

## Summary of February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Board of Regents Meeting

The February 2018 Board of Regents (BOR) meeting began with a review of the recently released graduation rates for 2017 by Commissioner MaryEllen Elia. Some of the key areas of emphasis in the presentation included:

- The 2017 graduation rate retained last year's gains and grew slightly (approx 1%). This continues the upward trend that is now 11 percentage points higher than it was for the 2003 cohort.

- High need schools showed the highest increase in graduation rates (2.6%).

- While the graduation rate improved for Black and Hispanic students, a significant achievement gap still exists.

- 77% of graduates earned a Regents Diploma with 33% achieving the Advanced Regents Designation.

- 9,900 students earned diplomas through the newly implemented Multiple Pathways options, with the majority earned in the area of science.

- 3,000 Students with Disabilities graduated with the extended 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year of eligibility provision.

The Commissioner emphasized that they will continue to explore ways to improve the graduation rate, close the achievement gap, and look at more alternative pathways to a diploma. She concluded her presentation with a comparison of current NYSED efforts to achieve these goals with the BOR budget priorities that were recently presented to the legislature.

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/Full%20Board%20Monday%20-%20June%20Graduation%20Rates%20for%20the%202013%20Cohort.pdf>

The Board was updated by the Commissioner on the status of the APPR revisions scheduled to go into effect for the 2019-20 school year. Commissioner Elia stressed that they are still in the beginning stages of amending the current plan. A survey was sent out to teachers and administrators across the state on February 6th as a starting point to gather feedback from the field. NYSED also has issued two RFPs to select a technical assistance provider to assist with the revision process.

Beginning in April 2018 and continuing through early 2019, NYSED will be convening two workgroups – an Evaluation Workgroup and an Assessment Workgroup. The committees will be made up of practitioners from the field and representatives from stakeholder groups. They will be charged with determining the key questions that need to be considered in creating the initial recommendations for APPR revisions. **ESSAA** is listed as one of the groups who will be invited to have representatives

participate. The Education Department will also be contracting with a technical assistance provider to work with NYSED in the area of Student Learning Objectives (SLO).

Finally, Commissioner Elia presented a tentative timeline for the development and implementation of the revised plan. Her goal is to have final recommendations presented to the BOR in the spring of 2019. This will allow for any final revisions before the plan is implemented for the 2019-20 school year.

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/218hep12d1.pdf>

[http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/HE-P12%20-%20Annual%20Professional%20Performance%20Review%20%28APPR%29%20Update\\_0.pdf](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/HE-P12%20-%20Annual%20Professional%20Performance%20Review%20%28APPR%29%20Update_0.pdf)

As part of the meeting's consent agenda, the Board took emergency action to extend an amendment adopted in December 2017. This provision allows students with disabilities who have not earned a score of 55 on the ELA and/or Mathematics Regents examinations to meet the superintendent determination option for diploma eligibility by completing the requirements for the CDOS credential.

-It is anticipated that the proposed amendment will be presented for permanent adoption at the April Board of Regents meeting.

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/218brca8.pdf>