

SED Update February 2014

Reform Agenda Changes

The Board of Regents is making “adjustments” to the Regents Reform Agenda. This [press release](#) provides an overview. The Regents [item](#) is more detailed. Still more detail is included in [related Regents items](#). The emphasis of the changes seems to be on districts rather than the Department.

Assessment

- The middle-Level double testing issue process has been identified. Very few districts will be required to go into the Review Room to make substantive changes as a result.
- Like A1 and Integrated Algebra doubling-up is temporarily permitted, the same will be true for Geometry (through June 2016).
- K-2 standardized testing will be prohibited.
- There will be a 1% time limit on assessments used for APPR purposes.
- More money for more field tests will be requested.
- The 5-point scale for CCLS-aligned Regents exams has been defined:
 - NYS Level 5
 - Analogous to current Mastery Level
 - Students exceed Common Core grade-level expectations
 - NYS Level 4
 - Analogous to current 75/80
 - Aspirational Performance Measure
 - Students meet Common Core grade-level expectations
 - NYS Level 3
 - Analogous to current 65
 - Graduation and Credit Proficiency
 - Students partially meet Common Core grade-level expectations
 - NYS Level 2
 - Analogous to current 55
 - Safety Net for students with disabilities
 - Not proficient on Common Core grade-level expectations
 - NYS Level 1
 - Does not demonstrate knowledge and skills sufficient for Level 2
- Levels 1 and 2 combined on this 5 point scale are comparable to a “1” on the 3-8 scale

Accountability

- A 12-year trajectory has been adopted that will target student proficiency on the Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) for graduation purposes beginning with the class of 2022. The five-step scale they will use will allow them to offer an “old” score and “Common Core” score.
- If a school district seeks to terminate an educator based on an ineffective rating resulting from student performance on Common Core assessments administered in the 2012-13 and/or 2013-14 school years, he or she may raise as a defense an alleged *failure by the board of education* [emphasis added] to timely implement the Common Core by providing adequate professional development, guidance on curriculum, or other necessary supports to the educator during those school years.

Continued on reverse

Curriculum and Standards

- The Common Core Learning Standards will be periodically reviewed and updated as necessary. *Note: It is not clear what (if any) impact there will be on the Social Studies Framework or Next Generation Science Standards.*

Placement

- AIS flexibility will be extended for another year (using cut-point conversion).
- AIS and other placement decisions will not be able to be based solely on 3-8 scores.