Date: December 12, 2017

To: Chief School Administrators

Route To: School Business Administrators, Directors of Child Study Teams,

Administrators of Nonpublic School Programs

From: Jessani Gordon, Director

Interdistrict Public School Choice and Nonpublic Programs

Division of Finance

## New District Requirements for Auxiliary and Handicapped Services for Nonpublic School Students are Postponed

Following consideration of stakeholder feedback, the New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Nonpublic School Programs will postpone the recently announced changes to the district requirements for administering Auxiliary and Handicapped Services for Nonpublic School Students (known as Chapter 192/193). Implementation is postponed pending an additional review of the program. The changes were announced in an October 24, 2017, NJDOE Broadcast memo and were to be effective in the 2018-19 school year.

As is currently permitted, districts that contract with a third-party provider to deliver Chapter 192/193 services to nonpublic school students may allow their provider to sign off on student applications for services (407-1 forms) and verify the documentation meets eligibility requirements, if their contract with the provider specifies this. As a reminder, entering into a contract with a provider does not relinquish district responsibility for the oversight of the program, and the district retains complete responsibility for ensuring students receive the appropriate services pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:46A-1 et seq., 18A:46-19.1 et seq. and *N.J.A.C.* 6A:14-6.2 et seq.

To assist districts, the following revised tools may be used to streamline the student-application process and ensure nonpublic school students receive the appropriate services:

- Checklist of required eligibility documentation for 407-1 forms; and
- <u>Suggested student application processes</u> for nonpublic schools, districts and providers

Please note that the technical assistance sessions scheduled for January regarding the now-postponed changes, have been canceled.

## **Additional Information**

For other information and resources for nonpublic school programs, visit the <u>Nonpublic School Programs webpage</u>. For questions about Chapter 192/193 programs, email <u>nonpublicschoolservices@doe.state.nj.us</u>.

c: Members, State Board of Education

Kimberley Harrington, Commissioner

NJDOE Staff

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools

NJ LEE Group

Nonpublic School Advisory Committee Nonpublic School Administrators