



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234
Assistant Commissioner
New York State Education Department
Office of Teacher and Leader Effectiveness
89 Washington Avenue, 1071 EBA
Albany, NY 12234
Office: (518) 486-2573
Fax: (518) 474-4130

To: District Superintendents of BOCES
Superintendents of Schools

From: Dr. Julia Rafal-Baer, Assistant Commissioner

Date: July 1, 2014

Subject: Updates to the APPR Guidance document and APPR portal, release of Testing Transparency Reports, and an FAQ related to these reports

This memorandum provides information regarding updates to the APPR Guidance document and the APPR portal, the online platform used for submitting applications for revised Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) plans. This document also provides information about the release of Testing Transparency Reports as well as an accompanying FAQ.

Update to the APPR Portal

Districts/BOCES will continue to use the APPR portal to submit material changes to their currently approved APPR plans for the 2014-15 school year and thereafter; however, the portal has been updated to be consistent with recent statutory and regulatory amendments to the Education Law and the Rules of the Board of Regents (the portal is available at: <https://nysed-appr2.myreviewroom.com/>). More information about these updates can be found on EngageNY at: <https://www.engageny.org/resource/guidance-on-the-approved-regulatory-amendments-to-appr-to-help-reduce-local-testing>.

Please note that the submission process remains the same. If a district/BOCES wishes to make a material change to their currently approved plan for the 2014-15 school year, an email should be sent to educatoreval@mail.nysed.gov by March 1, 2015 and all changes must be made through the APPR portal. Please see [APPR Guidance](#) Section C8 for more information.

Update to APPR Guidance

The APPR Guidance document was last updated on March 2, 2014. The Department has further updated the APPR Guidance document to provide guidance and clarification to the field on recent statutory and regulatory amendments surrounding APPR plans and composite score ratings. The revised APPR Guidance document is available at: <https://www.engageny.org/resource/guidance-on-new-york-s-annual-professional-performance-review-law-and-regulations/>. Please note that all updates since March 2, 2014 have been highlighted.

Release of Testing Transparency Reports

By July 1, 2014, each district and BOCES will receive a Testing Transparency Report providing guidance on particular areas where the district or BOCES could act locally, consistent with their instructional vision, to reduce the amount of testing required for students. The Department has consistently communicated that the amount of testing should be the minimum necessary to inform effective decision-making at the classroom, school, and district/BOCES level. In order to provide further clarification surrounding these Reports, the Department has developed an FAQ document, which can be found at: <https://www.engageny.org/resource/guidance-on-the-approved-regulatory-amendments-to-appr-to-help-reduce-local-testing>.