



NJDOE News

For More Information Contact the Public Information Office:

Jon Zlock
Richard Vespucci
Kathryn Forsyth, Director
609-292-1126

For Release: October 18, 2007

DOE Releases *NCLB*-required Districts "In Need of Improvement" List

Forty-four New Jersey school districts and nine charter schools have been designated as "Districts in Need of Improvement" (DINI) under the federal *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* based on their students' 2007 statewide test scores, Department of Education officials announced today.

School districts and charter schools are evaluated annually on whether or not the students tested in each grade span within the district attained the necessary proficiency levels to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Districts that miss AYP for two consecutive years in all grade spans, in either Language Arts Literacy or Math, are identified as "Districts in Need of Improvement" (DINI).

Twelve districts that appeared on the DINI list in 2006 achieved AYP two years in a row and have been removed from the list. Those districts are Bridgeton, Edison, Franklin Township (Somerset), Freehold Regional, Galloway, Hammonton, Long Branch, Lower Cape May Regional, Old Bridge, Sussex County Vocational, Sussex-Wantage Regional and Winslow.

A total of 60 districts and charter schools were on the 2006 list and a final tally of 55 districts and charters were on the 2005 list.

"School districts in New Jersey are taking accountability very seriously, especially when it comes to ensuring that students in all subgroups get what they need to meet higher levels of achievement," said Commissioner of Education Lucille E. Davy. "We are hopeful we will continue to see a decline in districts on this list in the coming years."

School administrators in districts designated as DINI Year 2 were required to notify all parents about the designation. Districts that receive federal Title I funding are required to develop and implement district improvement plans and allocate 10 percent of their Title I funds for professional development activities.

Six Title I districts - Camden, Camden County Vocational, Elizabeth, Newark, Paterson and Trenton - did not make AYP four years in a row and now face additional federal sanctions. The districts will face one of several actions, including the implementation of a new curriculum, deferment of Title I administrative funds or the restructuring of the districts.

Attachments:

- [2007-2008 DINI Yearly Status](#)
- [2007-2008 District Identified for Improvement](#)
- [2006-2007 District AYP Profiles](#)
- [District in Need of Improvement - Letter to Districts](#)
- [District in Need of Improvement - Addendum](#)
- [District in Need of Improvement - Appeal Form](#)
- [District Improvement Continuum Chart](#)
- [Districts in Need of Improvement \(DINI\) Sample Parent Letter](#)