

## **November 2010 Board of Regents Information**

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To view who the current Board of Regent members are and to see who represents your area, go to: <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/members/>.

The Board of Regents has Webcasts available each month. If you cannot attend in person, you can participate via webcast. Simply click on the webcast. You can participate live or view archival webcasts of previous meetings. Go to: <http://usny.nysed.gov/webcasts.html>.

### **Webcast 11/15/10**

[http://pointers.audiovideoweb.com/stcasx/va91win1520/SED\\_11152010edit.wmv/play.asx](http://pointers.audiovideoweb.com/stcasx/va91win1520/SED_11152010edit.wmv/play.asx)

### **Webcast 11/16/10**

[http://pointers.audiovideoweb.com/stcasx/va91win1520/SED\\_11162010edit.wmv/play.asx](http://pointers.audiovideoweb.com/stcasx/va91win1520/SED_11162010edit.wmv/play.asx)

**For a complete listing of the reports and materials for the November Board of Regents Meeting, go to:**

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2010Meetings/November2010/1110monthmat.html>

**Race to the Top:** <http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/>

- There was some discussion of how the Regents strategic plan and goals align with the activities planned for RTTT.
- Dr. King described some of the concerns expressed by districts related to the Statements of Work paperwork and what SED is doing to help – training, webinars, etc.
- SED is pleased with the numbers of districts that are creating collaborative Network Teams.

### **NYSED Fiscal Report**

- There is still a shortfall for funding of the teacher tenure hearings
- There is still a shortfall in the budget for cultural education (museums, etc.)

### **2010-2011 Budget**

Many things were discussed in committee related to the next State budget. Final decisions on budget recommendations will be made in December. Little was discussed related to the Tax Cap proposals. Topics/ideas discussed included:

- Require districts to submit a three year financial plan in a format designated by the commissioner.
- Protect the foundation formula.
- Consider making districts pay for Regents exams if special funding cannot be obtained.
- Re-structure Pre-K to make funding more predictable.
- Mandate relief including changes for special education. *Note: PTA will need to carefully watch which ones. Mandates in this area exist for a reason.*

- School Reorganization – The Regents may propose a commission to study the issue. The kinds of organization discussed were those of Florida, Virginia and Maryland county systems as models.
- Expense based aids. Expense based aids (BOCES, Transportation, Building and Special Ed) add about \$300 million in new aid each year. There are moves to reduce these aids or shift dollars to the foundation formula.
- Do more through BOCES shared services such as shared business officials, payroll and accounting.
- Explore statewide health insurance as a cost savings measure.

#### **Other**

- SED is applying for several grants related to increasing broadband access in the state's libraries.
- Recommended replacing independent hearing officers with SED administrative law judges to conduct 3020-a hearings.

#### ***Education Chairman's note:***

*This is going to be a very tough budget year. It is a good time for advocacy at your local school district level. Find out what your district is doing as special aid from the federal government goes away and as State dollars shrink. Attend school board and budget development meetings. Get involved with the discussion of local issues and priorities for your district's children.*