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MEDIA ADVISORY

Commissioners, Business, K-12, and Higher Education Announce Major Recommendations to Change New Jersey High Schools

-- Course Requirements, New Testing System, and Teacher Supports Announced

WHAT:

At a joint board meeting of the Commission on Higher Education and the New Jersey State Board of Education the Co-Chairs of the New Jersey High School Redesign Steering Committee, will announce the outcome of a multi-year study on improving high school education in the state. This policy paper provides a suggested framework for preparing every New Jersey student for college and the workplace. Composed of the leadership of New Jersey's major education organizations, the Committee was created in August of 2006.

Recommendations of the Committee include that all students will be required to learn specific math, science, and economic course content; along with all other current requirements. This policy paper will also introduce a new way to approach testing students in each required subject. This new suggested policy was derived after a two-year public process that involved meetings with more than 1,000 educators, members of the public, and education stakeholders, such as the special education and career and technical education communities.

WHO:

Lucille Davy, Commissioner of Education, New Jersey Department of Education

David J. Socolow, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development **Susan A. Cole, Ph.D.,** President, Montclair State University, and Co-Chair, New Jersey High School Redesign Steering Committee

Arthur Ryan, Chairman, Prudential; Co-Chair, New Jersey United for Higher School Standards; and Co-Chair, New Jersey High School Redesign Steering Committee

Senior leadership from NJDOE, NJPSA, NJSBA, NJEA, NJASA, BCEE, New Jersey Commission of Higher Education, New Jersey United, and the New Jersey Presidents' Council

WHEN: April 25, 2008 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: William Paterson University

University Commons Ballroom

300 Pompton Road

Wayne, New Jersey 07470

Park in lot 5 and follow signs for the High School Redesign Meeting

BACKGROUND:

The High School Redesign Steering Committee grew out of the Education Summit on High Schools convened in 2005. Members of the Committee include the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association (NJPSA), New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA), New Jersey Education Association (NJEA), the Business Coalition for Educational Excellence (BCEE) at the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, New Jersey Association of School Administrators (NJASA), New Jersey Commission on Higher Education, New Jersey United for Higher School Standards (NJU), New Jersey Presidents' Council, and Montclair State University. The Committee supports the work begun at the National Education Summit on High Schools held in Washington, DC in 2005. For more information visit www.njhighschoolsummit.org