Date: January 8, 2019
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities
From: Carolyn J. Marano, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student Services

Release of the 2018-19 Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is pleased to announce the release of the 2018-19 Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials (MOA).

The 2018-19 MOA includes revisions that are designed to:

- reorganize the document into a more user-friendly format;
- ensure the use of consistent terminology for school-based offenses;
- provide greater specificity on mandatory vs. non-mandatory referrals to law enforcement; and
- promote meaningful dialogue and ongoing collaboration between schools and law enforcement to best support students.

All public school districts, charter schools, renaissance school projects, jointure commissions, educational services commissions, and approved private schools for students with disabilities are required to adopt and implement this revised MOA for the 2018-19 school year. A copy of the updated MOA, guidance for the annual review procedures, summary of the revisions, and frequently asked questions are available on the NJDOE website.

The annual review of the MOA provides the opportunity for school and law enforcement officials to reaffirm their commitment to work collaboratively as partners, discuss the effectiveness of current processes, and revise procedures, as needed. It is important for school officials to be familiar with this agreement and how it supports safe learning environments.

Should you have additional questions, please contact the NJDOE’s Office of Student Support Services at EdLaw@doe.nj.gov.

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