



WHAT THE JUNE 2026 BOARD OF REGENTS UPDATE MEANS

As you may see in news coverage, the New York State Education Department presented an update on the next phase of NY Inspires at this week's June meeting of the Board of Regents. The ideas presented represent a significant shift from current structures and mark the beginning—not the conclusion—of the next phase of design, discussion, and ongoing communication. We want to ensure that you hear this information directly from us as we begin this new phase of working with educators, students, families, school leaders, and communities to co-design the details, identify implementation needs, and shape the path forward together.

LEARNING

not time

READINESS

not compliance

EVIDENCE

not one measure alone

WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

NYSED is presenting a direction for gradually moving New York's P-20 system toward a student-centered, competency-based graduation framework aligned with the New York State Portrait of a Graduate.

- Clearly defined statewide competencies grounded in prioritized New York State learning standards.
- Multiple rigorous ways for students to demonstrate learning and readiness through evidence developed over time.
- More connected, interdisciplinary, culturally responsive, career-connected, and real-world learning experiences.
- Common expectations, rubrics, quality safeguards, and a richer statewide transcript or learning profile.
- Moving from a credit-based, assessment-focused system to a holistic, outcomes-driven system grounded in standards and competencies.

WHAT THIS MEANS RIGHT NOW

- This is a plan and the beginning of the next phase of design - not a final regulatory proposal.
- Current graduation requirements, credits, assessments, and school obligations remain in effect for the time being.
- No immediate changes are being made to what students must complete to graduate.
- Any future changes will be phased, publicly discussed, and brought to the Board of Regents for consideration.
- NYSED will renew and deepen its co-design work with stakeholders and partners, particularly teachers, school leaders, students, and families, to shape the details of this next phase, identify implementation needs, and develop a responsible path forward.
- Look for opportunities throughout the summer and into the fall to provide feedback and participate in this ongoing work.

SCOPE OF THE WORK

This is a P-20 transformation. Higher education will be an essential partner in understanding richer evidence of student readiness and supporting teacher preparation. The Department will also be working with BOCES, in partnership with the Big-5 city school districts, to provide ongoing support and professional learning opportunities.

WHAT IS COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION?

It is a system in which students advance toward graduation by demonstrating the knowledge, skills, and attributes expected for readiness - rather than relying on time in a course or the accumulation of credits.

It does not remove standards or lower expectations. It changes how students demonstrate that they have met clear, rigorous expectations.

WHY THIS MATTERS

New Yorkers have asked for a system that better prepares every student for college, careers, civic life, and life beyond school. A competency-based approach can make learning more meaningful while giving students multiple rigorous ways to demonstrate readiness.

All means all. Universal design, access, accommodations, supports, and statewide guardrails must be built in from the beginning so that students with disabilities, multilingual learners, and students in rural, urban, and suburban communities can meet high expectations.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

In the coming weeks and months, NYSED will work with the Board of Regents and co-design with educators, students, families, superintendents, big-5 city school districts, BOCES, school boards, higher education, workforce, and community partners, and civil rights and disability advocates.

This engagement will help shape draft competencies, rubrics, prioritized standards, a future transcript, implementation supports, and a responsible phased timeline. Look for opportunities to provide feedback and be part of the conversation throughout the summer and into the fall.

WHAT WAS PRESENTED IS A PLAN - BUILT WITH NEW YORK. NOT HANDED DOWN FROM ALBANY.

The destination is clear: a more meaningful, rigorous, student-centered system. The details will be shaped together.