



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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September 28, 2009

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School Lead Persons
Principals

FROM: Lucille E. Davy
Commissioner

SUBJECT: Creating 21st Century New Jersey Schools: Fall 2009 Parent Outreach

President Obama has recently called for schools in the United States to prepare students as future adult citizens and workers in a globally interdependent and innovation-driven economy. This is aligned with New Jersey's goal to enable every student to graduate with the knowledge and skills now deemed essential for future personal and professional success. To that end, I am pleased to inform you of the availability of a video podcast accessible at: http://cie.kean.edu/CIE/21st_century_videos.html targeted for parents of K-12 students. The podcast is a seven-minute segment during which Alan November, international expert in 21st century teaching and learning, and I discuss the skills students will need for college and career readiness in the 21st century.

This outreach to parents is part of the department's three-year statewide systemic model to engage all education stakeholders in preparing students in an information age where critical thinking, effective communication across cultures and the ability to collaborate in a global environment to create new products or solve local and world problems are considered indispensable skills.

I urge you to disseminate this information to Parent-Teacher Organizations for viewing at fall meetings and also to arrange for viewing at faculty or department meetings, school board meetings and other events you deem appropriate.

Attached are two electronic flyers to be disseminated to parents in an effort to keep them informed about the goals of the state's public schools and our efforts to prepare responsible and caring adults and productive members of a world class workforce.

Thank you for your cooperation in fulfilling this important request.

LED/WS/JJ/S:UJENSEN/Podcastmemocas.Doc

Attachments

c: Members, State Board of Education
Senior Staff
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Executive County Superintendents
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