Date: April 26, 2019
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads, Directors of Special Education, Administrators of Programs for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities, Professional Organizations and Agencies
Route To: Child Study Team Supervisors, Parents of Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
From: Carolyn J. Marano, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student Services

Community Meetings Regarding Recommendations for Deaf Education

The New Jersey Department of Education has formed a Deaf Education Advisory Group that is working to improve the educational programs and services for students who are deaf or hard of hearing across the state. This group will develop a set of recommendations to be submitted to the Commissioner of Education to ensure that the full range of appropriate services are available to all New Jersey students who are deaf or hard of hearing. The advisory group includes members of the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities, administrators and service providers from educational programs for students who use all forms of communication, and agencies supporting infants and toddlers and adults who are deaf or hard of hearing.

In order to gather statewide input regarding the needs of our students who are deaf or hard of hearing, the Department will conduct community meetings where educators, parents of students who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind, community members, and service providers will have the opportunity to share their ideas directly with staff and advisory group members. Meetings will take place on the following dates:

**Date and Time:** Monday, May 6, 2019, 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
**Location:** South Jersey Technology Park, 107 Gilbreth Pkwy, Mullica Hill, 08062

**Date and Time:** Thursday, May 16, 2019, 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
**Location:** Learning Resource Center North, 7 Glenwood Ave Suite #201, East Orange, 07017

To register for the meetings, select the “Location” link above. Sign language interpreters and CART services will be provided for the meetings. If you are unable to attend a meeting, you may email written comments to dhh.education@doe.nj.gov. Videos in sign language may be submitted as well.

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