

# Charter School Newsletter

*A bulletin from the NJ Department of Education*

October 2015

Dear Charter School Leaders and Representatives,

Congratulations on the start of a successful 2015-2016 school year! Thank you for the time and energy you commit to provide students and families in New Jersey with a high-quality public education. We look forward to working with you to ensure that charter schools continue to be a valued option in the New Jersey public education landscape.

The Office of Charter Schools has developed the following newsletter to provide key information and updates to charter school stakeholders in New Jersey. We encourage you to read these important updates and forward this newsletter to colleagues and stakeholders who may also subscribe to the newsletter by following the instructions below.

Regards,



Harry Lee  
Director, Office of Charter Schools

## Charter School Organizational Performance Framework

In August 2015, the New Jersey Department of Education released the revised [Organizational Performance Framework](#). The updated Framework provides charter schools with clear and precise information on how a charter school's organizational performance is evaluated and replaces the organizational section of the [Performance Framework](#) from 2012. The revised structure of the Organizational Framework also allows the Department to provide clearer criteria to assist charter schools on whether they are meeting expected standards of performance. More details regarding the updated Framework, along with additional information on charter accountability and a recorded webinar, can be accessed [here](#).

## Charter School Renewal Site Visit Protocol

As part of the renewal process, the Department conducts site visits aligned to the standards set within the Performance Framework. [The Charter School Renewal Site Visit Protocol](#) is designed to provide practical information about the Renewal Site Visit so that stakeholders know what to expect and how to prepare. Familiarity with the procedures, protocols and responsibilities will help to ensure that each visit runs smoothly.

## Important Dates

**Sept 8 – Oct. 22:** Submission of student-enrollment data

In case you missed it, please see the [September 8, 2015 broadcast memo](#) with instructions and implementation dates for submission of the October 15, 2015, student enrollment data through the Department's web-based enrollment system.

To find the complete electronic data collection schedule for FY2016, please see the Department's [Data Collection Schedule](#) online.

#### **Race To The Top Grant Recipients**

The end date for this federal grant program is fast approaching. All RTTT-funded activities must be completed by November 30, 2015 and the deadline for submission of final reports is December 31, 2015. Any unused fund balances remaining after December 31, 2015 will be returned to the Department. Charter schools should ensure that they are spending the funds responsibly and meeting deadlines. Please contact [Jim Palmer](#) at the Department for more details.

#### **District Broadcast Memos**

The Department posts all broadcast memos to school districts and charter schools on its [Broadcasts web page](#). Please visit this link to find current and past Broadcasts that apply to charter schools.

#### **Subscribe to the Charter Newsletter**

We have added a "subscribe" feature to [our website](#) so anyone interested can subscribe to these emails. If you received this as a forward and wish to sign up, we encourage you to do so.