



**New Jersey Catholic Conference
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To: Council of Catholic Superintendents
Selected Members of the Advisory Committee
Diocesan Network Directors
Knights of Columbus Leadership

From: George V. Corwell, Ed.D.
Director: Office of Education

Date: April 20, 2016

Re: Commissioner Hesper's Testimony before the Assembly Budget Committee

I thought it would be good to update you on the fact that Assemblyman Gary Schaer (the Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee) and Assemblyman Troy Singleton grilled Commissioner Hesper today on the loss of funding for nonpublic schools in the Governor's Fiscal Year 2017 Budget. Essentially, the Commissioner's response was that the process was the part of removing all "legislative add-ons" from the Fiscal Year 2016 Appropriations Act. The Commissioner attempted to portray that as a standard practice with all legislative add-ons in other areas.

I believe that it is worthwhile, in addition to our continue efforts with the Action Alert, to have the heads of organizations and any other key individuals in your constituency send a personal note, email, or telephone call to the two Assemblymen who spoke so forcefully with respect to our issues. (cf. their contact information that accompanied the Action Alert).

Thank you for your cooperation.

GVC:ac

Emailed Communication