



TO: P-12 Education Committee

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SUBJECT: Next Generation Learning Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics Update

DATE: August 31, 2017

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SUMMARY

Issue for Decision

Will the Board of Regents approve the proposed Next Generation Learning Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Recognizing the need to continually improve the learning standards that guide education in New York State, the Department is conducting a revision process of the State's ELA and Mathematics standards. Additionally, to ensure a successful implementation of the new standards, the rollout strategy will allow for professional development and curriculum development prior to when students take new assessments that measure the standards.

Proposed Handling

This issue will be before the Board of Regents for a decision at the September 2017 meeting.

Background Information

The Next Generation Learning Standards for ELA and Mathematics have been revised through a collaborative effort of numerous educators, parents and stakeholders across New York State that resulted in substantive changes while maintaining rigor.

The new standards meet the 2015 legislative requirement that the standards be reassessed with stakeholder input. The Governor's Task Force made a series of [recommendations](#) in December 2015, many of which are reflected in the revised standards including gathering input in new standards from local districts, educators and parents through an open and transparent process; ensuring the standards meet the needs of ELLs/MLLs and; and provide additional resources for professional development of teachers.

The Department has engaged a wide variety of stakeholders, which includes educators, parents, and the community at large, through surveys (AIMHighNY) that allowed users to give feedback on each of the standards. The first survey, which was available from mid-October until November 30, 2015. More than 10,500 people responded to the survey and provided over 750,000 pieces of feedback.

The Department created two committees of New York State stakeholders, one for ELA and one for mathematics. Recruitment for the committees was done through a statewide selection process hosted on the AIMHighNY website in March 2016. The Standards Review Committees represented various parts of the State with a wide range of expertise including classroom teachers, elementary specialists/coaches, English language learner/bilingual teachers, special education teachers, building-level leaders, district-level leaders, parents, students, higher education faculty, and business and community members. Importantly, the Standards Review Committees collaborated with individuals with child developmental expertise to ensure the new standards are appropriate at all levels. The Standards Review Committees met virtually in spring of 2016 and in person in summer of 2016 to develop guidance and provided recommended revisions to the ELA and mathematics standards based on the AIMHighNY survey results, recommendations from the Content Advisory Panels, and guidance from other stakeholder groups.

The State Education Department released draft learning standards for public comment in September 2016 and received more than 4,100 public comments. The ELA and Mathematics Learning Standards Advisory Committees met through a series of all-day, in-person meetings and web meetings from December 2016 through April 2017 and reviewed every learning standard, making any necessary modifications based on professional expertise as well as input gathered from public comment, parent input, and child development experts. Educators who work with SWD and ELLs/MLLs were actively involved in the review process as well. The committees integrated necessary changes into the standards while ensuring that the standards continue to be rigorous and challenge New York's students to achieve at the highest levels.

The draft standards were presented at the Board of Regents meeting in May 2017. The standards were renamed as the Next Generation Learning Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics. They were posted on AIMHighNY for public comment until June 2, 2017.

New York State Next Generation Mathematics Learning Standards Revision

Overall, 238 responses were submitted in response to the draft New York State Next Generation Mathematics Learning Standards. Respondents were asked to provide comments for any grade (Prekindergarten-Grade 8), high school course (Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry), and the Plus standards through an open-ended survey comment box. Areas of focus for discussion/modifications based off the feedback gathered have centered on the following:

- **Listed the High School Standards by course.**
The high school courses are now listed in the Standards document by course (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II) with the standards that make up the course.
- **Re-coded the standards to differentiate the revised NYS version of the standard from the original Common Core Learning Standards version.**
The re-coding will prevent confusion and error when searching for or creating materials to the revised standards. At the high school level, the new standards code clearly indicates which course each standard is addressed in.
- **Added coherence links to the standards document.**
Coherence linkages connect standards one grade level forward and/or back to the concept addressed. Further links are provided for within-grade connections.
- **Added notes to the standards document.**
Notes were added to further clarify the meaning of the standard, to clarify the use of the words fluency and explore, to connect the Standards for Mathematical Practice to Mathematical Content, and to cite where information was adapted from PARCC and the Progressions document. Use of hover over text is incorporated into source information.
- **Added charts, illustrations, and examples to the standards document.**
Charts that were in the appendix were embedded to appear at the point-of-use with each standard it addresses. Illustrations and examples were added to further clarify the meaning of the standard.
- **Linked navigation on the electronic version of the standards document.**
The Table of Contents and the Footers on each page are linked to the rest of the document for easier navigation throughout the standards document.

New York State Next Generation English Language Arts Standards Revision

Overall, 252 responses were submitted in response to the draft New York State Next Generation ELA Learning Standards. Respondents were asked to provide comments for any grade (Prekindergarten-Grade 12) through an open-ended survey comment box. Based on that feedback, plus additional reviews from researchers and content specialists, the Department focused the revision work on the following areas:

- **Reviewed and revised the Prekindergarten-Grade 3 ELA Standards to ensure they are appropriate for the grade levels.**

The Early Learning Task Force reviewed the Prekindergarten-Grade 3 ELA Standards in early June and made suggested revisions to several standards per grade for P-3 to address concerns about play and grade-level appropriateness. They also recommended the addition of more guidance and description around reading and writing in the early grades, including text complexity and reading expectations. The importance of play and classroom environment were identified as important areas for future early learning resources.

- **Created an Early Learning Standards introduction section that provides more guidance around how the standards can be implemented in Prekindergarten-Grade 2.**

The Early Learning Standards introduction will provide guidance and context for the standards, as well as guidance around developmentally appropriate practice, teaching all students, cultural appropriateness, and ensuring the needs of students are supported.

- **Added more guidance around the range of reading experiences and text complexity expectations for all grades, Prekindergarten-Grade 12.**

For each grade level, reading expectations (including guidance around early and emergent reading experiences in Prekindergarten-Grade 3) have been expanded and clarified to ensure educators and parents understand the reading expectations for each grade level.

- **Revised the ELA Introduction to include more information about how the standards apply to English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners and Students with Disabilities.**

Additional guidance for how to support students with disabilities and English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners has been added to the Next Generation ELA Learning Standards introduction. More resources are forthcoming and will be posted on the NYSED website when available.

- **Added English Language Arts Glossary of Terms.**

To provide more clarification about specific terms used within the ELA Standards, a glossary has been added to provide more guidance and context.

Related Regent's Items

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1215p12d4.pdf>

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/216p12d4.pdf>

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1216p12d1.pdf>

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/517p12d2.pdf>

<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/717p12d1.pdf>

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents take the following action:

VOTED: That the Board of Regents approves the Next Generation Learning Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics.

Timetable for Implementation

The projected time line for standards and assessments over the coming years is:

- **September 2017:** Adoption of Next Generation Learning Standards
- **2017-2018 School Year:** Two-day assessments measuring the current standards; professional development on Next Generation Learning Standards;
- **2018-2019 School Year:** Two-day assessments measuring the current standards; professional development continuing on the Next Generation Learning Standards;
- **2019-2020 School Year:** Two-day assessments measuring the current standards; professional development continuing on the Next Generation Learning Standards;
- **September 2020:** Full implementation of the Next Generation Learning Standards;
- **Spring 2021:** New tests measuring Next Generation Learning Standards.

2016-2017 Mathematics Standards Review Committees

Thank you to all the individuals involved in the review and revision of the New York State Mathematics Learning Standards. Additional thanks to all the individuals who provided feedback through NYSED's Mathematics Standards surveys (2015 and 2016).

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