



## **EMPIRE STATE SUPERVISORS AND ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION**

Supporting school leaders, every day.

### **Summary of January 2023 Board of Regents Meeting**

The Board of Regents conducted their monthly meeting on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup>. Chancellor Luis Reyes opened the meeting with some reflective thoughts commemorating the life of NYC educator Norm Fruchter, who passed away in December. Fruchter is remembered as a staunch supporter of social justice and a key figure in organizing education equity movements in NYC schools.

Chancellor Lester Young recognized **Regent Ruth Turner** (Rochester) who will be leaving her position on the Board of Regents. Regent Turner has accepted an appointment to the position of Deputy Superintendent of Rochester City Schools

- The Board received a progress update on the implementation of the **Multi-Tiered System of Supports – Integrated (MTSS-I)** Pilot. Twenty-nine districts across the state, with support from NYSED and the University at Albany MTSS-I Center, are participating in the pilot that is exploring how the targeted intervention program can be used to better support students.

NYSED and MTSS-I Center staff members, along with representatives from participating districts, reviewed components of the data-driven decision-making framework which provides targeted support for both academic instruction social emotional learning. Staff members from participating districts also shared some of their experiences with implementing the program. It is hoped that the lessons learned from the pilot will assist with establishing a framework for expanded use across the state in the future.

The link below provides more detailed information regarding what was presented.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/FB%20Monday%20-%20Multi-Tiered%20System%20of%20Supports%20E2%80%93%20Integrated%20%28MTSS-I%29%20Presentation.pdf>

- In December, the NYSED Safe Schools Task Force published the **Recommendations for Reducing Disparities in and Reforming School Discipline in New York State Report**. Members of the task force, along with participating researchers, reviewed disaggregated suspension data related to race, gender and economic disadvantaged youth. Based on the data collected, the task force concluded that exclusionary discipline, in the form of out of school suspensions, has long term negative effects on students of color and those with special needs.

Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Student Support Services, Kathleen DeCataldo, presented the **Safe Schools Task Force Recommendations** for ongoing systemic reform which include:

1. Cross agency collaboration between legislators, school leaders and families
2. Restricting the use of exclusionary discipline with youngest students and limiting the length of suspensions
3. Shifting school policies and practices from a punitive structure to more supportive, preventative and proactive alternatives.
4. Improved data collection to effectively measure the impact of positive interventions.
5. Increased emphasis on staff training in effective positive interventions.

The two links below provide more a detailed overview of the data that was presented.

This link includes the slides that were used in the presentation highlighting the disaggregated data that was reviewed.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/P-12%20-%20Recommendations%20for%20Reducing%20Disparities%20in%20and%20Reforming%20School%20Discipline%20in%20New%20York%20State%20-%20Report%20from%20the%20Safe%20Schools%20Task%20Force.pdf>

This link includes the full **Recommendations for Reducing Disparities in and Reforming School Discipline in New York State Report** document which was published in December.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/P-12%20-%20Recommendations%20for%20ATT%20-%20Recommendations%20for%20Reducing%20Disparities%20in%20and%20Reforming%20School%20Discipline%20in%20New%20York%20State.pdf>

- The Board was updated on the progress being made with the **Rethink Grant: Teaching in Remote/Hybrid Learning Environments (TRLE)**. NYSED staff reviewed the recent efforts to complete Phase 1 of the \$20 million federal grant which impacted over 94,000 educators through participation in professional learning opportunities statewide.

Phase 2 of the project was previewed and will focus on building the capacity of teachers and educational leaders to effectively implement remote/hybrid learning across multiple modalities and environments. Phase 2 will work to integrate lessons learned during the pandemic into everyday teaching and learning strategies. Phase 2 will be comprised of two main components:

1. Implementing the **TALE Academy** (Teaching Across Learning Environments) which will include professional development modules for teachers to assist them with acquiring needed skills and strategies.
2. Extensive facilitator training which will increase capacity for future professional development.

The link below will provide access to more detailed information on what was presented.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/P-12%20-%20Rethink%20Grant%20Update%20Teaching%20in%20RemoteHybrid%20Learning%20Environments%20TRLE%20Presentation.pdf>

A link to the TRLE Listserv is also available below.

<http://www.nysed.gov/trle>

- In an effort to address the ongoing shortage of educators, representatives from the Office of Higher Education discussed a proposal which would give NYSED greater flexibility with granting reciprocity to teachers, educational leaders, and Initial and Professional School Counselors, who are certified in other states and are seeking New York State certification.

After the 60-day public comment period it is anticipated that the proposed amendment will be presented for adoption at the May 2023 Board of Regents meeting.

The specific pathways for the different certification areas and the technical components of the proposed amendment can be found in the link below.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/123hed1revised.pdf>

- The Board adopted an emergency regulation to both reduce the backlog of current due process complaints in NYC and improve the processing of future referrals.

<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/123p12a1revised.pdf>