



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Governor

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Lt. Governor

CHRISTOPHER D. CERF
Commissioner

March 4, 2014

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School Lead Persons

FROM: Susan Martz, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student and Field Services

SUBJECT: School District and School Grades Required by the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act*

This is to notify you that the grades assigned to your school district and the schools in your district, as required under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act* (ABR), are now available for public release. Based on feedback the New Jersey Department of Education received from the field since the release of the embargoed version of the *District and School Grade Report*, the department has revised the format of the official grade reports. School districts **must access the official report dated March 4, 2014** through the NJDOE Homeroom site. **The embargoed version is not for public release.**

Information on accessing and interpreting the grades, as well as the requirements to report to the Board of Education at a public meeting and post on the school and district websites, are detailed in the attachment. Additional information on the Commissioner's Program and previous correspondence can be found on the New Jersey Department of Education's website at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/behavior/hib/guidance/>.

In order to foster safe and positive learning conditions for students, the school and district grades are part of an integrated process for reinforcing and strengthening a school's climate and culture through prevention and intervention efforts targeted toward harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB). District and school staff are encouraged to use the data to educate staff and the community about current school practices and engage them in identifying and addressing areas for improvement.

Thank you for fulfilling your responsibilities to complete the *School Self-Assessment* and for your ongoing efforts to provide safe and positive learning conditions for our students. If you have any questions, call your county office of education (contact information can be found at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/counties/>) or email hib@doe.state.nj.us. Please send your inquiry to **only one** office to avoid duplicate contacts.

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Attachment

c: Members, State Board of Education
Senior Staff
Nancy Curry
Diane Shoener
Amanda Schultz
Kelly Allen
Executive County School Business Administrators
Executive County Superintendents
Executive Directors for Regional Achievement Centers
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group