

SED Update January 2015

Assessment

The 2015-2016 3-8 assessment schedule has been [released](#). Additional Regents [schedules](#) are out, too.

There will be an additional administration of the Integrated Algebra Regents Examination in June 2015. At the November meeting, the BOR approved emergency [regulations](#) providing that students who are instructed in Common Core Algebra I may, at district discretion, take the Integrated Algebra Regents in addition to the Common Core Algebra I. This is available to:

- Students who began instruction in Common Core Algebra prior to September 2014 (Extended or “Stretch” Courses)
- Any students who (in the past) completed a course of study in Integrated Algebra (Core Curriculum 2005)

There have been some recent changes to the new [Geometry test specifications](#), replacing a 2 point and 4 point question with another 6 point question.

Both Algebra 2/Trigonometry and Chemistry Regents Examinations will be offered in August, 2015.

The Board of Regents [wants to](#) make it clear that field tests are mandatory. They might take emergency action in February, in time for the field test season.

It is unlikely that there will be an incremental transition of the Common Core Regents expectations for the students in the class of 2020. Students in that class will be required to get at least a 74 on a Common Core math exam and at least a 79 on the Common Core exam.

It is unlikely that the Board of Regents will make a decision about PARCC at their December meeting. For this year, districts will have the opportunity to pilot either the diagnostic test or the ELA performance-based parts (on-line format, only).

Standards

The Field Guide for Social Studies was issued. Although it contains useful information about the shifts and an example unit, it is already partially obsolete. It was written before the piloting and testing of the teacher-made inquiries was begun and changes have already been made.

It is doubtful that New York will adopt the Next Generation Science Standards and will, instead, adapt them into some hybrid version.

When arts standards are tackled, it is likely that New York will adapt rather than adopt the national standards. This is, in part, due to the fluid and changing nature of the national standards rather than a fixed version.

High School Completion and Graduation

At their November meeting, the Board of Regents was [updated](#) about the data that are available to districts about the post-secondary attendance of their graduates. In different formats, data about college attendance and persistence has been available from the “Where Are They Now?” report as well as the student outcome data provided for Race To The Top goal setting and reporting. These reports are for school and district personnel to support local planning and should not be used for accountability purposes.

Currently under certain circumstances students can appeal scores of 62-64 on any required Regents exam. The [revised regulation](#) allows students who are identified as English Language Learners to appeal a score of 55-61 on the ELA Regents Exam and, if granted, receive a local diploma. Eligibility Conditions; Student must be classified as an English Language Learner and have:

- entered the US in grades 9-12 in 2010 or thereafter; and
- taken the test at least twice; and
- scored between 55 and 61 on at least one attempt; and
- received AIS in ELA; and
- an attendance rate of 95%; and
- a passing average in the corresponding course; and
- a recommendation by teacher or department chairperson.

At this point, it looks like the CTE Pathway (4+1 option) will be dependent on a student’s participation in an approved CTE program. The Blue Ribbon Panel has approved 13 CTE exams at this point but will reconvene to consider others.

Academic Intervention Services

The Board of Regents made the extension of AIS flexibility [official](#) at their December meeting. This extends the flexibility through this year, 2014-2015. The language is silent about next year.