



Black Parents Workshop

RECENT STATEMENTS REGARDING THE INTENTIONAL INTEGRATION PLAN

On October 15, 2025, Superintendent Bing issued a statement about the Intentional Integration Initiative (Triple I), transfer policy 5124, the increase in the Alves algorithm variance and the statewide integration lawsuit involving the NAACP/Latino Action Network v. New Jersey.

We felt that the requirements of the settlement needed to be clear to assuage community confusion regarding the Triple I and the Black Parents Workshop (BPW) settlement with the South Orange Maplewood School District (SOMSD). For the avoidance of doubt, the BPW settlement required the SOMSD to create an integration plan with guidance from Dr. Edward Fergus.

The integration model chosen by former SOMSD Superintendent, Dr. Ronald Taylor, did not include input from Dr. Fergus. The 5% variance in the Alves algorithm is not a requirement by law, policy or the BPW settlement. The decision to sell the SOMSD bus fleet and depend solely on less-than-reliable third-party contractors to transport the maximum number of students has proven to be unsustainable. Those decisions have directly contributed to the lack of operational efficiency regarding the Triple I. However, despite the operational deficiencies involving the Triple I, it was still compliant with the wording of the BPW settlement.

As James H. Davis III stated during public speaks at the September Board of Education meeting, BPW is confident that Mr. Bing will resolve any ancillary challenges regarding the operational weaknesses of the Triple I and that SOMSD will remain in compliance with the BPW settlement. Based on Mr. Bing's recent statements, his conversations with the BPW settlement team, which includes Justice John E. Wallace and Dr. Edward Fergus, SOMSD is making the right decision as it formulates necessary operational changes for the Triple I to run more efficiently.