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Dear ESSAA Member,

David Frank, the NYSED Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Education Policy, periodically shares important updates regarding New York State Education Laws, Commissioner's Regulations, and Federal Guidelines with our leadership team. This information is valuable for public school administrators as they carry out their daily responsibilities. Below is the latest update from NYSED, which includes essential "Must Know" information on various key state and federal policies and programs that impact our members across the state.

As information evolves, we'll keep you informed about developments affecting New York State school administrators. Note, the most critical time sensitive information is labeled 'MUST KNOW.'

Your ESSAA Team

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[Click here to view archived copies of NYSED Updates on our website](#)

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**REMINDER**

**Uplifting All Students Statewide Conference on March 19, 2025([linked here](#))**

- The New York State Education Department (NYSED), in collaboration with the BOCES and Big 5 school districts, will be hosting a statewide conference on March 19, 2025, from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at designated BOCES and Big 5 sites.
- This event will be a hybrid conference along with in-person discussion and will provide district and school administrators, leaders, and educators with an opportunity to learn about how school districts across the state are implementing programs that enhance student identity and overall well-being, partnering with families and communities, and collaborating with a range of stakeholders to support all students.
- Promising practices will be shared from districts across the state with opportunities for collaboration with colleagues.
- Individuals must attend in person and register through their local BOCES or Big 5 school district site.
- *Registration questions can be sent to Amalia Schiff*

**FYI**

**Statewide Assessment Strategy Resources**

- A [new webpage](#) is available on the Office of State Assessment website where resources will be posted to help administrators, teachers, students, parents/guardians, and other interested parties understand the purposes and uses of K-12 assessments in New York.
- A document is currently posted that provides details on [New York's Educational Assessment Strategy](#), particularly the reliance on multiple types of evidence about student achievement.
- Additional resources will be shared on this webpage over time to support those who interact with assessment results.
- *Questions can be directed to the Office of State Assessment at [emscassessinfo@nysed.gov](mailto:emscassessinfo@nysed.gov) or 518-474-5902.*

**FYI**

**Talent Pool Submissions Open ([Talent Pool Letter](#) & [Talent Pool Recommendation Form](#))**

- The New York State Education Department is requesting recommendations from teachers and/or principals in elementary through high school (K-12) for consideration of membership on advisory boards, task forces, and special recognition programs.
- Your recommendations will identify educators who will be of great value to your community and New York State and who may also ultimately receive prestigious recognition for their contributions and achievements.
- The nominee must be a principal or currently teaching at the K-12 level in a New York State public, private, parochial, or charter school, or Department of Defense, and be appropriately credentialed in New York State. Attached please find the recommendation form for submission.
- The deadline for submission is May 5, 2025.
- *Completed submissions and any questions may be emailed to [Talentpoolhe@nysed.gov](mailto:Talentpoolhe@nysed.gov).*

**FYI**

**New Staff Vacancy Survey**

- To improve the Department's understanding of school district and BOCES staffing challenges, a new Staff Vacancy survey is now available in the Educator Development section of the [NYSED Business Portal](#).
  - This new survey will collect statewide information about vacancies in LEAs during the current school year, and survey results will inform policy, resources, and supports for public school districts and BOCES.
  - The survey has a target submission date of **March 28, 2025**.
  - *Any questions can be directed to the Office of Teacher and Leader Development at [OTLD@nysed.gov](mailto:OTLD@nysed.gov).*
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