Date: July 5, 2019

To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads

Route To: Business Administrators

From: Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D.

Commissioner of Education

## NJDOE Provides Updates on Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations Act

In an effort to keep local school officials apprised of changes regarding the state's Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations Act, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is providing information on how the final adoption of the budget may impact state education aid and direct state services.

The NJDOE will keep local school districts apprised of developments, such as applications for emergency aid, as soon as information becomes available.

## State Aid

Extraordinary Special Education Aid available to school districts throughout the state was increased by \$50 million from the Governor's budget message, for a total of \$250 million. The Department anticipates it will notify districts of their allocations, including this additional funding, in mid-July.

## **Grants-In-Aid**

The major changes involving Grants-In-Aid from the FY 2020 budget proposed in March to the budget that was enacted last week include:

- Computer Science for All Initiative: Funding for this program will remain at \$2 million, but it will be expanded to serve grades from K-12, not just high school.
- STEM Dual Enrollment and Early College High Schools: Funding was increased from \$400,000 to \$650,000 to support innovative early college programs, which this past year helped launch three P-TECH schools to bring together high schools, community colleges and business to help high school students graduate with a high school diploma and an associate degree.
- High Poverty School District Minority Teacher Recruitment Program: This program will now provide grants
  of no less than \$250,000 to each organization.
- *Unified Sports Program:* The program that currently funds Special Olympics will remain at \$25,000, but it will be awarded via a competitive grant.

No other substantial changes were made to the Grants-In-Aid part of the budget.

## **Contact Information**

For information, please email <a href="mailto:staid@doe.nj.gov">staid@doe.nj.gov</a>.

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