

## SED Update December 2012

### Assessment

The Testing Guides have been released. Based on those guides, a [chart](#) has been created by the CNYRIC that compares previous formats with the new one. Another [set of charts](#) (prepared by Sandy Creek) details the requirements, tools, and other administrative considerations of the 3-8 math and ELA assessments for 2012-2013.

A discussion is occurring about PARCC and the computer based approach to these new assessments. If NYS does not have the technical capacity to implement a computer based model this presents complications. Would a pencil and paper parallel assessment be developed? Would we postpone PARCC adoption until we were ready with the technology? In the meantime, NY proceeds to develop our own Common Core-aligned versions of NYS assessments. Guidance about the technology equipment that will be needed should be out soon. It looks like they will make things work on tablets (9.5" or greater).

PARCC has identified that they will use a five-spread on their performance levels. In New York we've used four levels. A decision will have to be made about whether the state switches to a five point scale.

PARCC items are actually being made and reviewed. There will be item review sessions with teachers this spring. Field testing is expected next year.

The NYSESLAT is evolving. For 2013 and 2014, the test will be aligned to existing ESL Standards. They will switch to six grade-level bands. For 2015 there should be a version aligned to the Common Core and *future* ESL Standards.

In 2014 there will be a new, aligned, NYSAA for ELA and math. Science and social studies NYSAA will be made after that.

### Curriculum

[Appendix A](#) of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for Mathematics groups the standards at the high school level into two alternative pathways or sets of courses. Beginning with a first administration next school year (June 2014), New York State has announced that it will be developing Regents Examinations in mathematics aligned with the *Traditional Pathway* detailed starting on page 8 of this document. Recently, PARCC provided Model Content [Frameworks](#), Mathematics, Version 2.0. A final version of this PARCC document is expected to be released within the next two weeks. In this framework, some adjustments were made to the placement of some of the standards within the first three high school Common Core mathematics courses in the Traditional Pathway - Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. The arrangement of the standards within these courses is shown on page 55. SED is carefully studying this new framework and emphasizes in order to determine if and how the document will be used in developing the new Common Core Regents Exams in mathematics to be administered next school year.

Curriculum materials and [modules](#) continue to be added to engageNY. *Adopt, adapt, refer.*

### State Kindergarten Assessment

Because SED did not get the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant, the development of a tool which measures kindergarten readiness for use across the state has not proceeded. Therefore, districts will continue to do their own thing. The Literacy Coalition of Onondaga County continues to work on the issue of early literacy and we will soon [again] be collecting information about screening practices and the assessments districts are using for summative SLO measures. This information helps to identify possible data sources for the work the coalition is doing.

**Virtual AP Project**

With Oswego BOCES as the LEA, we will be participating in a [Virtual AP project](#) which will develop some on-line AP courses that students can take when their school does not offer the course. In addition to course development and delivery, there will be a person in each BOCES in the JMT who will travel from school to school working with students to ensure that they are staying current on their course assignments and are making adequate progress.

**Education Data Portal**

SED is progressing with the unified [portal](#). The goal of this project is to be able to provide unified access to data and resources at a lower cost for districts. It will up in October. Training will be provided during the summer or in September prior to launch. One of the things that this will be able to do is incorporate students who move within the state.

**Professional Certification**

SED has released [information](#) about the new certification examinations for teachers and for school building leaders. On page two there are a number of links to other SED sites and resources. The submission of video recordings is back!