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## NJDOE News

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**For Release: January 17, 2007**

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### **News Advisory DOE to Hold Three Additional Hearings on School Costs Report**

The New Jersey Department of Education has scheduled three additional public hearings to discuss the *Report on the Cost of Education* released by DOE in December, Commissioner Lucille E. Davy announced today.

"This is a continuation of our effort to seek as much public input as possible as we continue our work on the development of a responsible, rational and equitable school funding formula," Commissioner Davy said. "We want to make sure that people understand how the process works and have an opportunity to take part in it."

The hearings will be chaired by the Commissioner. The dates, times and locations are:

- Wednesday, January 24, 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Gloucester County College, 1400 Tanyard Road, Sewell. The hearing will be held in room 430 of the Instructional Center. [Click here](#) for directions. Hearing attendees should park in Lot D or Lot E.
- Wednesday, January 24, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. The hearing will be held in the Conference Center. [Click here](#) for directions. Hearing attendees should park in the West Student Lot.
- Thursday, January 25, 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. New Jersey City University, Jersey City. The hearing will be held in the Gothic Lounge, Hepburn Hall, room 202. [Click here](#) for directions. Parking is extremely limited on the campus near Hepburn Hall or on the streets around the campus. Additional parking is located on Audubon Avenue and Westside Avenue, Lot 3. To reach that parking, lot continue straight down Audubon Avenue. It is a paid facility. Upon entering the lot, you must take a ticket. The parking rate is \$6 per entry/exit.

All three hearings will be web cast live.

People who wish to testify must register in advance and sign a release that will permit their voices to be recorded and broadcast on line. A registration form will be available on-line starting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 18, at <https://education.state.nj.us/sff/sff.php>. People may also register by phone by calling 609-292-6038. Each organization will be limited to one speaker per site and all speakers will be limited to five minutes each.

Those who would prefer to submit written testimony rather than attend the hearings in person may send that testimony electronically to [legislative@doe.nj.gov](mailto:legislative@doe.nj.gov) or fax it to 609-777-2077. .

The web cast stream can be viewed using Windows Media Player (download the player from <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download/AllDownloads.aspx?displang=en&qstechnology>) at [www.njedg.net/doelive](http://www.njedg.net/doelive). Archives of the stream will be available from the NJEDge.Net website ([www.njedg.net](http://www.njedg.net)) or the Department of Education Web-site ([www.state.nj.us/education](http://www.state.nj.us/education)) approximately two days after each hearing.

The *Report of the Cost of Education* was designed to calculate the costs that New Jersey school districts face in meeting state performance and accountability standards. Commissioner Davy announced recently that the report is also under review by three nationally-recognized experts.

DOE has also established a page of the department's web site entitled "Planning for a New School Funding Formula" -- <http://www.state.nj.us/njed/sff/> -- which includes a copy of the report, archived web casts of the December 18 public hearings and other background information.

The web cast is being coordinated by NJEDge.Net, New Jersey's Higher Education Network. NJEDge.Net is a non-profit consortium of the Presidents' Council that was created to enhance instruction, research and public service at the state's colleges and universities through a broadband statewide network.