

## Summary of June 2022 Board of Regents Meeting

- The NYS Board of Regents conducted their monthly meeting on Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. Chancellor Lester Young opened the meeting by welcoming newly appointed Regent Roger Catania who will be representing the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District which includes several counties in the Capital Region and the North Country.

Regent James Cottrell then acknowledged the month of June as Pride Month. Regent Cottrell referenced the 1969 Stonewall Riots in New York City as the beginning of the advancement of rights for members of the LGBTQ community and emphasized the need for continued advocacy in promoting social/emotional health for LGBTQ students across the state.

- The opening item on the meeting agenda included a presentation/discussion of a proposed amendment related to adding the subject of Computer Science to the list of Career and Technical Education (CTE) subjects.

NYSED staff presented information that has been collected from both stakeholder groups and a policy workgroup that has been meeting in recent months. Based on the feedback received, it is being recommended that to better facilitate the implementation of the Computer Science and Digital Fluency Standards, more flexibility should be provided to increase the options for how computer science is offered in schools K-12.

The proposed amendments recommend that schools be allowed flexibility with utilizing computer science courses to meet CTE requirements, and that teachers holding a valid Computer Science certificate be allowed more flexibility with earning certification extensions and Statements of Continued Eligibility (SOCE). After the 60 day public comment period, it is anticipated that the proposed amendments will be presented for permanent adoption at the October 2022 Board meeting.

The links below include more detailed information on the amendments being proposed along with the power point that was used to guide the discussion.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/622brd1.pdf>

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/FB%20Monday%20-%20K-12%20Computer%20Science%20and%20Digital%20Fluency%20Policy%20and%20Regulatory%20Considerations.pdf>

- The Board approved emergency adoption of an amendment targeting the removal of barriers which have prohibited students, currently placed by the courts in residential facilities, to receive high school diplomas upon meeting all the graduation requirements.

The amendment provides that the school district of location, the district in which the residential facility is located, shall formally enroll the student when they enter the residential facility. The district of location will also be required to maintain a transcript for the student as courses are completed, and issue the diploma when graduation requirements are met.

It is anticipated that this emergency rule will be presented for formal adoption at the October 2022 Board meeting.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/622p12a2.pdf>

- The Board approved a proposed amendment to provide an exemption to the diploma, credential, and endorsement requirements associated with passing the Regents Examination in US History for the June 2022, August 2022, and January 2023, since the exam will not be administered during this period.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/622p12a3.pdf>

- The Board approved a proposed amendment which will allow middle level students who take Regents Examinations in Mathematics (Grade 6) and in Science (Grade 7) to be exempt from taking the Grades 6-8 state assessment associated with that subject area.

The emergency rule takes effect immediately. It is anticipated that the amendment will be presented for emergency adoption at the October 2022 Board of Regents meeting.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/622p12a4revised.pdf>

- In May 2022, the Board of Regents approved an amendment expanding the existing Special Appeal Process to increase the range of acceptable passing scores (50 – 64) on Regents Examinations needed to earn a diploma.

The Board approved additional provisions to also allow students who are unable to participate in June 2022 Regents Exams due to illness, isolation, or other restrictions associated with COVID, to utilize the Special Determination Appeal Process to graduate with a local diploma.

The emergency rule allows students who were enrolled in a course during the 2021-2022 school year leading to a June 2022 Regents Examination, to request a special determination from the school district superintendent to graduate with a local diploma if they have met the state's learning standards for graduation through local measures and earned credit in all courses of study required for graduation. The student must have either participated in the related June 2022 Regents Examinations or demonstrate that they were unable to participate due to documented illness, including isolation or other restrictions attributable to COVID – 19.

The amendment was approved as an emergency rule. It is anticipated that the new provisions will be presented for formal adoption at the October 2022 Board of Regents meeting.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/622p12a9.pdf>

- In an effort to provide districts more time to plan for and offer more computer science courses, the Board discussed a proposed amendment which would extend the implementation timeline for the Computer Science Statement of Continued Eligibility (SOCE) to September 1, 2024. Additionally, the time period during which teachers must have been teaching computer science courses to be eligible for the SOCE was increased to seven years.

It is anticipated the proposed extension will be presented for adoption at the October 2022 Board meeting.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/622hed1.pdf>

- The Board adopted proposed amendments relating to the implementation of the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSELs). The Board approved three changes to the existing provisions which include:
  1. Extending the date by which School Building Leader preparation programs must be aligned with the PSELs to September 2023.
  2. Extending the implementation of the PSELs for use in the administrator APPR process until the 2025-2026 school year.
  3. Extending the safety net for the School Building Leader Assessment to August 31, 2025.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/622hea1revised.pdf>

- The Board discussed revisions to the recently proposed amendments which would establish the Literacy (All Grades) certificate. Based on the stakeholder feedback that has been received from representatives of both higher education and P-12, revisions are being proposed to:
  4. Allow candidates to apply for the proposed certificate through the individual education pathway.
  5. Extend the timeline for when the current Birth – Grade 6 and Grade 5 – 12 certificates will no longer be issued.
  6. Revise the timeline for when higher education programs leading to the current certificates will no longer be registered.
  7. Revise literacy related pedagogical core requirements for Birth – Grade 2 Special Education certification programs.
  8. Rename the term “remedial reading” to the “literacy and reading” tenure area.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/622hep12d1.pdf>

