

Putnam/Northern Westchester BOCES
Curriculum and Assessment Update
April 2009

Release of 2007-08 District and School Report Cards

As per Alan Ray, Assistant Commissioner, Policy and Strategic Planning, P-16

- The contents of the school report cards are under strict embargo until public release tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 20.
- Most of the data contained in the report Cards has already been released during the previous year. This includes:
 - Grade 3-8 English language arts and mathematics test results for 2007-08.
 - School and district graduation rates used for accountability. (This is the 2003 total cohort graduation rate through August 2007. These data were already released in August 2008. The report cards do NOT contain the new 2004 total cohort graduation rate; that will be released later this spring.)
 - Schools that have failed to make Adequate Yearly Progress and have been placed on the Schools in Need of Improvement list.
- The data within the report card that has not yet been released to the public include:
 - Information on the number of Highly Qualified Teachers
 - Grades 4 and 8 science test results for 2007-08
 - English language arts and mathematics Regents results for the 2004 cohort through 2007-08
 - Accountability measures disaggregated by subgroups
 - Expenditures per pupil.

Grades 3-8 Testing Policy-Results of Field Survey and Next Steps

As per Johanna Duncan-Poitier, Deputy Commissioner, NYSED

NYSED staff plan to propose options on test scheduling for the Regents' consideration in April or May based on the 22,569 responses on the field survey administered recently. Highlights of the survey results are indicated below.

- The survey indicates that a very large majority want to continue to have tests that include both multiple choice and open-ended questions.
- The survey also indicates that a large majority want to continue to have local or regional scoring, not scoring by an external vendor. In addition, a new federal regulation requires that schools must be informed of their accountability status before the beginning of the next school year, so the test scores need to be returned before the end of the previous school year.
- Adding together the time periods needed for test administration (including make-up testing), local scoring, test scanning, and psychometric evaluation yields a minimum of 11 weeks. Therefore, in order to return test scores before the end of the school year, the current structure would require that the tests need to be given no later than March.

English Regents

As per Johanna Duncan-Poitier, Deputy Commissioner, NYSED, District Superintendents' Meeting on March 30 and 31, 2009

It is highly likely that the New York State Education Department will plan to have the English Regents administered on one day beginning in 2011.

2008-09 Application for Exception to the One Percent Cap on Proficient or Above Scores Based on Alternate Achievement Standards

As per Anne Schiano, Assistant Director, Curriculum, Instruction and Technology, NYSED

The application by which local educational agencies may request an exception from NYSED to exceed the 1.0 percent cap in counting as proficient and advanced for accountability purposes, during the 2008-09 school year, the scores of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities based on alternate academic achievement standards is now available at

<http://www.vesid.nysed.gov/specialed/applications/1percent-2009.htm>

Resources

Cultivating a Math Coaching Practice: A Guide for K-8 Educators

As per Anne Schiano, Assistant Director, Curriculum, Instruction and Technology, NYSED

The Professional Development for Math Coaching Institute (PDMC) is based on the Center for Development of Coaching and Math Leadership (CMCP) materials and is structured to bring together math coaches from kindergarten through middle school and those who provide professional development or course-work for math coaching. During the Institute, participants engage in discussions of cases of coaching and investigate mathematics related to K-8 classroom settings. Sessions also explore essential pedagogical issues of math coaching. This is being held this summer, July 19-24, for application and information go to <http://www.edc.org/MLP>