

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date:May 22, 2024To:Local Educational Agency LeadsRoute To:Principals, Supervisors, TeachersFrom:Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services

Governor Murphy Signs a Bill Establishing a New Jersey Educator Evaluation Review Task Force; Temporary Revisions to SGO Requirements

On May 17, 2024, Governor Murphy signed P.L.2024, c.14 (S2082), which establishes a 13-member task force designed to study and evaluate the educator evaluation system established pursuant to the TEACHNJ Act of 2012 and currently implemented in New Jersey public schools. The New Jersey Educator Evaluation Review Task Force (Task Force) will consist of 13 members who have a background in, or special knowledge of, the legal, policy, and administrative aspects of educator evaluation in New Jersey. The Task Force is charged with considering the law in the current context of New Jersey's schools, identifying areas for improvement, and making recommendations regarding any appropriate changes or updates to the law. The Task Force will issue a final report of findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature.

Beyond the establishment of the Task Force, P.L.2024, c.14 also halts the collection of new student growth objective (SGO) data for the 2024-2025 school year. Instead, local education agencies (LEAs) are to use existing SGO data from the most recent year in which the educator completed SGOs as a basis for educator evaluations. In addition, the law requires the following educators to design and complete SGOs during the 2024-2025 school year: teachers in their first year of employment within an LEA, teachers without a record of pre-existing SGOs, and non-tenured teachers. Lastly, the legislation also states that starting in the 2025-2026 school year, LEAs will implement guidelines for collecting student data consistent with any law, rule, or regulation enacted as a result of the Task Force's findings.

Contact information

Please contact the Office of Educator Effectiveness with any questions at EduEval@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group