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April 8, 2024

Dear Parents, Guardians and Members of the School Community,

I am writing to provide you information about the 2022-2023 New Jersey School Performance Reports, which were recently released and are available on the NJ School Performance Reports webpage at www.njschooldata.org.

The School Performance Reports reflect the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) commitment to providing parents, students, and school communities with a large variety of information about each school and district. These reports can be used as a tool to help evaluate whether all students have equitable access to high quality education. We encourage you to use these reports to:

- Learn more about your school and district
- **Start conversations** with school community members and ask questions
- **Engage** with school communities to identify what schools are doing well and where they can improve

The 2022-2023 School Performance Reports include all data that was previously reported prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, which includes all assessment, student growth, and accountability data.

The NJDOE believes that it is critical to use the data in the reports, along with other information collected directly within districts and communities, to start conversations, identify gaps in information, and continue to find ways to ensure all students receive the support and resources that they need. The School Performance Reports can and should be used in conjunction with available school and district data to identify priorities for upcoming year planning and the use of state and federal dollars. As data over the last three years was impacted by the pandemic in various ways, the NJDOE does recommend caution in comparing data from year to year.

What's New in the 2022-2023 School Performance Reports

The 2022-2023 School Performance Reports include changes that respond to stakeholder feedback, federal and state requirements, and data availability. These changes include:

- **Student growth data** as measured by median student growth percentile for the first time since the 2018-2019 reports;
- Expanded **computer science course participation data** showing participation for all grades kindergarten through 12; and
- Results from the fall 2023 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) accountability process.

The NJDOE continues to seek public input on ways to improve future reports. Please complete the <u>School Performance Report feedback survey</u> or email <u>reportcard@doe.nj.gov</u> with feedback and suggestions.

Thank you,

John Niesz Superintendent