of processes and protocols that connects student achievement data to teacher practice and utilizing this data to inform PD. 4. Aligning K-12 curriculum.

• State the mission or guiding principles of the district and describe the relationship between the mission or guiding principles and the identified needs of the district.

The Cairo-Durham Central School District, in partnership with the community, is committed to creating multiple learning pathways that empower all students to maximize their individual potential and become leaders in their local and global communities. In order for the district to fulfill our mission, there are certain needs that have to be addressed in our plan:

1. We need to improve upon the work of our Human Resources, in order to ensure that we are hiring and retaining the best teachers to achieve our mission.
2. We need to ensure that all staff are embodying our Theory of Action.
3. We need to develop a plan that will allow us to be more efficient with the allocations of our resources.
4. We need to be strategic with our Professional Development planning. This includes the use of data to drive the plan and connecting student achievement to the plan.
5. We need to continue, without waiver, on the curriculum alignment goals that have been set.
6. We need to develop a student support services plan K - 12 and improve upon our student engagement plan.

• List the student academic achievement targets for the identified subgroups in the current plan.

1. Increase the percentage of students who are reading at or above grade level by 4% across all subgroups.
2. Increase the percentage of graduates by 4% across all subgroups.
3. Increase proficiency and mastery rates on state assessments by 4% across all subgroups.
4. Decrease the course failure rate for all students by 10%.

• Describe how organizational structures will drive strategic implementation of the mission/guiding principles.

The Cairo-Durham CSD uses a collaborative approach to strategically implement our guiding principles. We do this by placing in the center of our organizational structure our Shared Decision Making Team. This team is a representative sample of all our constituents. It is comprised of several sub-committees, each charged with implementing

• List anticipated barriers that may impact the ability to accomplish the mission or guiding principles and how those barriers will be addressed.

Barriers include:

1. Changes in District leadership.
2. Outdated District policies.
3. Lean staffing of the District office.
4. Strain on resources due to increase in poverty among student population
5. A deficiency in process and protocols.

With few hands to do the work of administering the improvement initiatives and implementing the DCIP activities in an organized and thorough manner, the use of the district's shared decision making team, consultants and efficiency strategies will be absolutely essential to overcoming these anticipated barriers.

• Describe the professional development opportunities that will be provided to teachers and school leaders and the rationale for each opportunity.

Staff will be provided with the following professional development opportunities:

1. The recording and utilization of student data for the purpose of informing student instruction.
2. Curriculum writing and the utilization of an Understanding by Design model.
3. Improving direct instruction in reading and writing.
4. The utilization of technology for the purpose of enhancing instruction and reaching all learners.
5. The use of common assessment and how to use benchmarking to drive instruction.
6. Direct consultation on organizational structuring.
7. Therapeutic response and intervention.
8. Tier 2 interventions within the RtI model.

Each of these opportunities were identified through the evaluation of data that included student achievement and teacher observations. In an attempt to remain flexible, the district has also set aside resources to allow for mid-year adjustments depending on student achievement feedback.

• List all methods of dialogue that district leaders will implement to strengthen relationships with school staff and the community.

1. Regular meetings of the Shared Decision Making Team.
2. Public dissemination of Shared Decision Making Team meetings and minutes.
3. Regular presentations to the BOE and school faculties regarding DCIP priorities and progress.
4. Updates of current initiatives and its progress at scheduled Parent Engagement Nights and Involvement Activities.
5. Newsletters
6. District website
7. The retainment of a communications consultant

• List all the ways in which the current plan will be made widely available to the public.

1. Through our Shared Decision Making meetings.
2. Through our community oversight committee meetings.
3. Through our district website.
4. Through our district newsletters.
5. Through our Strategic Plan for Excellence publication.
6. Through our Board of Education meetings.

### **For Districts with Priority Schools: Whole School Reform Model**

Please note: Priority Schools that are subsequently identified as Failing or Persistently Failing as per Education Law 211-f may have additional requirements to fulfill for the 2015-16 school year. The Department will require that districts with such schools complete an addendum to the SCEP for each school that includes the following: rigorous performance metrics and goals that are in addition to those listed in the leading indicators section; a list of the Community Engagement Team members and the Team's recommendations; and any changes made to the plan by the Superintendent Receiver, including addition of activities supporting the conversion of the school into a community school.

**1. Provide an overview of the district's overall plan and approach to district and school redesign and its desired impact on the targeted all-school group or sub-groups. In this overview, describe how the school redesign is connected to the larger district strategy and approach. In addition, provide the proposed school's vision, mission, key partnership organizations, key design elements of the educational program, other unique characteristics of the program, if any, and discussion of the district/partner(s) capacity to effectively**

**2. The district must demonstrate that it has the capacity to plan for, implement, and monitor school-level redesign efforts, including the provision of adequate resources and related support in order to effectively support the site-based launch, governance, and implementation of the proposed school. The district must also demonstrate a critical and honest assessment of structural/systems gaps and needs, as well as student achievement gaps and needs.**

A. Student Population and Needs. Using statistics and descriptive language, describe the population of students that the LEA serves and any specific unique needs by sub-group such as students with disabilities, English language learners, and students from households that are eligible for free or reduced lunch. Identify the school student population, including sub-groups, to be served by the school-redesign, and describe any unique needs of these populations. In addition, describe the policies for students who choose to enroll or exit the

B. District Systems and Structural Needs. Describe the district's approach to turning around the underperforming school, the theory of action guiding district efforts and the key district strategies. Describe the district's core challenges and issues related to turning around the school, based on data and the district's assessment of its current systems, structures, and policies for supporting underperforming schools. Identify and describe current systems and structural strengths, and gaps needs to providing school-level site-based governance, human capital pipelines and development, education and instructional programs, school-level, site-based fiscal autonomy and management, and facilities acquisition and use. Additionally, identify areas which can be strengthened through the key partnerships proposed in this grant application.

