Date: June 30, 2021

To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads

Route To: Principals, Anti-Bullying Specialists, Anti-Bullying Coordinators

From: Kathy Ehling, Acting Assistant Commissioner

Division of Student Services

Deadline: July 19, 2021

School District and School HIB Grades Required by the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act

The official school and district harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB) grade reports, as required under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act* (P.L. 2010, c. 122), are now available for public release.

Key steps/actions

- 1. School districts must access their official HIB Grade Reports dated June 30, 2021, through the HIB Grades Report application on the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) Homeroom webpage.
- 2. Districts and schools are required to post the official reports on their websites by July 19, 2021.
- 3. District officials must review the district and school grades at a public board of education meeting.

The Commissioner's Program for Determining Grades under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act* should be part of an integrated process to strengthen school climate and culture through prevention and intervention that addresses harassment, intimidation and bullying. 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. Additional resources for districts and schools to utilize regarding school climate can be found in the <u>School Climate Strategy Resource Guide</u>.

See the <u>Commissioner's Program and Guidance for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act</u> for information on:

- Accessing and interpreting the grades;
- Board of Education public meeting requirements; and
- School and district website posting requirements.

If you have questions, contact either your County Office of Education or email hib@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group