**SED Update**

**September 2018**

**Updated 9/5/2018**

NYSED Office of Special Education, in consultation with stakeholders, has released **Guidance on Chapter 216 of the Laws of 2017: Students with Disabilities Resulting from Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, and Dyscalculia.** This guidance is posted at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/guidance-on-chapter-216-of-the-laws-of-2017.html> and provides clarification that schools may reference or use the terms dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia in student evaluations, eligibility determinations, and in the development of a student’s individualized education program (IEP).

* An informational flyer **Meeting the Needs of Students With Dyslexia, Dysgraphia and Dyscalculia** is available at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/documents/meeting-the-needs-of-students-with-dyslexia-dysgraphia-dyscalculia.pdf>;
* A Questions & Answers document on this topic is available at [http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/ publications/documents/q-and-a-students-with-dyslexia-dysgrahia-dyscalculia.pdf](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/%20publications/documents/q-and-a-students-with-dyslexia-dysgrahia-dyscalculia.pdf); and
* The flowchart **Identification of Students With Learning Disabilities Within a Multi-Tiered System of Supports** is available at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/documents/identification-of-students-with-disabilities-flowchart.pdf>
* *For additional information, contact the Office of Special Education Policy Unit at (518) 473-2878 or* speced@nysed.gov.
* Surveys for administrators, educators/service providers, and families on meeting the needs of students with learning disabilities, including students with dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia, in New York State may be accessed at: <http://www.mievaluation.com/SLD-Surveys.html>. Results of the surveys will be used to inform guidance development related to students with specific learning disabilities and other NYSED initiatives including the State Systemic Improvement Plan.

**Policy and Procedure Clarifications for the New Regents-High School Equivalency Exam Pathway** This communication available at <http://www.acces.nysed.gov/memo/clarification-policy-and-procedure-new-regents-high-school-equivalency-exam-pathway> provides clarification of policy and procedure for the Regents-High School Equivalency Exam Pathway that went into effect on  April 25, 2018.

* Candidates apply by submitting the NYS Education Department application titled [Attachment R](http://www.acces.nysed.gov/hse/attachment-r).
* School district participation is not optional.
* *Inquiries related to the Regents HSE Exam Pathway and the regulatory amendment may be directed via email to the High School Equivalency office at* *hse@nysed.gov*.

**Teaching Staff Who Can Deliver the Instruction Necessary to Meet the CDOS Commencement Credential, the CDOS Graduation Pathway, and the 1.75 Units of Study in CTE Required at the Middle Level** As staffing decisions are made over the coming months, school district and building administrators should be aware of the certifications necessary for staff delivering instruction leading to either the middle level Career and Technical Education requirements or instruction at the high school level leading to the CDOS pathway or CDOS commencement credential.

* See the memo issued by the offices of Career and Technical Education and Curriculum and Instruction to aid administrators in choosing the appropriate staff for their instructional program.
* *Questions related to CTE instructional programs at the Middle Level or programs related to CDOS may be directed to* *emsccte@nysed.gov*[*http://www.p12.nysed.gov/cte/*](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/cte/)

**New Guidance Regarding Educational Stability for Students in Foster Care** New Guidance regarding Part CC of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2018 and the federal  Every Student Succeeds Act regarding educational stability and transportation for students in foster care is available at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/pps/fostercare.html>

* The new guidance includes a toolkit the Department developed in collaboration with the Office of Children and Family Services to assist school districts and local departments of social services in meeting the new requirements for ensuring educational stability for students in foster care.
* School personnel should review these documents thoroughly.
* *Transportation questions should be directed to the Office of Pupil Transportation at 518-474-6541 or* [*transportation@nysed.gov*](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ckdecatal%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5C7SB7FAYW%5Ctransportation%40nysed.gov)*.*
* *Other questions related to foster care should be directed to the Office of Student Support Services at 518-486-6090 or* [*studentsupportservices@nysed.gov*](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ckdecatal%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5C7SB7FAYW%5Cstudentsupportservices%40nysed.gov)*.*

**Mandatory McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Training 2018, Education of Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness #04-2018 FIELD MEMO**. This memo, available at [http://nysteachs.org/media/INF\_SED\_FieldMemo \_MandatoryTraining.pdf](http://nysteachs.org/media/INF_SED_FieldMemo_MandatoryTraining.pdf) provides information regarding required training for McKinney-Vento liaisons to participate in professional development so that they can better identify and meet the needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness under the federal McKinney-Vento Act. Federal law also requires that McKinney-Vento liaisons ensure that local educational agency (LEA) personnel providing McKinney-Vento services (e.g., superintendents, registrars, transportation directors, CSE chairs, school counselors, school social workers, principals, Title I directors, teachers) receive professional development. Liaisons can do this by either providing the training to staff themselves or by ensuring that LEA staff participate in one of the trainings offered by the NYS Technical Assistance Center for Homeless Students (NYS-TEACHS).

* *Questions may be directed to:*
	+ *Melanie Faby, Title I and Community Services Office, 518-473-0295,* *conappta@nysed.org*
	+ *NYS-TEACHS, 1-800-388-2014,* [*www.nysteachs.org*](http://www.nysteachs.org)
* *For additional information about the ESSA amendments to Title I and McKinney-Vento, please see the issued U.S. Department of Education Services Non-Regulatory Guidance available at* [*https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/160240ehcyguidance072716updated0317.pdf*](https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/160240ehcyguidance072716updated0317.pdf)

**Next Board of Regents Meeting: September 17-18, 2018**

**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/)