**SED Updates**

**October 2015**

Updated September 28, 2015

**Changes to the New York State Alternate Assessment Beginning with the 2015-2016 School Year**

New - The Department has issued a memorandum to provide information on changes in the method and timeline for administration of the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) beginning with the 2015-16 school year. Details including an Overview of Content Areas and Testing Schedule charts are available at:

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/nysaa/home.html>

Information regarding the 2015 - 16 NYSAA Age Range Chart:

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/nysaa/2015-16/agerange15.pdf>

**Guidelines for the Use of Speech-Language Telepractice in the Delivery of Related Services to Students with Disabilities**

**New**– **Field Advisory Memo:**  <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/2015-memos/speech-language-telepractice.html> This memo provides important information regarding the use of telepractice in the delivery of speech and language related services.  Speech-language telepractice is a remote service delivery model that utilizes telecommunications technology as the medium for the provision of speech and language services.

New York State Education Department Guidelines for Telepractice in Speech-Language Pathology in Schools:

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/2015-memos/documents/GuidelinesforTelepracticeinSpeech-LanguagePathologyinSchools.pdf>

**Compensatory Option Safety Net**

**New –** The New York State Education Department has updated the Questions andAnswers regarding the Compensatory Option Safety Net. They are available at:

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/documents/safetynet-qa-dec12.pdf>

**Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports: 2015-2016 Regional Forums**

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) announced regional professional development workshops hosted by the New York State Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Technical Assistance Center and the Regional Special Education Technical Assistance Support Centers. The workshops are designed to inform schools about best practices that enable behavioral interventions to work most effectively and facilitate a positive school climate within a PBIS framework.

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/documents/201516PBISRegionalForumBrochurepdf.pdf>

**BOARD OF REGENTS - September 16 & 17, 2015**

**The Safety Net Local Diploma for Students with Disabilities**

Under the proposed amendment, all students with disabilities otherwise eligible to graduate in January 2016 or thereafter, and who score up to three points below a score of 55 on Regents after at least two attempts would be eligible to receive the Local Diploma via appeal provided they meet the set conditions.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/meetings/Sep%202015/915p12d3revised.pdf>

**Update on the New York State Pathways in Technology Early College High School Program (NYS P-TECH)**

The New York State Pathways in Technology Early College High School Program (NYS P-TECH) is a public-private partnership that will prepare more than 10,000 New York State students for high-skill jobs of the future in technology, manufacturing, healthcare and engineering. The model incorporates a six-year program that combines high school, college, and career training and is targeted to academically at-risk, disadvantaged students.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/meetings/Sep%202015/915hei1.pdf>

**Proposed amendment of section 100.7 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, relating to the State High School Equivalency Diploma**

The regulation provides conditions, standards and requirements for the administration of the HSE test and the issuance of the State’s HSE diploma. The proposed amendment will update, provide clarity and make necessary technical changes to section 100.7 including provisions relating to the Alternative High School Equivalency Preparation Programs (AHSEP) as well as implement new revisions.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/meetings/Sep%202015/915accesd1.pdf>

**Proposed Amendment of Section 100.2(ee) relating to Academic Intervention Services**

Field Advisory Memo: Issue for Decision Should the Regents approve, as an emergency action, the proposed amendment of Commissioner’s Regulations section 100.2(ee) to provide continued flexibility to school districts in the provision of Academic Intervention Services through the 2015-16 school year as a continuation of the policy adopted for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years for those students who performed below Level 3 on the grade 3-8 ELA and Math assessments but at or above cut scores established by the Regents?

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/meetings/Sep%202015/915p12a1.pdf>

**Workgroup on Common Core Regents Exams (Algebra I and others)**

Following the June 2015 administration, the Department has received questions about aspects of the Common Core Regents Exam in Algebra I. Department staff recommend that the Board of Regents direct staff to convene a group of educators to consider and advise on the technical and policy issues described in this summary, including whether a new scale should be adopted to address the concerns about the conversion chart and transcript review by college personnel.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/meetings/Sep%202015/915p12d1.pdf>

**Transition to Common Core-aligned Regents Examinations in Mathematics (Algebra II)**

The proposed amendment would provide flexibility with respect to the Regents Examination in Algebra II (Common Core) by allowing, at the discretion of the applicable school district, students receiving Algebra II (Common Core) instruction to take the Regents Examination in Algebra 2/Trigonometry aligned to the 2005 Learning Standards in addition to the Regents Examination in Algebra II (Common Core), and meet the mathematics requirement for graduation by passing either examination. This flexibility would be permitted until the final administration of the Algebra 2/Trigonometry Regents examination in January 2017.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/meetings/Sep%202015/915p12d2.pdf>

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