Date: February 16, 2022

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

Route To: ESEA Project Directors and School Business Administrators

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Educational Services

Deadline: March 14, 2022

Fiscal Year 2021 ESSER Performance Report

To satisfy federal reporting requirements, all local educational agencies (LEAs) that received Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES), Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA), or American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund allocations must submit an ESSER Performance Report for state Fiscal Year 2021. The United States Department (USED) of Education greatly expanded the ESSER fund reporting requirements for this most recent report, including questions ranging from expenditures to planned use of funds to ESSER-funded program participation by student group. This report will cover the period from March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2021. The first annual report was completed via EWEG in February of 2021. The second report is now available for completion via the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) Electronic Web-Enabled Grant (EWEG) system. LEAs must complete the report no later than March 14, 2022.

New Jersey has received over \$4.3 billion in ESSER funds to address the academic, social, emotional, and mental health impacts of COVID-19. Against this backdrop, the ESSER Performance Report serves a crucial purpose of compiling high-quality data on LEAs' priorities in expending ESSER funds to meet local needs. As one of the only national, standardized collections of detailed local ESSER expenditure information, it will inform policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders for years to come in better understanding the impact of this historic investment in our public education system. In order to accurately report the information requested through the ESSER Performance Report, the NJDOE recommends each district convene a team of professionals overseen by the Chief School Administrator including but not limited to the Business Administrator, Title I or Grants Coordinator, Director of Academics, and Director of Student Services.

To assist districts in accurately completing this report, the NJDOE is offering Technical Assistance sessions on Friday, February 25, 2022 and Wednesday, March 2, 2022. Please visit the NJDOE's Events Registration webpage to register for either session. These sessions will include an overview of the report as well as highlight which data are required for the report.

If you have any questions about the collection or submission of data for the ESSER Performance Report, please write to ESSER.Report@doe.nj.gov. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this federal requirement.

Members, State Board of Education
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner
NJDOE Staff

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network NJ LEE Group Garden State Coalition of Schools