Date: June 3, 2020 (updated June 11 with correction to the date of the HIB Grade Reports)

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

Route To: Principals, Anti-Bullying Specialists, Anti-Bullying Coordinators

From: AbdulSaleem Hasan Ed.S., Assistant Commissioner

Division of Field Services

Deadline: June 17, 2020

School District and School HIB Grades Required by the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act

The official school and district harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB) grade reports, as required under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act*, are now available for public release.

Next steps for school districts:

- 1. School districts must access their official HIB Grade Reports dated *June 3, 2020*, through the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) <u>Homeroom webpage</u>.
- 2. Districts and schools are required to post the official reports on their websites **by June 17, 2020**. (The embargoed version previously released by the NJDOE is not for public release and should not be posted on school or district websites.)
- 3. District officials must review the district and school grades at a public board of education meeting.

The Commissioner's Program for Determining Grades under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act* should be part of an integrated process to strengthen school climate and culture through prevention and intervention that addresses harassment, intimidation and bullying. 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. Additional resources for districts and schools to utilize regarding school climate can be found in the School Climate Strategy Resource Guide.

See the <u>Guidance for District and School Grades</u> Determined Under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for information on:

- Accessing and interpreting the grades;
- Board of Education public meeting requirements; and
- School and district website posting requirements.

If you have questions, contact either your County Office of Education or email hib@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group