



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PO Box 500

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

DAVID C. HESPE
Commissioner

December 22, 2015

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School and Renaissance School Project Lead Persons

FROM: Susan Martz, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services

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

This is to notify you that the official school and district grade reports, as required under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act* (ABR), are now available for public release. School districts **must access their official reports dated December 22, 2015**, through the NJDOE Homeroom site. Districts and schools are now required to post the **official report** on their websites. The previously released 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 Guidance for Determining School Grades* may be found at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/behavior/hib/guidance/>.

The Commissioner's Program should be part of an integrated process to foster safe and positive learning conditions for students by reinforcing and strengthening a school's climate and culture through prevention and intervention efforts, including 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.

The Department appreciates your efforts to fulfill the requirements of the ABR and for your ongoing efforts to provide safe and positive learning conditions for our students. The Department will be reaching out to struggling schools to provide a technical assistance session to review school data and strategies for improvement.

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
David C. Hespe, Commissioner
Senior Staff
Diane Shoener
Harold Lee
Nancy Curry
Julie McAloon
Amanda Schultz

Kelly Allen
Executive County Business Officials
Executive County Superintendents
Executive Directors for Regional
Achievement Centers
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group