

January 2011 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 01/10/11

http://pointers.audiovideoweb.com/stcasx/va91win1520/SED_01102011.wmv/play.aspx

Webcast 01/11/11

http://pointers.audiovideoweb.com/stcasx/va91win1520/SED_01112011edit.wmv/play.aspx%20

For a complete listing of the reports and materials for the January Board of Regents Meeting, go to: <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2011Meetings/January2011/111monthmat.html>

Race to the Top (RTTT): <http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/>

- Commissioner Steiner and Dr. King continued to stress that the focus must be on the four main themes listed in NY's RTTT application: improving standards, great teachers and leaders, data systems, and turning around the lowest performing schools.
- The Board approved the NYS P-12 **Common Core Learning Standards** for English Language Arts (ELA) and Literacy; the NYS P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for Mathematics; and the NYS Pre-K Learning Standards. The Board also discussed next steps, including the building of curriculum models and aligning those models with teacher preparation. For more information, see: [Common Core State Standards Initiative website](#).
- **Addition of staff funded through RTTT dollars.** The Commissioner and Mark Leinung reported on the filling of 29 positions funded with Race to the Top dollars. More than half of these positions are being filled with current SED staffers. They were pressed on what happens to the jobs these people currently have, what they will do and what happens two years from now when the money runs out. The answers were vague in this area.
- **PARCC and National Assessments vs. State Assessments.** Commissioner Steiner is working with a multi-state consortium (PARCC) to develop new assessments to measure progress on National Curriculum Standards. The Commissioner described efforts to develop tests that provided formative assessment and interim assessment information. The Commissioner indicated that products would be available by summer 2011.
- **Data systems.** The target date to have a statewide database of individual student progress information is October 2012. A lengthy conversation ensued about how to get this work done and whether it should be done in-house or outsourced. SED will report on progress in February.

- The Board adopted the NYS Teaching Standards, Elements and Performance Indicators that were developed by a Work Group of 43 individuals representing 22 stakeholder groups, and that reflect review and input from the field. The Board approved the companion Glossary and Q&A documents as integral to the NYS Teaching Standards document. For more information, go to: [Regents item on Teaching Standards](#).

Note: Thanks go to Rick Longhurst and Vito Borelli for their hard work representing NYS PTA on this panel.

- The Board received an update on the work of the Regents Task Force on Teacher and Principal Effectiveness. Staff provided an overview of the new law and presented research on policy options related to the 60 percent non-growth measures for teachers and principals. Work groups will report their initial conclusions to the full Task Force this month; the Task Force will then make recommendations to the Regents in April. See the [presentation by the Regents Task Force on Teacher and Principal Effectiveness](#) for more information.

In observing the Regents meetings, there seems to be a disconnect between the Regents' agenda/priorities and the fiscal realities being dealt with by the Legislature and the Governor. Please continue to advocate for what is best for all students in NYS at your local school district Board of Education meetings and to your legislators.