

October Regents Items

Regents Items	Committee	Action
Proposed Amendment to Parts 275 and 276 and 100.2(y) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Education Law 310 Appeals to the Commissioner of Education	Full Board	Action Proposed for November.
Proposed Regents 2009 State and Federal Legislative Priorities	Full Board	The committee discussed the proposals that the Regents will consider for inclusion in their 2009-10 legislative priorities. The Committee discussed the inclusion of the District Superintendent salary cap issue as a separate item. Members of the Committee would like to examine this further and will come back in November with a recommendation on whether it should be put into this legislative priority package as a separate item or as a part of the BOCES reform initiative.
Proposed Interim Growth Model for Title I Accountability	EMSC	The committee discussed the input on the draft Growth Model proposal from the six public forums in September and October. Staff made recommendations for changes to the proposal as a result of the input from those forums and the Committee endorsed those changes. The Committee discussed the positive comments received at the forums and the significant endorsement by the field of the direction in which the Board of Regents and the Department are heading. It was also pointed out that additional resources will be needed to implement the Growth Model. Staff will compile the results of all the surveys and comments received at the forums and provide this information to the Regents offline. In addition, as the Regents requested, over the next several months, a second tier to the model to measure growth of students who are already proficient will be developed. The Regents approved the final proposed growth model for submission to the United States Education Department, as required by Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2007.
Submission of a Differentiated Accountability Model to the United States Department of Education	EMSC	The Committee discussed and approved the conceptual differentiated accountability proposal that was submitted to the USED in time to meet the USED deadline. If USED approves this proposal, New York will be able to revise the manner in which schools and districts are categorized under NCLB as well as develop modified consequences and supports for schools and districts identified for improvement. The Regents asked that staff strengthen the proposal to reflect elements discussed during the Committee meeting including emphasis on district accountability.
Impact of Attrition and Budget Cuts on P-16 Capacity	EMSC and HE	The Committees discussed the impact of the 10.35 percent cut in both State operations and special revenue funds, a hard hiring freeze and the loss of several key staff on capacity in P-16 to successfully meet the Regents goals. This discussion was held at both the EMSC and the Higher Education Committee meetings and gave both committees a fuller picture of current staff capacity (including 42 positions available to fill and expectations for more losses through retirement), what we have as priorities and what we are doing to address capacity issues for now and in the near future. Any additional cuts to State operations will further impact staffing and core programs. Committee members suggested that further discussion is needed on how Department staffing aligns with the Regents priorities and where funding is fungible.

<p>Proposed Amendment to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Employment of Retired Persons in Public School Districts, Boards of Cooperative Educational Services and County Vocational Education and Extension Boards</p>	<p>HE</p>	<p>The Regents repealed section 80-5.5 and add a new section 80-5.5 to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to the employment of retired persons in public school districts, boards of cooperative educational services (BOCES) and county vocational education and extension boards as submitted, effective November 13, 2008.</p>
<p>Proposal to Address Statewide Shortages of Teachers of Languages Other than English (LOTE)</p>	<p>HE</p>	<p><u>Proposal to Address Statewide Shortages of Teachers of Languages Other than English (LOTE)</u> – The committee discussed the certification requirements for teachers of languages other than English (LOTE). Teacher supply and demand data has shown that in school years 2005-06 and 2006-07, there were severe shortages of LOTE teachers in every region of the state. The Committee discussed the recommendation that candidates who have an acceptable level of language proficiency and cross-cultural competency be permitted to take two rigorous, internationally recognized examinations and, upon achieving a score of Intermediate High/Advanced Low on each, be permitted to use this in lieu of up to 30 semester hours of the content hours required for certification, while keeping all other certification requirements the same. This would include the satisfactory completion of the New York State Teacher Certification Examination's Content Specialty Test (CST) in the target language. The Committee endorsed the recommendation for flexibility by providing alternative ways to allow prospective teachers of languages other than English to meet certification requirements without compromising teacher quality.</p>