Date: April 5, 2023

To: Local Educational Agency Leads

Route To: Principals, Staff

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner

**Division of Educational Services** 

## Release of the 2021-2022 School Performance Reports

Today, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is making publicly available the New Jersey School Performance Reports for the 2021-2022 school year. The reports may be found on the NJDOE's School Performance Report website, or www.njschooldata.org.

The School Performance Reports reflect the NJDOE's commitment to providing parents, students, and school communities with a large variety of information about each school and local education agency (LEA). While these reports do not fully capture the unique circumstances and efforts of each school community, the NJDOE believes that it is critical to use the available data in the reports, along with other information collected directly within each LEA and community, to start conversations, identify gaps in information, and continue to find ways to address the impacts of COVID-19 while ensuring all students receive the appropriate supports.

## Important Notes about the 2021-2022 Reports

The 2021-2022 School Performance Reports include nearly all data that was included prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as assessment results and accountability data. The 2021-2022 reports do not include student growth data as measured by median student growth percentiles (mSGPs). This is because individual student growth percentiles (SGPs) were not calculated for the 2021-2022 school year due to lack of prior year test results because the assessments were not administered in the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years. The student growth section of the reports will include a link to an <u>alternate measure</u> of academic progress that was used for accountability determinations for the 2021-2022 school year. The NJDOE plans to resume reporting mSGPs for the 2022-2023 school year.

## What's New in the 2021-2022 School Performance Reports

The focus of the 2021-2022 reports was to resume reporting all assessment and accountability data. This will be the first time since the 2018-2019 reports that the following data will be included in the School Performance Reports:

- English language arts, mathematics, and science assessment results
- English language progress toward proficiency
- ESSA accountability indicators, updated status, and progress toward meeting long-term goals

Additionally, a few changes were made to respond to updated state requirements and stakeholder feedback:

- Additional student group breakouts for postsecondary enrollment showing the enrollment rates by gender and for students experiencing homelessness, students in foster care, military-connected students, and migrant students.
- **Expanded staff data** including staff counts and student to staff ratios for School Psychologists, School Social Workers, Student Assistance Coordinators, and School Safety Specialists.

## **Sharing the School and District Reports with your School Community**

To help LEAs share the information in the School Performance Reports and support conversations with their school communities, the NJDOE has developed optional tools that LEAs can use to help communicate about the reports. The School Performance Reports toolkit includes:

- A <u>sample letter</u> superintendents can send to their communities announcing the release of the reports;
- A PowerPoint template for presenting school- and district-level data, available on the NJDOE's <u>School</u> <u>Performance Resources webpage</u>;
- One-page guides to help start conversations for <u>school board members</u>, <u>administrators</u>, <u>educators</u>, and <u>elementary</u> and <u>middle and high school families</u>; and
- Information sheets that explain Graduation Rates and Median Student Growth Percentiles.

The NJDOE <u>Guide for Local Stakeholder Engagement</u> provides information about how school and district leaders can engage parents, students, staff, and community members.

Contact <u>reportcard@doe.nj.gov</u> for questions or feedback. The NJDOE continues to seek public input on how to improve future reports and encourages stakeholders to complete the <u>feedback survey</u>.

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