WHAT IS LOCAL CONTROL?

Under local control the Newark Public Schools Board of Education is fully empowered to oversee the following areas:

- **Instruction and Program**
- **Personnel**
- **Fiscal Management**
- **Operations Management**
- **Governance**

These areas are monitored by the Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC), the evaluation and monitoring system used to determine whether a state takes control of a school district, or returns a school district to local control. Under state control, the above areas are overseen by a state appointed Superintendent, with a school board serving in advisory capacity.

Source: Pathway to Local Control Newark Education Success Board (NESB) Report, August 2016
https://issuu.com/cityofnewark/docs/nesb_report-printfinalis

How are the responsibilities of a state board different from a local school board? Whereas state boards of education constitute the governing and policymaking body for the state system of public education, local school boards exercise responsibility for the decision- and policymaking for individual school districts. Local school boards of education are charged with creating the conditions within their school districts that will foster student achievement and for engaging the community in support of this central mission. Primary duties include establishing specific priorities for improving student learning and school performance; ensuring staff and resource allocations meet district goals, aligning programs and initiatives with student achievement priorities, and leveraging resources to address the needs of all students.

Source: National Association of State Boards of Education
http://www.nasbe.org/about-us/state-boards-of-education

What are some of the most common issues and arguments pro and con that have come up in elections to change forms of government? In our experience, the most common issues revolve around:

- Responsiveness and accountability – which form will be the most responsive?
- Professional management – which form provides the best quality of management?
- The appropriate role of politics in administration – should politics be removed from administration?
- Effectiveness and efficiency – which form produces the most efficient and effective management?
- Political harmony – which form produces greater harmony and less divisiveness? These "arguments" have been collected from a variety of sources and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of MRSC or MRSC Staff.

Source: Common Issues and Pro/Con Arguments in Elections to Change Form of Government
http://www.mrsc.org/getmedia/OCAB16FB-CCC0-4C8E-85F2-83F958839D8A/common.aspx