



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: April 26, 2023
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Principals, Anti-Bullying Specialists, Anti-Bullying Coordinators
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services
Deadline: May 10, 2023

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 (P.L. 2020, c. 122)*, are now available for public release.

Key steps/actions

1. School districts must access their official HIB Grade Reports dated April 26, 2023, through the HIB Grades application on the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) [Homerom webpage](#). Directions for accessing the reports can be found in the Guidance document on the [Commissioner's Program for Determining Grades' website](#).
2. Districts and schools are required to post the official reports on their websites by **May 10, 2023**.
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](#). This strategy resource guide was created as a companion to the New Jersey School Climate Improvement Survey (NJ SCI) which is a valid and reliable, no-cost school climate survey that is available to all public schools in New Jersey. For more information on how the NJ SCI survey can help your school district assess their school climate in an effort to make data-driven decisions on program implementation, visit the [NJ SCI Survey Platform](#).

See the [Commissioner's Program for Determining Grades website](#) 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 HIBGrades@doe.nj.gov.

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