



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: September 29, 2021  
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads  
Route To: Principals, Anti-Bullying Coordinators, Anti-Bullying Specialists  
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Educational Services  
Deadline: January 31, 2022

## **2020-2021 Program for Determining Grades under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act***

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is announcing the opening of the 2020-2021 School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act* (ABR). Schools submit local information into the online Self-Assessment program and the data is used to grade each public school and district's efforts to implement the ABR pursuant to *N.J.S.A.18A:17-46*. The deadline to submit Self-Assessments is **January 31, 2022**.

### **Key steps/actions**

The school safety/school climate team in each school is required to complete the Self-Assessment and have a school-level user enter the school's ratings into the online system that is accessed by selecting the "HIB-Grades" link on the [NJDOE Homeroom](#) webpage. The district-level user must review each school building's Self-Assessment for accuracy and request each school make any necessary changes.

The chief school administrator or charter school and renaissance school project lead person is responsible for presenting each completed Self-Assessment at a public board of education or board of trustees meeting in order to obtain public comment and board approval. Once board approval is granted, the chief school administrator or charter school and renaissance school project lead person will formally submit the ratings for each school to the NJDOE by certifying the Statement of Assurances in the Self-Assessment system.

To help schools meet the requirements of this program, the NJDOE has posted online [guidance documents and resources](#) that include a school Self-Assessment summary report, Statement of Assurances forms, and a checklist titled "Overview of Activities."

If a completed, certified Self-Assessment is not submitted by the January 31, 2022 deadline, the NJDOE may issue a zero (0) for that school's grade, which will have a negative effect on the district's grade.

### **Contact information**

Should you have any questions, please email [hib@doe.nj.gov](mailto:hib@doe.nj.gov). Thank you for your ongoing efforts to provide safe and positive learning conditions for our students.

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