Date: December 15, 2021

To: Chief School Administrators

Route To: All Teachers

From: Jessani Gordon, Director, Office of Nonpublic School Programs

Division of Field Support and Services

Deadline: Notify teachers of grant opportunity by December 22, 2021

Requirement to Notify Teachers about Grant Program to Teach STEM in Nonpublic Schools

Legislation signed by Governor Murphy in August 2019 (P.L.2019, c.256) established a grant program that provides additional remuneration for public school teachers to teach Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) classes in nonpublic schools during hours mutually agreed upon by the teacher, district, and nonpublic school. Eligible teachers must meet one of the following criteria: (1) hold certification to teach STEM; (2) be enrolled in a STEM certification program; or (3) provide a written commitment to pursue a STEM program within two years. Key steps to be taken by nonpublic schools, public school districts, and participant teachers are listed below.

Background

The grant program is designed to incentivize teachers to obtain the necessary qualifications to teach STEM subjects, incentivize individuals to enter the teaching profession to fill the demand for qualified educators in STEM subjects, help address the difficulties public and nonpublic schools face in attracting qualified educators in the STEM fields, and improve statewide access to education in the STEM fields to address the workforce demands of New Jersey's economy.

Key steps/actions

- 1. **By December 22, 2021**, public school administrators must notify all teachers employed by the district of the grant program and share this <u>TeachSTEM survey link</u> for interested teachers to submit their contact information.
- 2. Teachers participating in the program must submit their contact information via the survey by **January 28**, **2022**.
- 3. Nonpublic schools that wish to participate in the grant program can request the list of interested teachers by emailing MonpublicSTEMGrant@doe.nj.gov or contacting their respective County Office of Education after January 28, 2022. The nonpublic schools will contact teachers on the lists directly to pursue possible teaching arrangements.
- 4. Nonpublic schools that wish to participate in the grant program must submit the application, including an agreement to the teaching hours signed by the nonpublic school, school district administrator, and eligible teacher, by March 31, 2022. The grant application is located on the <u>Nonpublic School Services website</u>.
- 5. Grant recipients will be announced in June, and teaching will begin in the 2022-2023 school year. The teachers' remuneration will be based on their annual district salary as calculated on a per-hour basis times the number of hours of instruction provided at the nonpublic school.

Contact information For questions, please contact NonpublicSTEMGrant@doe.nj.gov. c: Members, State Board of Education Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group Nonpublic Schools Nonpublic Advisory Committee