



Fact Sheet - Review of Graduation Measures in New York State

New York State Board of Regents

Winter 2022 Regional Meetings

In July 2019, then-Chancellor Betty A. Rosa and the Board of Regents announced they will create a Blue Ribbon Commission to review the State's high school graduation measures and explore what it means to obtain a diploma in New York State.

The Commission will examine what a State diploma should signify to ensure educational excellence and equity for every student in New York State. The Commission will consider whether adding other measures of learning and achievement could better serve New York's diverse student population as indicators of what they know and if they are ready for college, careers, and civic engagement.

Regional Meetings Help Inform the Work of the Blue Ribbon Commission

To help inform that work of the Blue Ribbon Commission, the Board of Regents and the State Education Department are gathering input from many partners, including parents, educators, administrators, school support staff, representatives of higher education, the business community, and the general public. To gather this feedback, regional meetings are being held across the state. While many meetings were held during Winter 2020, these regional meetings will resume in December 2021.

At each regional meeting, attendees will have the opportunity to break into smaller groups to discuss and provide feedback to the Department on five guiding questions:

1. What do we want all students to know and to be able to do before they graduate?
2. How do we want all students to demonstrate such knowledge and skills, while capitalizing on their cultures, languages, and experiences?
3. How do you measure learning and achievement (as it pertains to the answers to #2 above) to ensure they are indicators of high school completion while enabling opportunities for all students to succeed?
4. How can measures of achievement accurately reflect the skills and knowledge of our special populations, such as students with disabilities and English language learners?
5. What course requirements or examinations will ensure that all students are prepared for college, careers, and civic engagement?

"We must provide every child with educational opportunities that allow them to develop and sustain the knowledge, skills and dispositions they'll need to thrive in furthering their education, finding a fulfilling career and being an engaged member of their communities. The Board and I are committed to ensuring that excellence is possible for every New York State student. A 'one size fits all' approach to education doesn't work for many of our students and we must transform the system to provide equitable avenues to success for all students." - Chancellor Lester W. Young, Jr.



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New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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Draft Timeline for the Review of Graduation Measures in NYS

Phase I: Information Gathering & Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• November 2019 – March 2020:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Literature review of research and practices in other states.○ Regional meetings held beginning Jan. – Mar. 2020 to gather feedback from across the state.• March 2020: All workshops canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic.• Fall 2021 – Spring 2022: Workshops held in virtual format.• Spring / Summer 2022: Compile Regional Meeting feedback.• Fall 2022:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Present regional meeting and literature review findings to the Board.○ Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) and draft meeting schedule.
Phase II: Blue Ribbon Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fall 2022 – Winter 2023:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Commission's first meeting – the BRC convenes and defines its scope of work.○ Blue Ribbon Commission second meeting to identify priority areas and a framework for moving forward. Establish sub-groups for priority areas.• Winter 2023 – Spring 2023: Sub-groups meet.• Spring 2023 – Summer 2023: Sub-groups develop proposed recommendations.• Fall 2023 – Winter 2024: Sub-groups advance recommendations to the BRC.• Winter 2024 – Spring 2024: The BRC finalizes recommendations and a report is prepared.
Phase III: Regents Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spring / Summer 2024: The Blue Ribbon Commission's final report is presented to the Board of Regents for consideration.

"Let me be clear: this effort is not simply about changing our graduation standards. It's about providing different avenues – equally rigorous – for kids to demonstrate that they are ready to graduate, with a meaningful diploma. It's about ensuring that what students are learning is relevant to them and useful to society. It's about creating school communities and establishing relationships, where educators, parents and students all work together to improve teaching and learning."

- Commissioner Betty A. Rosa

Stay Informed

To allow for a transparent and meaningful information gathering process, NYSED has created a Graduation Measures website which will feature updates throughout the process. From the site, you can submit public comments via email and subscribe to receive email updates.

- **Website:** nysed.gov/grad-measures
- **Public Comment email:** GradMeasures@nysed.gov
- **Hashtag:** #NYSGradMeasures on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

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