**SED Update December 2017**

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| Updated December 6, 2017 OCM & OHM  **Transition Planning and Services for Students and Youth with Disabilities**  P-12 Education and ACCES Committees held a joint meeting on November 13, 2017**.** To assist students and youth with disabilities with the transition to adulthood, the Office of Special Education and ACCES-VR are working on the following initiatives: Monitoring of Appropriate Transition Planning; Regional Professional Development on Transition Planning and Services; Youth Advisory Panel; Promoting Readiness of Minors in Supplemental Security Income Grant; Program Development Grant to Prepare Students with Disabilities to Exit School with Work Readiness Skills; and Strengthening Relationships with School Districts.  In addition, several new initiatives were presented that will enhance service delivery to youth and students with disabilities, including: ACCES-VR IL/VR Peer Mentoring Initiative; CUNY LEADS Plus; NYC Mayor’s Office for Persons with Disabilities; and Career Exploration Initiative.  Details can be found at:  <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1117p12accesd1.pdf>.  The following presentation slides provide a summary as well as information on TransitionSource.org which is designed to advance post-school outcomes of students with disabilities: <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/P-12-ACCES%20-%20Transition%20Planning%20and%20Services%20for%20Students%20and%20Youth%20with%20Disabilities.pdf>  **School Climate**  At the November 2017 Board meeting, Department staff were joined by representatives from two of the six districts who will discuss lessons learned from implementation of the U.S. Department of Education’s school climate surveys and share information about implementing Social Emotional Learning (SEL), Restorative Practices and Trauma-Informed Approaches in schools that are evidenced-based and proven to be effective in improving student outcomes. They will also be joined by staff from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (NYSDCJS), who assisted with the roll-out of training to schools on Restorative Practices, and the Director for the Social and Emotional Learning Center at the Children’s Institute in Rochester. The thought-provoking presentation and results of some pilot programs can be found at:  <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/FB%20Monday%20-%20Promoting%20Healthy%20School%20Climates.pdf>  **McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act**  Though schools were required to begin implementing the new requirements by October 1, 2016, a proposed amendment was presented at the November 2017 Board of Regents. In addition to defining specific terms, the changes outline the parent/guardian/unaccompanied youth as the “designator” for determining which school district they want the student to attend, while the school district is required to determine whether the choice is consistent with the best interests of the child or youth. The full details of the amendment are presented here:  <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1117brca6.pdf> |

**next Board of Regents Meeting – December 11-12, 2017**

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