



State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

DAVID C. HESPE  
Acting Commissioner

December 16, 2014

TO: Chief School Administrators  
Charter School Lead Persons

FROM: Susan Martz, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Student Services and Career Readiness

SUBJECT: School District and School Grades Required by the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act*

This is to notify you that the official school and district grade reports, as required under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act* (ABR), are now available for public release. School districts **must access the official reports dated December 16, 2014** through the NJDOE Homeroom site. Districts and schools are now required to post the official report on their websites. **The embargoed version is not for public release.**

Information on accessing and interpreting the grades, as well as the requirements to report to the Board of Education at a public meeting and post on the school and district websites, are detailed in the attachment. Additional information on the *Commissioner's Program and Guidance for Determining School Grades* can be found at: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/behavior/hib/guidance/>.

The Commissioner's Program should be part of an integrated process to foster safe and positive learning conditions for students by reinforcing and strengthening a school's climate and culture through prevention and intervention efforts, including harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB). 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. Schools may also want to consider utilizing a school climate survey, such as the New Jersey School Climate Survey (NJSCS), to further assess strengths and vulnerabilities for learning. This free resource has recently been updated and includes an online survey option. Materials and further information about the NJSCS may be found at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/behavior/njscs/>.

The department appreciates your efforts to fulfill the *requirements of the ABR* and for your ongoing efforts to provide safe and positive learning conditions for our students. The department will be reaching out to select schools to provide a technical assistance session to review school data and strategies for improvement.

If you have any questions, call your county office of education (contact information can be found at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/counties/>) or email [hib@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:hib@doe.state.nj.us). Please send your inquiry to **only one** office to avoid duplicate contacts.

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Attachment

c: Members, State Board of Education  
David C. Hespe, Acting Commissioner  
Senior Staff  
Nancy Curry  
Harold Lee  
Diane Shoener  
Amanda Schultz  
Kelly Allen  
Executive County Business Officials  
Executive County Superintendents

Executive Directors for Regional  
Achievement Centers  
Garden State Coalition of Schools  
NJ LEE Group