



Northern Highlands Regional High School

298 HILLSIDE AVENUE, ALLENDALE, NEW JERSEY 07401

PHONE: 201 327-8700

FAX: 201 327-2161

www.northernhighlands.org

April 8, 2021

JOSEPH J. OCCHINO
Principal

Dear Parents, Guardians and Members of the School Community,

MICHAEL T. KOTH
Assistant Principal

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe, healthy, and enjoying the beautiful weather! We are writing to provide you information with regard to the 2019-2020 New Jersey School Performance Reports, which were recently released and are available on the NJ School Performance Reports webpage at www.njschooldata.org.

ROBERT E. WILLIAMS
Director of Athletics

The School Performance Reports reflect the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) commitment to providing parents, students and school communities with a large variety of information about each school and district. These reports can be used as a tool to help evaluate whether all students have equitable access to high quality education. We encourage you to use these reports to:

THOMAS BUONO
Director of Special Services

- learn more about your school and district;
- start conversations with school community members and ask questions; and
- engage with school communities to identify what schools are doing well and where they can improve.

ROBIN KNUTELSKY
Director of Curriculum Instruction & Assessment

As you can imagine, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the way the NJDOE was able to measure school performance and student achievement in the 2019-2020 School Performance Reports. Some data is not available at all and other data, while available, may not look the same as it did in prior years. The NJDOE also recognizes that our existing data cannot begin to measure the hard work and perseverance of students, families, educators, and community members during this difficult year.

KELLY PETERFRIEND
Director of Guidance

Although this past year has been unlike any other, the NJDOE believes that it is critical to use the available data in the reports to start conversations, identify gaps in information, and continue to find ways to address the impacts of COVID-19 and ensure all students receive the support and resources that they need. In addition, the School Performance Reports can and should be used in conjunction with available school and district data to identify priorities for summer and school year programming.

Notes are included throughout the School Performance Reports to explain where data is missing or impacted by COVID-19 and a new Impact of COVID-19 on Data Availability resource is available to summarize this information.

The 2019-2020 reports include enhancements that respond to stakeholder feedback collected over the last several years and during the COVID-19 pandemic. These enhancements include:

- **New report design** with improved visuals and new navigational tools.
- **Additional data** about graduation cohorts to provide more information about students who do not graduate.
- **New resources** to help explain the impact of COVID-19 on the availability of data in the reports.
- **A new narrative field, "Learning during COVID-19"**, to give districts an opportunity to share information on how they responded to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The NJDOE continues to seek public input on ways to improve future reports. Please complete the School Performance Report feedback survey or email reportcard@doe.nj.gov with feedback and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Joseph J. Occhino
Principal