

Friday, January 13, 2012 – Fourth Edition

Governor Cuomo a “Lobbyist for the Students” and Additional Funding for SUNY Challenge Grants

Earlier this month, Governor Andrew Cuomo gave his annual [State of the State address](#) in which he highlighted reform in the state’s education system. Governor Cuomo stated “New York has to focus on the achievement in public education and not the business of public education.” He called for changes including a workable teacher and principal evaluation system and management efficiency in schools. The Governor also announced he will create and appoint a bipartisan education commission to work with the Legislature to promote performance and accountability. Later in his speech, he added his office will be partnering with SUNY to give the remaining 60 SUNY campuses, which were originally not eligible, the opportunity to compete for three \$20 million challenge grants as an extension of the NYSUNY 2020 Challenge Grant. Additionally, the Governor promised transforming the way New York delivers services to its most vulnerable citizens, and stated his intent to remove barriers to the food stamp program so that no child in New York goes hungry.

NYC Mayor Bloomberg’s Makes Education a Major Priority

In his [State of the City address](#), Mayor Michael Bloomberg laid out a several steps he believes will make NYC schools the most innovative in the world. These steps include recruiting and keeping great teachers in NYC by providing incentives for top-tier teaching graduates to teach in the area and giving raises to those teachers already employed who prove efficient. In relation to the teacher and principal evaluation system that has failed to come to action, he stated the City will form school-based committees to evaluate teachers on merit and replace up to 50 percent of the faculty for the 33 schools that lost funding earlier this year. The Mayor also wants to give parents even more school choice by opening more schools including charter schools. He wants to better prepare students for college and careers by opening more career and technical education schools and expand partnerships with hospitals, nonprofits and small businesses. Lastly the Mayor wants to help students who wish to attend college apply for federal loans, and the passage of the DREAM Act for increased access to loans for illegal immigrants.

Click [here](#) for SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher’s 2012 State of the University Address

EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES NEWS

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NYSED Suspends Funding for SIG Schools

After multiple warnings, NYSED Commissioner John King [suspended](#) School Improvement Grant (SIG) funding for all 10 SIG school districts in New York State. The Commissioner announced in late December that the federally funded SIG money was in jeopardy after schools were not meeting funding requirements. One of the requirements was reaching an agreement on the controversial teacher and principal evaluations and signed commitments that the districts and teacher and principal unions would revise collective bargaining agreements. These 10 districts- Schenectady, Yonkers, New York City, Greenburgh 11, Roosevelt, Poughkeepsie, Buffalo, Syracuse, Albany and Rochester- have 30 days to request a hearing on the decision.

**The Next Board of Regents Meeting
Will be Held on
February 13 & 14th, 2012**

NYSED Staffing Update

Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Higher Education Appointed

This week, the Board of Regents appointed [Dr. Stephanie Wood-Garnett](#) to the position of Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Higher Education alongside Commissioner John D'Agati. Dr. Wood-Garnett is experienced in the field of teacher preparation and teacher and principal leadership and was previously employed at the University of Washington as the Director of the Teacher and Principal Evaluation Project.

Webinar Series: Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

NYSED is hosting a series of introductory [webinars](#) through the end of February to discuss SLO's. Webinars will cover what SLOs are, the relationship between SLOs and the common core, and various roles SLO plays throughout the education system.

USDOE Releases Race to the Top Progress Reports

The USDOE drafted state specific reports for the 12 states completing their first year in Race to the Top. Each report follows the state's progress and challenges they faced. The USDOE reported that [New York](#) "faces an ongoing challenge of communicating and collaborating with its various stakeholders... and the complexity of reviewing and approving scopes of work, budgets, expenditures, and evaluation plans for participating LEA's presented a formidable task for NYSED." In a [press release](#), Regents Chancellor Merryl Tisch and Commissioner King stated, "In several important areas we've hit significant bumps in the road...it's disappointing but not discouraging... we have to get this done, and we will."

