

New York State



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March Board of Regents Information

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For a complete listing of the reports and materials for the March Board of Regents meeting, go to: <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/March2009/0309monthmat-new.html#bor>

For the Commissioner's Report to the Board of Regents, go to: <http://oms32.nysed.gov/comm/2009/0309commrep.htm>

EMSC Committee:

For further details and information on all of the below items, go to:

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/March2009/0309emscommrep.htm>

Coaching Requirements and Extension of Eligibility for Interscholastic Athletics – Regulations relating to the requirements for elementary physical education for schools that have grades 5 and 6 in the middle school; clarification of the appointment of coaches to include paid and non-paid coaches; extension of time to complete the required courses from 5 to 7 years; authority to extend time to complete the coaching course requirements for individuals who have had a lapse in service due to extenuating circumstances; and student athletic eligibility. These regulations will be brought back to the Regents for approval at their May meeting.

Grades 3-8 Testing Policy Overview – Discussion centered around the extensive feedback collected (more than 22,500 responses). Next steps will be to share the survey results with the field as well as glean additional feedback.

Differentiated Accountability Model and Connections to Streamlined Regulatory Structure – Efforts are underway to streamline the Department's regulatory process:

- An internal examination of data collection to identify opportunities to eliminate duplication.

- An inventory of all plans required from school districts by statute or regulation – work with the Legislature to eliminate unnecessary reports required by statute and amend regulation to eliminate those required by regulation.
- Creation of a one-stop clearinghouse for superintendents and other school leaders for all requirements.
- The new Differentiated Accountability system which will be an important part of New York’s streamlined accountability system. Under this new accountability system the Department will be able to:
 - Reduce the current number of school accountability categories from 19 to 8.
 - Allow for differentiation in the improvement process – no more one size fits all.
 - Free-up staff resources to provide assistance to schools
 - Strengthen the capacity of districts to assist schools.
 - Empower parents by increasing combined participation in Public School Choice (PSC) and Supplemental Educational Services (SES) by offering SES in the first year of a school’s identification for improvement and school choice only after an identified school has failed to make AYP.
 - Maximize SED’s limited resources.

VESID:

For further details and information on all of the below items, go to:

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/March2009/0309vesidcommrep.htm>

The **proposed amendment** of sections 200.4 and 200.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to the use of the State’s forms for individualized education programs (IEPs), meeting notices and prior written notices (notices of recommendation) was adopted to be effective April 9, 2009 and a third emergency adoption which was necessary to ensure that the January 2009 emergency rule remains continuously in effect until the effective date of its adoption as a permanent rule.

The following was discussed - the Minimum Level of Service Requirements for Speech and Language as a related service and the Statute of Limitations for requesting Due Process Hearings. A request for public comment will be put out on the website with regards to the speech/language services and to reducing to 180 days the statute of limitations for requesting Due Process Hearings for parents seeking tuition reimbursement.

The substantive proposed amendments to conform to federal regulations and NYS statute would: add the definition of declassification support services consistent with the definition of such term in section 3202(i)(2) of the Education law; conform State regulations to federal requirements relating to participation in regular class, parent consent, including revocation of parent consent for special education and related services, and meeting notice; repeal language in the prior notice requirements relating to provision of a free appropriate public education after graduation with the receipt of a local high school or Regents diploma to be consistent with Education Law; and conform State regulations to Chapter 323 of the NYS Laws of 2008 relating

to procedures for prevention of abuse, maltreatment or neglect of students in residential placements.

Higher Education:

For further details and information, go to:

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2009Meetings/March2009/0309hecommrep.htm>

Teacher Tenure regulations were discussed, as well as the structure and content of Programs and Certificates for Teachers of Students with Disabilities (SWD). The Committee discussed proposed recommendations for restructuring the certification of teachers of students with disabilities to address shortages, particularly in Grades 7-12. The recommendations are:

- Expand the SWD Early Childhood range to Birth to Grade 3.
- Expand the SWD Childhood range to include Pre-K and K.
- Recast the SWD Adolescence (7-12) credential to create a single SWD Adolescence Generalist certificate that includes a multidisciplinary core.
- Strengthen the requirement for collaboration.
- Strengthen requirements for understanding the needs of students with disabilities.
- Expand movement between students with disabilities certification and retain the current path for general educators to become certified special education teachers.
- Eliminate the SWD 5-9 certificate.