

Archived Information

New Jersey Department of Education

Mission – The NJ Department of Education will provide leadership for a superior education by utilizing multiple and diverse paths for all children in New Jersey.

INCREASING PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING:

GOAL - To raise public awareness of the importance of improving student performance in the areas of math and science to a level consistent with current concerns with performance in student literacy.

SUMMARY - The Department is engaged in several projects aimed at disseminating student performance data from the state's assessment program. Activities involve:

- Focus in the state's Report Card (available to all NJ residents);
- Collaboration with state business groups (NJ Chamber of Commerce, Business Coalition for Educational Excellence, NJ United, etc.);
- Participation in the Just4Kids project;
- Implementation of press briefing and media coverage initiatives.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS/RESULTS - The Department has:

- Forged a very successful alliance among diverse interest groups (professional organizations, institutions of higher education, and business organizations) around topics related to curriculum standards, assessment, and graduation requirements;
- Organized its efforts around regional centers for teaching/learning;
- Received favorable reviews for its recently revised curriculum standards in literacy, math, and science;
- Completed the first phase of a plan to increase awareness of the need to increase attention and focus on student performance in math and science.

PLAN - The Department will:

- Continue and extend collaboration with the NJ Chamber of Commerce on the NJ Just4Kids project;
- Continue support for a performance assessment project in math;
- Continue to focus attention on student math performance through the use of data from the state's NCLB assessment system, NJ ASK;
- Continue to develop the connection between teacher proficiency/preparation and student performance.