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NYSED Office of the Professions State Boards of the Profession

*The following Boards are scheduled to meet in
January:*

- [Medicine](#)– January 13
- [Public Accountancy](#)– January 18
- Podiatry– January 26

Tentative meeting dates for 2012:

- Podiatry– January 26, March 20,
November 3
- Physical Therapy– February 3, April 6,
October 12
- Architecture– February 8, May 23,
August 15, November 14
- Social Work– February 9, March 3,
October 25
- Mental Health Practitioners– February 10,
May 4, October 19
- Landscape Architecture– April 18, August 22,
December 5

NYS Executive Budget & Budget Hearing Schedule

Governor Andrew Cuomo will be presenting his 2012-13 Executive Budget on January 17, 2012 at 2:00 pm in the Hart Theatre, Egg Center for Performing Arts in Albany. The Assembly and the Senate have released their [Joint Legislative Hearing Schedule](#) to provide the appropriate legislative committees with public input on the executive budget proposal. The following hearings may be of interest:

- Elementary and Secondary Education: Monday, January 23rd at 10:00 AM
- Higher Education: Wednesday, February 1st at 9:30 AM
- Human Services: Monday, February 13th at 9:30 AM

All budget hearings will be held in Hearing Room B of the Legislative Office Building in Albany, NY.

Public Hearing Calendar

Senate Investigations & Government Operations

Friday- January 20, 2012 at 1:00 PM, 250 Broadway, 19th Floor, New York City

To examine executive compensation at not-for-profit organizations receiving state funding and the actions needed to prevent State tax dollars from being wasted on executive salaries.

Senate Standing Committee on Higher Education

Tuesday- January 24, 2012 at 12:00 PM, Hearing Room A, LOB Albany

A follow-up to the October public hearing that examined procedures pertaining to the security of the SAT and standardized tests in response to the ongoing criminal investigation that uncovered a wide-ranging cheating scandal.

Assembly Standing Committee on Social Services

Wednesday- January 25, 2012 at 10:30 AM, Hearing Room C, LOB Albany

To examine the implementation and effectiveness of the Solutions to End Homelessness Program (STEHP) and the New York State Supportive Housing Program (NYSSHP), and explore best practices among homeless services.

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NEW YORK STATE REGISTER

EDUCATION

Proposed Regulations/45 Day Comment Period

- Preschool and School-Age Individual Evaluations *SED* [January 4, 2012](#)
- Due Process Procedures for Criminal History Record Checks of Prospective School Employees and Applicants for Certification *SED* [January 11, 2012](#)
- Waiver Requirements for Special Education Schools and Early Intervention Agencies *SED* [January 11, 2012](#)

Notice of Adoption

- Collaborative Drug Therapy Management *SED* [January 4, 2012](#)
- Regents Diploma With Advanced Designation *SED* [January 4, 2012](#)
- Random Selection Process for Charter School Student Admissions *SED* [January 4, 2012](#)
- Participation in the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) *HESC* [January 4, 2012](#)

HUMAN SERVICES

Proposed Regulations/45 Day Comment Period

- Behavior Management - Modifying or Controlling Maladaptive or Inappropriate Behavior *OPWDD* [December 28, 2011](#)
- Visitation and Inspection of Facilities *OMH* [January 4, 2012](#)

Notice of Adoption

- Provider Allocation of OPWDD Funding *OPWDD* [December 28, 2011](#)
- Multi-Year Contracts *OCFS* [January 4, 2012](#)
- Designation of Two County Officials to be Emergency Contacts When a Youth is Remanded to an Out-of-County Detention Facility *OCFS* [January 4, 2012](#)

Emergency Rule Making

- IRA and Community Residence Reimbursement Methodology *OPWDD* [January 4, 2012](#)

NYS Senate Passes a Resolution Creating a Committee on Libraries

On Tuesday, the NYS Senate passed a [resolution](#) creating a Senate Committee on Libraries. According to the resolution, some of their duties will include “conducting meetings, conferences, and public hearings to gather information and make legislative proposals and recommendations.” The committee will consist of 19 members appointed by the Temporary President of the Senate.

