



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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JON S. CORZINE  
*Governor*

LUCILLE E. DAVY  
*Commissioner*

April 8, 2008

TO: Chief School Administrators  
Charter School Lead Persons

FROM: Lucille E. Davy, Commissioner

SUBJECT: Release of NJ SMART 2.0

The Department would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work during the most recent NJ SMART data submission. Of the almost 225,000 student records submitted in the December 1<sup>st</sup> Special Education snapshot files, less than 1% had errors that prevented a Statewide Student Identifier (SID) from being assigned. This number reflects your attention to the data requirements, as well as your continued commitment to the success of NJ SMART.

As we look ahead, the Department remains confident that your District or Charter will benefit from the hard work you have put in to build the foundation of this system. Throughout the initiative, the NJ SMART Team has been gathering your feedback in an effort to improve the process and software used to implement NJ SMART. Based on this feedback, the Department is pleased to announce the launch of NJ SMART 2.0 on June 2, 2008.

Some of the enhancements planned for the NJ SMART 2.0 release include the ability for Districts and Charters to manage and acquire new SIDs throughout the year; an improved application look-and-feel that will promote easier navigation; and the collection of fewer data elements for the data snapshot files.

Currently, the NJ SMART portal permits Districts and Charters to manage student SIDs during the data snapshot submission periods. NJ SMART 2.0 will allow Districts and Charters to manage student SIDs at their convenience, throughout the year. The moment a student enters a school, the District or Charter can determine if the student already has a SID assigned and if not, can request a new SID for the student without delay. In turn, this enhancement will require that Districts and Charters keep their SID management up-to-date prior to the October 15<sup>th</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup>, and June 30<sup>th</sup> data submission periods.

To help districts understand and prepare for the changes that will accompany the release of NJ SMART 2.0, a series of webinar training sessions will be offered May 19<sup>th</sup> through June 13<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of these training sessions will be to review the changes to the required file layouts as well as to demonstrate the new NJ SMART 2.0 portal. ***Every District and Charter is required to attend at least one training session.*** Web User Administrators and Data POCs will be receiving an email invitation to attend the webinar trainings. In addition, the training schedule and other NJ SMART 2.0 documentation will be posted on the Department's website at <http://www.nj.gov/education/njsmart/> by April 14<sup>th</sup>.

In order to give an opportunity to ask any preliminary questions about the new system, NJ SMART will be hosting conference calls in the coming weeks. All districts are encouraged to participate. In addition, one conference call will be specifically directed toward Student Information System (SIS) vendors. Please check your email for information about how to attend these conference calls.

Again, thank you for your continued hard work and commitment to NJ SMART. This initiative is the Department's highest priority, and we firmly believe that all districts, staff and students will benefit greatly from the NJ SMART database. If you have questions or comments, please call NJ SMART at 1-800-254-0295 or send an email to [NJSMART@pcgus.com](mailto:NJSMART@pcgus.com).

- c: County Superintendents
  - LEE Group
  - Garden State Coalition of Schools
  - John Hart
  - William King
  - John Longworth