



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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April 29, 2014

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School Lead Persons
Non-public School Administrators

ROUTE TO: All District Principals and Assistant/Vice Principals

FROM: Peter Shulman, Assistant Commissioner/Chief Talent Officer
Division of Teacher and Leader Effectiveness

SUBJECT: **New Professional Teaching Standards and Mentoring Regulations**

On April 2, the State Board of Education adopted updated Professional Teaching Standards and mentoring regulations, which become effective on May 5, 2014. The updated standards align to the 2011 InTASC Model Core Teaching Standards and the Common Core State Standards and provide a clear vision of what teachers need to do to help all students prepare for success in college and the workforce. To align with the TEACHNJ Act, new mentoring regulations expand the scope of support which districts must provide to all teachers who are new to the district, not just those new to the profession.

Please review the following in order to understand the new regulations and ensure your district is following updated requirements.

1. Understand What's New

The Department's policy briefs provide summaries of the new regulations and highlight key changes from previous rules. Please review these materials and ensure your district's professional development and mentoring plans are aligned as appropriate.

- [Overview of Updated NJ Professional Standards for Teachers](#)
- [Overview of New Mentoring Regulations](#)

2. Review Mentoring Requirements

Chief school administrators (CSAs) have a specific set of responsibilities for mentoring programs in the districts. Please read the following summary of these duties and ensure your district/school submits the new required Statement of Assurance listed below. Finally, individual mentors assigned to a novice provisional teacher are now required to log their mentoring contact time. The format of the log and procedures for using it should be developed as part of the district mentoring plan. Please review the optional Mentor Log Template below to determine its usefulness for your district.

- [Summary of CSA Responsibilities for Mentoring](#)
- [District Mentoring Plan Statement of Assurance](#)
- [Non-Public School Mentoring Plan Statement of Assurance](#)
- [Optional Mentoring Log Template](#)

3. Review Additional Resources

For more in-depth information on the updated Professional Teaching Standards, including a crosswalk of their alignment to the InTASC Model Core Teaching Standards, please see the following:

- [Alignment of InTASC Model Core Teaching Standards and NJ Professional Standards for Teachers](#)
- [2011 InTASC Model Core Teaching Standards](#)
- [Common Core State Standards \(CCSS\)](#)

To learn more, please visit the [Professional Development Website](#). If you have questions or feedback, please email teachpd@doe.state.nj.us.

Thank you for your attention to this information, and for your collaboration in our work to support and promote effective educators in New Jersey.

PS/CP/JP/042914 New Professional Teaching Standards and mentoring Regs

c: Members, State Board of Education

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