NYSED Press Release: [NYSED Announces Auditions for the NYS Summer School of the Arts](#)

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NYSED is seeking proposals from bidders to [host the Race to the Top Network Team Institute \(NTI\)](#) for the school year 2011-12. Eligible hotels must be located in the counties of Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga or Rensselaer and have a general session room that can accommodate 400 estimated participants. *Due February 3, 2012*

2012 [Leadership Development for Principals to Create High Quality Programs for Emergent Bilingual Students](#). Eligible applications include certain public school districts on Long Island, Westchester, and NYC with schools in need of improvement. *Due January 20, 2012*

New Yorker Volunteer is seeking a [consultant to provide Volunteer Management Training](#) to its 10 Regional Volunteer Centers starting in April 2012. The consultant will be expected to develop curriculum that can be localized to help local non-profits recruit, train, manage and retain volunteers based on the needs/resources of the organization. Eligible applicants include: non-profits 501 (c)(3)(not higher ed), for-profits, individuals, local governments, and small businesses. *Due February 13, 2012*

John Jay College of Criminal Justice with funding from the NYC Center for Economic Opportunity announced the availability of a RFP seeking 2-3 qualified community-based organizations to operate the [NYC Justice Corps](#). Qualified applicants must be a tax-exempt entity incorporated in NYS; have experience and knowledge of the target community; a record of activity in the target community; demonstrated connections with community leadership; and evidence of services provided to young adults involved in the criminal justice system. *Due January 25, 2012*

2012-2015 [School District Performance Improvement Competitive Grant Program](#). This program provides grants to public school districts that have demonstrated the most success in increasing student performance, narrowing the achievement gap, and increasing academic performance among students with the greatest educational needs. *Due February 10, 2012*

NYSED is seeking proposals for the [Longitudinal Data System Training Institute and Technical Assistance Center](#) to provide training and assistance to District Data Coordinators and Level 1 Regional Data Centers in support of NSYED's collection and reporting of enrollment, assessment, accountability, career and technical education, graduation rate, post-graduation plans, teacher/principal evaluation, and school staff data for school districts, public schools, charter schools, and nonpublic schools. Eligible applicants include not-for-profit and for-profit organizations, private college or universities, BOCES, or municipalities. *Due February 6, 2012*

NYSED is seeking proposals for [Effective Teacher and Principal Practice Video Production](#) to create a video resource library that will serve as a professional development resource for educators across the State. Eligible applicants may include but are not limited to not-for-profit and for-profit organizations and companies or agencies with demonstrated experience in creating, filming, and producing high-quality short films. *Due January 30, 2012*

2012-2014 [State Adult Literacy and Basic Adult Education](#) Application. Eligible Applicants include literacy volunteer agencies, libraries, institutions of higher education, educational opportunity centers, not-for-profit organizations and consortia of the above organizations. *Due January 27, 2012*

[Teacher and Principal Evaluation: Qualifications for Student Assessments to Be Used by New York State Districts for a Portion of Teachers' and Principals' Evaluations](#). Through this RFQ, New York seeks to build a pre-approved List of 3rd-party-developed assessments for all grades (K-12) and subjects that meet the State's technical criteria and are consistent with Commissioner's regulations for locally-selected measures of student achievement or growth. Eligible applicants include private for-profit companies, including but not limited to test publishers and research organizations, nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education, and BOCES. *Due January 23, 2012*

[Curriculum Modules and Statewide Professional Development for New York State English Language Arts & Literacy and Mathematics](#). *Deadline was extended to January 17, 2012*

NYSED issued a RFI to solicit data from vendors of educational online e learning tools that could be used to screen candidates for readiness to the GED test and remediate any skills gaps identified in this readiness screen. For a copy of the RFI for the **Online GED Test Readiness Assessment and Skill Building Tool**, please send your request to rfi11001@mail.nysed.gov. *Due January 20, 2012*

PENDING REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

NYSED will be issuing a request for proposals for [State Student Assessments for Science in Grades 4 and 6-8 and Social Studies in Grades 6-8](#). NYSED will evaluate proposals on their alignment with the requirements established in the forthcoming RFP.