Date: September 24, 2020

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

of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities, Professional Organizations and Agencies

Route To: Child Study Team Supervisors, Directors of Special Education, Administrators of Programs for

Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

From: Peggy McDonald, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner

Division of Student Services

New Jersey Communication Plan for Students who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or DeafBlind

The New Jersey Department of Education has developed a communication plan template to assist districts with meeting the requirements set forth in the Deaf Student's Bill of Rights (P.L. 2019, Chapter 204). The Deaf Student's Bill of Rights requires that all students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing are to have a communication plan in their IEP or 504 plans, regardless of mode of communication. The NJDOE has posted online the New Jersey Communication Plan for Students who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or DeafBlind template, and the document includes guidance for implementation.

For questions regarding the Communication Plan for Students who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or DeafBlind, please email Ms. Wendy Eufemia, Coordinator of Deaf Education at: dhh.education@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education Kevin Dehmer, Interim Commissioner of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group