TO: Chief School Administrators  
Charter School Lead Persons  

FROM: Evo Popoff, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Charter Schools, School Choice, Technology, Turnarounds  

SUBJECT: Announcement of Inaugural innovateNJ Community Members  

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is pleased to announce the inaugural members of the newly formed innovateNJ Community. The division launched the innovateNJ Community initiative and website in spring of 2014 as part of the Department’s goal to support schools and districts in the exploration and implementation of innovative instructional practices and programs.  

This list is comprised of ten school districts that have demonstrated significant efforts in improving the learning experiences and outcomes through the use of innovative next generation models of instruction that are student centered and promote college-and career-readiness. The innovateNJ Community members were selected from a group of districts and charter schools who responded to the innovateNJ Community application and were able to articulate a strategic vision that incorporates innovation and demonstrated a capacity to implement their vision and a commitment to the work of the Community. The Department is thankful to each of the selected districts, not only for the work they are doing to support innovation in their classrooms, but for their commitment to this state-wide initiative. We are also aware that there are many more districts and schools across the state that are developing and implementing innovative practices and programs, and we encourage them to participate in future application rounds for the innovateNJ Community or in other innovation initiatives identified on the innovateNJ website (http://www.state.nj.us/education/innovateNJ).  

The list of innovateNJ Community members, along with additional information about each member, can be found at http://www.state.nj.us/education/innovateNJ/community/members.htm. This list will be updated in the future as the Department re-issues the innovateNJ Community application. We encourage organizations, schools and districts to visit the innovateNJ website to learn more about future opportunities to become members of the innovateNJ Community.  

EP/TS  
c: Members, State Board of Education  
    Acting Commissioner David C Hespe  
    Senior Staff  
    Executive County Superintendents  
    Executive Directors for Regional Achievement Centers  
    Charter Schools Office  
    Nonpublic Schools Office  
    Garden State Coalition  
    NJ Lee Group