

STATE OF NEW JERSEY **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

- Date:March 13, 2024To:Chief School Administrators
- Route To: School Business Administrators, District Administrators for Nonpublic School Programs

From: Christopher Irving, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner Division of Field Services and Support

School District Consultation with Nonpublic Schools Regarding State-Funded Programs

School districts that have nonpublic schools located within district boundaries are responsible for ensuring the ontime delivery of State-funded programs and services to nonpublic school students. In the coming weeks, school districts need to hold *timely and meaningful consultation meetings* with respective nonpublic schools to ensure that Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 programs and services meet the needs of the nonpublic schools.

Consultation Process & Timing

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) encourage districts to send the <u>FY2025 nonpublic school</u> <u>consultation form</u>, with information pre-populated by the school district where able, to the nonpublic schools *in advance of consultation*. The nonpublic school representative(s) are encouraged to attend the consultation with all applicable fields completed in order to make decisions on how the nonpublic school would like funds to be spent. Consultations may be conducted virtually, electronic signatures are acceptable, and all signed forms may be collected via email.

NJDOE recommends that any school district contemplating a change in nonpublic service provider hold consultations by mid-April. If no anticipated changes to the provision of services, consultations should be held by the end of May.

Health and Safety Requirements of Nonpublic School Facilities: Attestation and Guidance

To help ensure the health and safety of New Jersey's nonpublic school students and staff, the NJDOE requires that all nonpublic schools registered with the NJDOE comply with the health and safety facilities laws and regulations. The NJDOE requires that school districts collect the signed <u>Attestation of Compliance with Health and Safety</u> <u>Requirements of Nonpublic School Facilities</u> from registered nonpublic schools at the spring consultations.

Nonpublic Programs Guidelines & Resources

To assist school districts in the implementation of nonpublic programs, the NJDOE offers the following nonpublic school program guidelines and resources on the <u>Nonpublic School Services webpages</u>.

- Auxiliary and Remedial Services (Chapters 192 and 193)
- <u>Nursing Services Program</u>
- <u>Technology Initiative</u>
- <u>Textbook Program</u>
- <u>School Security Program</u>
- <u>Transportation</u>
- Health and Safety Requirements of Nonpublic School Facilities: Attestation and Guidance
- <u>Timeline for the Timely Delivery of Nonpublic School Services and Products</u>

Nonpublic Transportation Resources

The NJDOE also provides the following resources specifically to support districts and Cooperative Transportation Services Agencies in providing transportation services to nonpublic school students:

- <u>Calendar of Key Dates for Nonpublic School Transportation</u>
- Nonpublic Transportation Procedures
- <u>Summary of Nonpublic School Transportation Requirements and Recommendations</u>

For questions of additional information, please contact the Office of Interdistrict School Choice and Nonpublic Schools at <u>Nonpublic@doe.nj.gov</u>.

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