



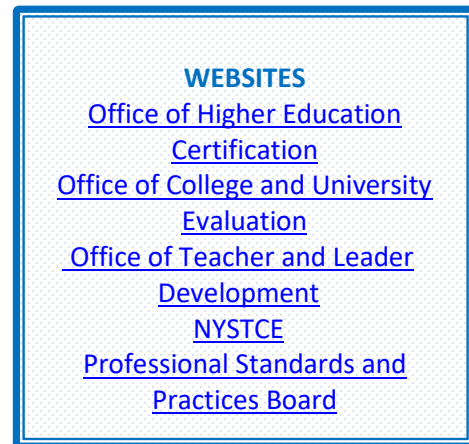
NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION EDUCATOR PREPARATION NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023

The Office of Higher Education (OHE) newsletter describes the current and upcoming activities related to higher education, with a particular focus on the preparation of educators. This newsletter, past newsletters, and a subscription link are available online on the [OHE website](#).

BOARD OF REGENTS DECEMBER ITEMS

Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching (PSPB) Update. Kathleen Ferguson and Virginia Goatley, co-chairs of the PSPB, along with Bill Murphy, Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education, and Alex Trikalinos, Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Teacher and Leader Development, provided an [overview of the PSPB](#), including the board's roles and responsibilities and the work undertaken during 2023. Over the past year, the PSPB advised the Commissioner and the Board of Regents on a variety of topics across the [Sustaining Educator Pipeline](#), including teacher leader development, professional learning plan guidance, the development of mentoring standards and mentoring program guidance; changes in teacher certification, changes to student teaching; Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA) requirements, and teacher certification requirements. For more information about PSPB, including the scope of work, current members, and how to become a member, visit the PSPB website (linked above).



Update on the NYS P-12 Science Learning Standards and Assessments. The team of Angelique Johnson-Dingle, Deputy Commissioner for P-12 Instructional Support; Jason Harmon, Deputy Commissioner for P-12 Operational Support; Santosha Oliver, Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Standards and Instruction; and Zachary Warner, Assistant Commissioner for the Office of State Assessment; along with special presenter, Benjamin Link, Instructional Support Teacher at Greater Southern Tier BOCES provided an update on the implementation of the [New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards](#). The presentation highlighted shifts in science instruction and assessment for the elementary and intermediate grades. The standards now reflect a more modern and comprehensive approach to science, focusing on core content, crosscutting concepts, and science and engineering practices. Institutions offering registered programs leading to Initial certification that accept science as meeting the content core requirement would benefit from reviewing the programs' pedagogical core to ensure that candidates are exposed to the [updated standards](#), particularly the science and engineering practices that P-12 students need to engage in and learn.

NYSED PERSONNEL CHANGES

The Board of Regents appointed Dr. Jeffrey A. Matteson as the new Senior Deputy Commissioner for Education Policy. He replaces Dr. Jim Baldwin, who will serve as Commissioner Rosa's Chief Policy Advisor. In his new position, Dr. Baldwin will focus on education policy issues such as college access in high school and teacher certification reform, and he will support the work of the Board's P-20 Workgroup as it seeks to create a seamless educational experience for New Yorkers.

Before joining the Department's executive staff, Dr. Matteson led the Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES as the District Superintendent for nearly a decade and served as the chair of the BOCES District Superintendents where he played a pivotal role in leading the state's response to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Matteson has also contributed to many New York State Education Department initiatives as a member of several state workgroups, offering expertise on graduation measures, computer science education, work-based learning, and ESSA implementation.

Dr. Matteson began his career as a social studies teacher. He moved on to serve as an assistant principal and then a principal at the middle and high school levels before becoming a school district superintendent. He has also taught at the college level and served as a doctoral thesis advisor. Dr. Matteson holds a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership from Regent University in Virginia, an M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Castleton State College in Vermont, a B.A. in Social Studies from SUNY Cortland, and A. A. in Liberal Arts from SUNY Morrisville.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR THE NEW SCHOOL COUNSELOR CONTENT SPECIALTY TEST (CST)

Candidates are now able to register for the [new School Counselor CST](#), for testing starting February 26, 2024. To assist candidates and teacher preparation programs in preparing for the test, the test framework, content correlation table, and study guide are all available on the [NYSTCE website](#). As a reminder, candidates who apply and pay the fee for the Initial School Counselor certificate by February 26, 2024 and complete all requirements for the certificate other than the CST prior to such date are not required to take and pass the School Counselor CST. Additionally, candidates who seek Professional School Counselor certification through a "Certificate Progression" pathway do not need to pass the School Counselor CST, including those who did not take and pass the School Counselor CST for Initial School Counselor certification. These and other guidelines for when candidates must pass the School Counselor CST are outlined on the [School Counselor CST Requirement Guidelines website](#).

STATEWIDE LITERACY CONFERENCE

The New York State Education Department (NYSED), in collaboration with the BOCES and Big 5 school districts, will be hosting a statewide literacy conference on January 10, 2024, from 9:00-3:00 at a designated BOCES or Big 5 site. This event, which will be a hybrid webinar with in-person discussion, will provide New York State administrators and literacy leaders with an opportunity to strengthen knowledge of evidence-based literacy practices in PK-12 education. Individuals must attend in-person and register through the local BOCES or Big 5.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Nonie K. Lesaux who is the Roy Edward Larsen Professor of Education and Human Development at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. NYSED will also release a new series of literacy briefs that focus on the science of reading at the event. The agenda will include an overview of

the science of reading and each of the seven literacy briefs, with time to reflect and discuss with colleagues. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the briefs with Dr. Lesaux and the NYSED team. Any registration questions can be sent to Amalia Schiff at Amalia.Schiff@nysed.gov.

REQUEST FOR BIDS: MODEL PARTNERSHIP FOR ELEMENTARY MATHEMATICS

The University of the State of New York – Regents Research Fund (USNYRRF), in partnership with the New York State Education Department (NYSED), is seeking requests for bids (RFB) from institutions of higher education (IHE) to create a model partnership with a school district and/or BOCES that supports an elementary school or network of elementary schools in teaching effective, evidence-based practices in mathematics. The grant provides funding for one IHE that has a registered childhood education (grades 1-6) program to engage in several activities in the model partnership, including:

- **High-Quality Instructional Materials.** The IHE and school district/BOCES would collaboratively identify and review high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) for teaching math in the elementary grades that reflect effective, evidence-based practices.
- **Professional Development.** The IHE would conduct professional development for the elementary teachers in the school(s) on implementing effective, evidence-based practices for teaching math and HQIM with fidelity and rigor. The school district/BOCES would receive funds to provide elementary teachers with the time and support to participate in professional development related to the HQIM.
- **Clinical Experiences.** One or more IHE faculty would work with university supervisors, cooperating teachers, and candidates (triads) in clinical experiences (e.g., student teaching, residency) on implementing effective, evidence-based practices for teaching math in the elementary grades and HQIM with fidelity and rigor. Cooperating teachers would receive substantial stipends for working closely with the candidates on developing and implementing instructional plans based on HQIM and in the communities of practice.

Information about the RFB and grant application is [available online](#). Questions related to this RFB should be submitted to USNYRRF@nysed.gov by close of business (COB) Friday, January 19, 2024 and include “Request for Bid Model Partnership” in the subject line. **All applications must be received by Monday, February 16, 2024.**

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