

Summary of November 2025 Board of Regents Meeting

The Board of Regents conducted their monthly meeting on Monday, November 3, and Tuesday, November 4. Chancellor Lester Young opened the meeting by commending the educators and citizens of New York for their continued determination with ensuring that education remains a cornerstone of our democracy in these difficult times.

Earlier this year, the federal government abruptly cancelled the National Blue Ribbon School program. Prior to the cancellation, nineteen New York schools had been nominated for this prestigious recognition but never were formally acknowledged due to the cancellation. Assistant Commissioner David Frank commended each school for being recognized and noted some of the key qualities that led to their nomination. You can view a list and brief description of the nineteen nominated schools in the link below.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/NYS%20Blue%20Ribbon%20Schools%20NomineesPt.%20II.pdf>

P-12 Related Topics Covered During the November 2025 Meeting and Summarized in This Report Include:

- **An overview of new guidance to support implementing Science of Reading instructional components into the teaching of literacy to English Language Learners (ELLs) and Multilingual Learners (MLs).**
 - **Discussion of a proposed amendment relating to changes in Professional Learning Plan requirements for teacher and administrator evaluations.**
 - **Update on the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Legislative Priorities and Budget Proposal.**
 - **Proposed Amendment relating to new regulations requiring that students receive instruction in Financial Literacy and Climate Change.**
 - **Introduction of the newly updated Students With Disabilities Parent Guide.**
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- **Introducing Science of Reading Components Into Literacy Instruction for Linguistically Diverse Learners**

Deputy Commissioner Angelique Johnson-Dingle introduced a presentation on a NYSED initiative focused on integrating **Science of Reading** components into literacy instruction for English Language Learners (ELL) and multilingual learners (MLLs).

Dr. Soccoro Herrera, a professor from Kansas State University who assisted NYSED with the project, presented an overview of the work that has been done thus far. Dr. Herrera

reviewed the project recommendations in the form of six topic briefs. Each brief highlights evidence-based practices, based on Science of Reading strategies, that the workgroup feels will improve literacy skill acquisition in linguistically diverse students.

The themes for the six topic briefs include:

1. Expanding the Scope of Reading to Include Multilingual Learners
2. Teaching Reading in Multilingual Classrooms: Moving Beyond a Deficit Model
3. Literacy Development of Emergent Multilingual Learners in the Early Childhood Classroom
4. The Science of Reading in Dual Language Immersion Classrooms
5. The Science of Reading in Multilingual K-12 Classrooms
6. What Every Instructional Leader Needs to Know: Recommendations for Advancing Multiliteracy

Below you will find the link to the slides that were referenced during the presentation. It was noted that more detailed guidance on implementation of each recommendation will be made available to the field in the near future.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/FB%20Monday%20-%20Literacy%20Support%20Briefs%20for%20Linguistically%20Diverse%20Learners.pdf>

- **Proposed Amendment Relating to Professional Learning Plans**

The Board discussed a proposed amendment relating to the new teacher and administrator evaluation requirements that were adopted in March 2025. Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Teacher and Leader Development, Alex Trikalinos, reviewed the proposed regulation which would require evaluators to include specific qualitative and quantitative evidence collected throughout the process in the evaluation document. It is anticipated that this will better clarify and guide professional growth goals for the individual being evaluated.

It is anticipated that the amendment will be presented for formal adoption at the March 2026 Board of Regents meeting after the expiration of the 60-day public comment period.

The link below includes the specific wording of the proposed amendment.
<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/1125hed1revised.pdf>

- **Update on 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Legislative Priority and Budget Proposal**

Members of the state aid subcommittee presented updated recommendations for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget Proposal.

The updated recommendations were broken down by the various NYSED education committees making the requests. It was emphasized that the Portrait of a Graduate continues to be the overarching theme guiding all budget requests.

The committees and categories represented in the most recent update of budget requests include:

1. P20 Education
2. ACCES (Adult Career and Continuing Education Services)
3. Cultural Education
4. Higher Education
5. Miscellaneous Agency/Department Requests
6. School Aid to Districts including Foundation Aid and Expense Based Aid
7. Capital Improvement Requests that relate primarily to new buildings or building improvements/renovations

The finalized budget request will be presented for Board adoption at the December Board of Regents meeting.

The link below provides access to a detailed breakdown of the requests for each area listed above.

https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/SA%20-%202026-2027%20Regents%20Budget%20and%20Legislative%20Priorities_0.pdf

- **Proposed Amendment Relating to Required Coursework in the Areas of Financial Literacy and Climate Change**

Based on the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures, the Board discussed an amendment that would advance a plan for implementing newly required K – 12 coursework in the areas of Climate Change and Personal Financial Literacy.

Under the proposed amendment, Personal Financial Literacy and Climate Change instruction will be required at the elementary, middle and high school levels. The timeline requirements for implementing both courses at each school level were reviewed with initial implementation of Financial Literacy beginning in the 2026-2027 school year. Climate Change instruction is scheduled to begin in 2027-28.

Instructional requirements can be met either by embedding curriculum in currently existing courses. or by offering a stand-alone course. Districts will be required to submit proposed course curriculum plans for approval through the NYSED Monitoring and Vendor Performance System in the NYSED Business Portal. Guidelines, resources, and a list of dedicated websites are currently being organized and should be available to schools in the near future to assist with developing the curriculum plans. The link below includes the slides referenced during the presentation and provides more specific information on the implementation timeline.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/P12%20-%20Proposed%20Instructional%20Requirement%20Climate%20Education%20Personal%20Finance%20Education.pdf>

- **Review of the Updated NYSED Parent Guide to Special Education.**

On Tuesday morning, staff members from the Office of Special Education introduced the newly updated **NYSED Parent Guide to Special Education**. Key changes in the updated document (see link below) were highlighted and the presenters emphasized that the changes will make it much easier for parents to navigate the special education process. It was also noted that the document will be translated into the 12 most common languages spoken in New York State.

The first link below includes the slides referenced during the presentation which highlight key components of the revised document. The second link provides access to the actual updated Parent Guide. It is also available for download on the NYSED Office of Special Education website.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/SE-ACCES%20-%20Parent%E2%80%99s%20Guide%20to%20Special%20Education.pdf>

Link to the new **Parent Guide to Special Education**

<https://www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/special-education/special-education-parent-guide-2025.pdf>

