Date: July 26, 2018
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: CTE Directors and Supervisors, Carl D. Perkins Grant Program Directors
From: Nicolae Borota, Manager of CTE Program & Talent Development
       Office of Career Readiness
       Division of Academics and Performance

Department Assists Districts with JROTC Programs in Career and Technical Education

The New Jersey Department of Education’s (NJDOE) Government and Public Administration Career Cluster® includes Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) programs as an option for students to develop leadership qualities or who may be interested in joining the military. The NJDOE’s Office of Career Readiness stands ready to inform districts about JROTC programs and possible federal funding.

Research by from Dr. David C. Callahan, “Impact of Junior Officer Training Corps (JROTC) on Educational and Socioeconomic Outcomes,” suggests that students participating in JROTC programs have an increase in attendance, graduation rates and GPA, and a decrease in discipline issues and dropout rates. JROTC programs help students develop leadership qualities, learn and practice teamwork, and build confidence. JROTC programs are jointly funded by local school districts and the federal government. Students who participate in JROTC programs are not required to join the military. The federal government offers a limited number of JROTC programs throughout each state depending on funding and branch of service.

New Jersey Department of Education CTE-approved JROTC programs may be eligible for Carl D. Perkins funding. Districts that have a JROTC program that is not a state-approved CTE program, or school officials who are interested in information about JROTC, should contact Christine Tomkus, JROTC Coordinator in the Office of Career Readiness, at (609) 376-3910 or Christine.Tomkus@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
    Lamont O. Repollet, Commissioner
    NJDOE Staff
    Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
    Garden State Coalition of Schools
    NJ LEE Group