



January 16, 2018

To: Members of the Principal Project Advisory Team for Phase 2

From: MaryEllen Elia, Commissioner of Education

John L. D'Agati, Deputy Commissioner
Office of Higher Education

Subject: January 17, 2018 Meeting

Thank you again for accepting our invitation to serve on the Principal Project Advisory Team for Phase 2. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 in the Lashway Conference Center on the second floor of the New York State School Boards Association, 24 Century Hill Drive in Latham, NY.

This memorandum sets the stage for the discussions you will have over the next three months. We look forward to the recommendations that we have asked you and your colleagues on the Advisory Team to produce. We are asking you and your colleagues on the Advisory Team to undertake five tasks:

- Establish a P-20 partnership framework that better defines the relationship between university-based preparation programs and districts that host internships for aspiring leaders.
- Modernize regulations guiding university-based principal preparation programs (taking into account the forthcoming National Educational Leadership Preparation Standards).
- Propose a way to issue micro-credentials in partial fulfillment of School Building Leader requirements.
- Develop standards for principal supervisors and Superintendents (aligned to the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders).
- Recommend whether competency-based assessment should replace the current School Building Leader examination.

This work matters because it builds on two beliefs. Every student in New York State should have great teachers and a great principal. We can enhance student success by improving the quality of school building leadership.

As one of the Advisory Team members, you will bring your view of leadership to the deliberations. For a consensus to emerge, the Team will have to consider a wide range of viewpoints. We are convinced that the diversity of views within the Team will strengthen and enhance the recommendations that emerge.

While we can point with pride to current principal preparation programs in New York State, at the same time our confidence in the quality of existing programs is exceeded by a commitment to continuous improvement. Like you, we share an interest in doing all we can to support the efforts of university and district staff to prepare future building leaders. Regardless of the organizations we represent or the roles we hold in those organizations, we are drawn together by the same overarching and collective goal - to staff our schools with individuals who can unify and mobilize staff and community in a way that equips every young person in our State for success in college and career.

Please accept our thank you for your commitment to this important work.