C. District Systems and Structures to Monitor and Support Implementation. Describe the structures or other processes to be used to support and monitor implementation of school-level redesign efforts. Describe how the district will ensure that the identified school will receive ongoing, intensive support from the district or designated external partner organization(s). Describe how the district will monitor the implementation of the selected intervention at the identified school and how the district will know that planned interventions and strategies are working. Specifically, please describe how the district will provide for review of data related to implementation benchmarks and measurable annual

**3. A Lead Partner or Partner Consortium should have the expertise and capacity to provide comprehensive support in the areas where there has been an identified gap in**

A. Partner Identification and Rationale: Complete the Identified Partner Organization chart. Describe in the narrative the rationale for the selection of partner organizations in relation to meeting key district and school-level needs/gaps in capacity. Describe the relationship between the school and the partner organization(s) and how that relationship will

B. Partner Roles and Responsibilities: Describe the lead partner/partner consortium role and responsibilities in relation to district's larger strategy and the identified school's management and proposed governance structure. Types of services may include providing technical expertise in implementing a variety of components of the school intervention models, coordinating services, providing intensive job-embedded professional development for school administrators and teachers, and implementing an equitable teacher and principal evaluation system that relies on student achievement, providing fiscal support services, and creating safe school environments that meet students' social, emotional, and health needs. Explain how, over the course of project, all collaborative activities result in the transferring of knowledge, expertise, and practices from partner(s) to LEA personnel, as well as the development of policies, tools, and resources leading to a new and sustainable capacity for the LEA on its own. Describe the means by which the district will hold the

C. Evidence of Partner Effectiveness. Complete the Evidence of Partner Effectiveness chart. In the chart, provide evidence that can be validated by an external source, that the partner organizations have a proven track record of success in turning around schools and improving student achievement. Evidence to be submitted might include:

- A list of schools the partner has previously managed/supported.
- Academic performance data by subgroup from the schools that the partner has managed/supported in the past three years.
- A summary of the partner's fiscal performance for the past three years.



























**Focus District Set-Asides**

<b>Parent Engagement Set-Aside Calculation Based on Federal Funding</b>			
Fund Source	Allocation	Parent Engagement Set-Aside -- Required Percentage	Mandated Set-Aside
Title I, Part A	\$553,834	1%	\$5,538

<b>Improvement Set-Aside Calculation Based on Federal Funding</b>			
Fund Source	Allocation	Improvement Set-Aside -- Required	Mandated Set-Aside (Equivalent Amount)
Title I, Part A	\$553,834	5%	\$27,692
Title II, Part A	\$69,401	5%	\$3,470
Title III, Part A LEP (allocation listed only if required)		5%	\$0
<b>Total Federal Allocation Subject to Set-Aside</b>	<b>\$623,235</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>\$31,162</b>

<b>Funding Sources Used to Meet Required Set-Aside for Improvement</b>	
Fund Source	Budgeted Amount
Title I, Part A	\$33,230
Title II, Part A	\$3,470
Title III, Part A LEP	\$0
Title VI REAP	\$0
School Improvement Section 1003(a) - SIG A	\$82,500
School Improvement Section 1003(g) - SIG G	\$0
School Innovation Fund	\$0
Local / General Funds	\$0
<b>Total Funding Reserved for Improvement</b>	<b>\$119,200</b>

The Improvement Reserve Has Been Met.

Required Activity	The District certifies that this activity will be completed with fidelity in 2015-16. (Indicate "YES" or "NO")	Anticipated Cost of Implementation (District + School Costs)	Will School Improvement Section 1003(a) Funds be Used to Pay for this Activity? (Indicate "YES" or "NO")	If 1003(a) Funds WILL NOT be used, please identify the alternate fund source(s). SEE cells B16 - B25
Participate in DTSDE Trainings	YES		YES	
Conduct DTSDE reviews, including administration of required annual surveys	YES		YES	
Develop high-quality DCIP and SCEP plans	YES		NO	Title I, Part A
Review the qualifications of Priority and Focus School Leaders	YES		NO	Title I, Part A
Submit quarterly leading indicators report to NYSED	YES		YES	
Evaluate the fidelity of program implementation	YES		YES	
Provide Public School Choice to students in Priority and Focus Schools	N/A		N/A	
Offer 200 hours of Extended Learning Time to students in each Priority School	N/A		N/A	
<b>TOTAL</b>		\$0		



**Financial Allocation Plan - Parent Engagement**

Parent Engagement Set-Aside Budget Summary		
School	Accountability Status	Amount of Funds Allocated for Parent Engagement
Cairo-Durham Elementary School	Focus	\$5,538
<b>DISTRICT / BUILDING TOTALS</b>		<b>\$5,538</b>

Total Funding Reserved for Parent Engagement. This amount is from cell F5 on the tab titled "Focus District Set-Asides."	\$5,538
Has the district demonstrated how ALL funds budgeted for Parent Engagement will be allocated across the district (Does Cell E40 = Cell E42)?	NO