



# GRADUATION MEASURES INITIATIVE UPDATE

JANUARY 10, 2022



New York State  
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

# WINTER 2022 REGIONAL MEETINGS

Regent(s)	Regions to be Invited	Date	Time
Vice Chancellor Finn	JD 3	December 7	2-4:30 pm
Regent Turner and Regent Norwood	Big 5: Rochester	December 8	5-7:30 pm
Regent Cea	Big 5: Staten Island	December 15	5-7:30 pm
Regent Mittler	Eastern JD 6	January 5	5-7:30 pm
Regent Ferrer and Regent Reyes	Big 5: Bronx	January 12	6-8:30 pm
Regent Mead and Regent Cottrell	Big 5: Manhattan	January 19	4-6:30 pm
Regent Collins	JD 8: Areas outside of Buffalo	January 27	2-4:30 pm
Regent Collins	Big 5: Buffalo	February 3	2-4:30 pm

# “THOUGHT EXCHANGE” OVERVIEW

“Thought Exchange is a discussion management system which turns discussions into insightful data.”

## HOW IT WORKS

1. Open-ended questions for any size group.
2. Confidential responses on-line and then confidentially rate other responses.
3. Creates a data dashboard of participants’ demographics and categorizes and reports the frequency of each theme.

# “THOUGHT EXCHANGE” - QUESTION 1

**What knowledge, skills, and/or experiences do you think are important for ALL students to have by the end of high school?**



270  
Participants



399  
Thoughts



5,766  
Ratings

**Financial literacy - loans, managing money, living within one's means, saving for retirement, etc.** Everyone with a job, house, car, credit card, etc. needs to understand how their decisions to buy or save will affect their future.

4.3  (19 )  
Ranked #1 of 399

**Before leaving high school, kids should have the opportunity to explore their interests and personalize their education to meet their needs.** Students need to have a sense of agency about their education. We need more flexibility in the system, not more standardization.

4.3  (17 )  
Ranked #2 of 399

**Vocational Training** Not every student wants or needs to go to college.

4.3  (17 )  
Ranked #3 of 399

# “THOUGHT EXCHANGE” - QUESTION 1 WORD CLOUD



# “THOUGHT EXCHANGE” - QUESTION 2

**How would you like students to show that they have the knowledge, skills, and/or experiences necessary for graduation?**



99

Participants



131

Thoughts



1,836

Ratings

**Students should be allowed a portfolio option to highlight their skills. It's insane that students must be forced to take and fail the Regents exams in order to be allowed to receive a local diploma.**

4.4 (20 )

Ranked #1 of 131

**Kids must be allowed to showcase learned skills in an environment that is not anxiety ridden** Every kid needs to be taught how they learn, not how we think they should learn

4.2 (20 )

Ranked #2 of 131

**Portfolio and/or work based initiatives** The measure is authentic and really speaks to skills and abilities that the student is able to demonstrate rather than speak to testing skills

4.2 (20 )

Ranked #3 of 131





# DRAFT TIMELINE

## Phase I: Information Gathering & Learning

- **November 2019 – March 2020:**
  - Literature review of research and practices in other states.
  - Regional meetings held beginning Jan. – Mar. 2020 to gather feedback from across the state.
- **March 2020:** All Regional Meetings canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Fall 2021 – Spring 2022:** Regional Meetings held in virtual format.
- **Spring / Summer 2022:** Compile Regional Meeting feedback.
- **Fall 2022:**
  - Present regional meeting and literature review findings to the Board.
  - Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) and draft meeting schedule.

## Phase II: Blue Ribbon Commission

- **Fall 2022 – Winter 2023:**
  - Commission's first meeting – the BRC convenes and defines its scope of work.
  - Blue Ribbon Commission second meeting to identify priority areas and a framework for moving forward. Establish sub-groups for priority areas.
- **Winter 2023 – Spring 2023:** Sub-groups meet.
- **Spring 2023 – Summer 2023:** Sub-groups develop proposed recommendations.
- **Fall 2023 – Winter 2024:** Sub-groups advance recommendations to the BRC.
- **Winter 2024 – Spring 2024:** The BRC finalizes recommendations and a report is prepared.

## Phase III: Regents Discussion

- **Spring / Summer 2024:** The BRC's final report is presented to the Board of Regents for consideration.





# QUESTIONS?



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