**SED Update**

**April 2019**

**Improving Special Education Outcomes in New York State**

NYS is identified under IDEA as a State in Need of Assistance. NYS did not meet State targets on 15 of the 17 indicators during the 2017-18 cycle. NYS target areas for special education are performance outcomes, disproportionality, least restrictive environment and transition planning and services. For more information visit <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings>

**Participation Rate Improvement Status Report Availability**

As part of the New York State Education Department’s approved Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan, schools that do not meet the 95% participation rate requirement for ELA or mathematics and meet certain criteria for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years will be required to implement a Participation Rate Improvement Plan for the 2019-20 school year.

The Office of Accountability released a Participation Rate Status Report using 2017-18 school year results on the Information and Reporting Services (IRS) portal at <https://portal.nysed.gov/abp> to assist districts and schools in determining if a 2019-20 school year participation rate improvement plan would be required.

* For more information about the New York State annual testing program, see the **Assessments Toolkit** at <http://www.nysed.gov/assessments-toolkit>
* Questions should be directed to Office of Accountability at 718-722-2797, or [accountinfo@nysed.gov](mailto:accountinfo@nysed.gov).

**NYSED Parent Dashboard**

As part of New York’s ESSA Plan, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) is developing a Parent Dashboard to increase transparency and make information about school performance and other school-level data easier for parents and the public to access.

* NYSED is gathering feedback from parents and stakeholders to guide the work of developing the Parent Dashboard. NYSED will use this feedback to identify the data that is most useful to parents and the public. Please distribute the five-minute survey available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7NB27ZV> to assist NYSED in making the Parent Dashboard as useful as possible.
* If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact [ParentDashboard@nysed.gov](mailto:ParentDashboard@nysed.gov).

**Annual State Application Under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) as Amended in 2004 for Federal Fiscal Year 2019**

The “New York State's Annual State Application Under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019,” has been posted for public review for 60 days (from March 14 through May 13, 2019) on the Office of Special Education’s News, Announcements and Timely Information webpage at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/idea/part-b-app/2019-state-application.html>.The application includes the identification of State requirements that are not otherwise required by federal law and regulations pursuant to IDEA section 608(a)(2) and the description of the use of funds under Part B of IDEA.

* Written public comment on the NYS Part B Application for FFY 2019 will be accepted by the Office of Special Education for 30 calendar days, as required by federal law (March 20 through April 19, 2019).  Written comments may be submitted by email with the subject line “NYS Part B Application FFY 2019 Public Comment” to [SPEDPUBLICCOMMENT@nysed.gov](mailto:SPEDPUBLICCOMMENT@nysed.gov%3cmailto:SPEDPUBLICCOMMENT@nysed.gov) or by mail to:

New York State Education Department

Office of Special Education

1. Washington Avenue, Room 309 EB

Albany, NY 12234

Attention: NYS Part B Application FFY 2019 Public Comment

* Questions may be directed to the Office of Special Education Policy Unit at 518-473-2878 or [SPECED@nysed.gov](mailto:SPECED@nysed.gov)

**Findings of Civil Investigation into the Tragic Death of Trevyan Rowe**

Trevyan Rowe was a 14-year-old student in the Rochester City School District (RCSD) who went missing on March 8, 2018. Investigators focused on four main areas: mental health services, including behavioral intervention; special education; attendance policies; and school safety considerations including transportation and found systemic failures and inadequacies.

In effort to ensure this tragedy never occurs again, the report available at [http://www.nysed.gov/news /2019/state-education-commissioner-elia-and-attorney-general-james-release-joint-report-findings](http://www.nysed.gov/news%20/2019/state-education-commissioner-elia-and-attorney-general-james-release-joint-report-findings), identifies policies and procedures that RCSD and other school districts should implement to help prevent and reduce the risk of tragedies from happening in the future.

**Children’s Mental Health Awareness Event** “**Building Bridges for Change: Supporting the Mental Health of Children, Youth and Young Adults”**

* Join organizations and agencies from across New York State on May 7, 2019 for a full day of honoring individuals, schools, communities, and organizations that are making a difference in the field of mental health.
* Visit <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eg68v6cl641434c0&llr=zga6rzjab> for registration information.
* If you have any questions about this event, contact [Kathryn.provencher@omh.ny.gov](mailto:Kathryn.provencher@omh.ny.gov).

**New Guidance and Resources for Social Emotional Learning Implementation**

* Social Emotional Learning: A Guide to Systemic Whole School Implementation available at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/documents/GuideToSystemicWholeSchoolImplementationFINAL.pdf> provides resources and tools to support districts, schools, and individual educators in their work to create schools that effectively prepare all students to succeed in school and in life.
* District-developed content area crosswalk documents available at [http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/ SELCrosswalks.html](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/SELCrosswalks.html) provide examples of ways SEL can be incorporated in and aligned with subject area content to support State standards.
* These tools and resources build upon guidance and benchmarks released in May, including New York State Social Emotional Learning Benchmarks available at [http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/ selbenchmarks.html](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/selbenchmarks.html) for voluntary implementation and Social Emotional Learning: Essential for Learning, Essential for Life available at  [http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/documents/SELEssentialfor LearningandLife.pdfa](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/documents/SELEssentialforLearningandLife.pdfa) framework explaining SEL concepts.
* Questions regarding this guidance should be directed to NYSED’s Office of Student Support Services at 518-486-6090 or [studentsupportservices@nysed.gov](mailto:studentsupportservices@nysed.gov).

**OSE Listserv**

You can receive **notification** by electronic mail of the latest **memoranda and other technical assistance documents** available on the Special Education website.

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/register.htm>

**NYS Education Department Office of Special Education**

**Special Education Quality Assurance**

**Central Regional Office**

**333 East Washington Street, Suite 210, Syracuse, New York 13202**

**(315) 428-4556 Office (315) 428-4555 Fax**

**Special Education Website –** [**http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/**](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/)