October 25, 2016

TO: Chief School Administrators
    School Business Administrators

FROM: Jessani Gordon, Director
       Office of Interdistrict Choice and Nonpublic School Services

SUBJECT: Nonpublic School Security Program – Entitlement Notices and Program
         Guidance for the 2016-17 School Year

This memo provides guidance regarding the recently enacted Secure Schools for All
Children Act (P.L. 2016, c. 49), which establishes a state aid program for the provision of
security services, equipment and technology to help ensure a safe and secure environment
for students attending nonpublic schools.

Under the provisions of the law, the board of education in each public school district
having nonpublic schools within its boundaries is responsible for providing security
services, equipment and technology to the nonpublic schools within the limits of the
funds provided by this program. Such security services, equipment and technology may
be provided directly by the board of education, by contracts with an educational services
commission, or through an independent contractor.

The Department has developed revised program guidelines, including a listing of
allowable expenses along with a recommended timeline for implementation.

Consultation with the nonpublic schools is required to:
  • advise the nonpublic school of the amount of funds available;
  • agree upon the security services, equipment and technology to be provided; and
  • agree on the date when the board of education will meet to approve how the
    security services, equipment and technology will be provided.

Consultations should be completed by mid-December. A consultation form is available
on the Nonpublic School Services website.
The entitlement notices for this program are now available online through the NJDOE Homeroom under the School Aid Payment and Notices section. Note that the Department will not be mailing the entitlement notices to the nonpublic schools.

Please distribute each notice to the appropriate nonpublic school prior to the consultation. For questions regarding these entitlements, email nonpublic.aid@doe.state.nj.us. For program-related questions, please contact Greg Kocher in Nonpublic School Services at nonpublicschoolservices@doe.state.nj.us.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Kimberley Harrington, Acting Commissioner
Senior Staff
Ben Castillo
Cindy Lee
Yut’se Thomas
Gregory Kocher
Executive County Superintendents
Executive Directors for Regional Achievement Centers
Executive County Business Officials
Nonpublic School Administrators
NJ LEE Group
Garden State Coalition of Schools