

## **NJDOE News**

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## Department of Education Announces The Positive Student Discipline Reform Demonstration Project

A state-level advisory panel composed of representatives from statewide organizations with an interest in education met for the first time this week under the Positive Student Discipline Reform Demonstration Project. The project, a joint effort of the New Jersey Department of Education and Violence Institute of New Jersey (VINJ), will explore effective ways to implement student discipline policies, practices, and support programs.

The panel will meet quarterly over the next three years, and will provide input and advise the department and VINJ on their activities to develop model programs on student discipline.

Under the Positive Student Discipline Reform Demonstration Project, the VINJ will work closely with three pilot districts over project's duration develop and implement effective student discipline practices which are tailored to the specific needs of each district. The pilot districts will be selected in the near future. The primary goals of the project are to improve school safety and positive student development and to reduce the use of out-of-school suspensions and expulsions as a means of student disciplinary strategies.

This project is one of more than three dozen state-level programs to promote safe schools. For more information, please contact the Department of Education's Public Information Office at 609-292-1126.