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Department of Education Launches Hotline for Families Displaced by Hurricane Sandy

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

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Hotline Number 609-292-2070 Provides Families with Personal Guidance About Available Schooling Options

Trenton, NJ – The Department of Education announced today the launch of a hotline for families displaced by Hurricane Sandy. Families will be able to call the Department directly at 609-292-2070 to speak with a department staffer with any questions about the schooling options available to them, which may include arrangements with their home district or enrolling in an alternative district. The hotline is available Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

"The after-effects of Hurricane Sandy are still being felt by thousands of New Jerseyans and we want to provide as much support as possible," said Commissioner Chris Cerf. "School is often a second home for our students and we must ensure that families who have been displaced by this disaster are able to have that constant in their lives."

Last week, the Department issued guidance to all districts with regard to the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the provision of services to all students experiencing displacement due to the storm. The legislation defines homeless children as "children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing," often referred to as "doubled-up" or "are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations or are living in emergency or transitional shelters."

For additional information on Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts, please visit the NJDOE website at:
<http://nj.gov/education/sandy/>

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