



The School District of Philadelphia

Office of Communications

440 N. Broad Street, Suite 102 ~ Philadelphia, PA 19130-4015 ~ (215) 400-4040

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Raven Hill
215-400-5846**

August 15, 2013

STATEMENT FROM SUPERINTENDENT WILLIAM HITE ON CITY FUNDING

I would like to express my appreciation to Mayor Michael A. Nutter for his announcement today regarding much-needed funding for our schools. We have received a letter that would allow us to immediately start recalling the necessary staff to open our schools on time for the 2013-14 school year.

On behalf of The School District of Philadelphia, I am thankful that all of our elected officials collectively sought to resolve this issue with a high level of urgency.

As I stated last week, the \$50 million will enable us to provide many crucial school functions and restore critical staff positions, including assistant principals, counselors and hallway, recess and lunch monitors. This money will also help us to avoid combining grades in single classrooms, offer extracurricular activities at all schools, and ensure adequate maintenance and custodial services. In short, this will get us closer to keeping the elements that make our schools quality educational facilities.

I appreciate the Mayor's leadership and support in working through these extreme financial challenges. I look forward to our continued collaboration with the Mayor, City Council, state lawmakers and labor partners in developing a long-term financial solution to provide Philadelphia with a high-quality and high-performing school district.

###