

State of New Jersey

Governor
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Lt. Governor

PHILIP D. MURPHY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO BOX 500
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

LAMONT O. REPOLLET, Ed.D. Commissioner

October 12, 2018

Mr. Gregory Tatum, Superintendent Union Township School District 2369 Morris Avenue Union, NJ 07083

SUBJECT: 2018-2019 Preschool Education Expansion Aid (PEEA) One-Year Operational Plan

Dear Mr. Tatum:

In accordance with the Notification of Funding Opportunity issued by the New Jersey Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education (DECE), the Union Township School District submitted an application to receive Preschool Education Expansion Aid (PEEA), including the required One-Year Operational Plan and Budget Workbook for the 2018-2019 school year. Based on a thorough review, we are pleased to notify you that Union's application is approved for funding contingent upon receipt of a certified Board Resolution. This documentation must be received by October 31, 2018. Congratulations!

The Union Township School District will receive \$2,293,150 in PEEA. With this and other funding, the district indicates that it will serve 113 full day general education preschool children and 121 half-day general education preschool children in 2018-2019. Please note that PEEA is intended to fund only general education students. Preschoolers with disabilities, regardless of whether they are served in self-contained or inclusive settings, are included in the resident enrollment count which is used to determine State aid pursuant to the School Funding Reform Act. Therefore, districts should use local funds and funds made available under SFRA, excluding PEA and PEEA, for the education of students with disabilities. In addition, IDEA Part B funds may be used to pay for the excess cost of educating preschool students with disabilities. PEEA is based upon your approved projected enrollment.

If an LEA is offering a full-day general education program for its general education preschool students, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.1(c), preschool children with disabilities must have access to a full-day program as well. This applies to preschoolers with disabilities, either in a general education or special education setting, within the district or within separate public or approved private schools for students with disabilities.

If tuition was collected for any in-district children, all funding for the 2018-2019 school year must be returned to the families. Please note that the district may only take out-of-district tuition

students if space is available after eligible district children are served. Beginning in 2019, preschool student tuition must be charged at a rate comparable to the per pupil rate provided in state aid. The costs for tuition students can either be fully charged to the family or off-set with the use of district general funds.

The DECE will provide professional development and technical assistance geared toward the implementation of high-quality preschool programming, including site visits, webinars and conference calls. Your district liaison will be contacting you in the coming weeks to discuss next steps to assist you with your planning.

If you have any questions, please email <u>doeearlychild@doe.nj.gov</u> or contact the Division of Early Childhood Education at (609) 376-9077. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tonya D. Coston, Director

Division of Early Childhood Education

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c: Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner

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