TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: Tony Lofrumento
SUBJECT: Summary of the September 2018 Meeting
DATE: October 4, 2018

AUTHORIZATION(S):

Executive Summary

Issue for Decision
Review of the Summary of the September 2018 Meetings of the Board of Regents.

Proposed Handling
Approval of the Summary of September 2018 meetings.

Procedural History
This document summarizes the actions of the Board of Regents during the monthly meeting and is brought before the Board the following month for approval.

Recommendation
Approval of the Summary of the September 2018 meetings.

Timetable for Implementation
Effective October 16, 2018.

VOTED, that the Summary of the September 2018 Meetings of the Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York be approved.
SUMMARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 2018 MEETING

OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

OF

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Held at the State Education Building
Albany, New York

September 17 and 18, 2018

Anthony Lofrumento, Secretary
Board of Regents
THE BOARD OF REGENTS

The Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York held a public session on Monday, September 17, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. pursuant to a call to duty sent to each Regent.

MEETING OF THE FULL BOARD, Monday, September 17th at 9:00 a.m.

Board Members in Attendance:
Betty A. Rosa, Chancellor
T. Andrew Brown, Vice Chancellor
Roger Tilles
Lester W. Young, Jr.
Christine D. Cea
Wade S. Norwood
Kathleen M. Cashin
Judith Chin
Beverly L. Ouderkirk
Catherine Collins
Judith Johnson
Nan Eileen Mead
Elizabeth S. Hakanson
Luis O. Reyes
Susan W. Mittler

Also present were Commissioner of Education, MaryEllen Elia, Executive Deputy Commissioner, Elizabeth Berlin, Counsel and Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs, Alison B. Bianchi, and the Secretary, Board of Regents, Anthony Lofrumento. Regents James E. Cottrell and Josephine Victoria Finn were absent and excused.

Regent Lester W. Young, Jr. provided an overview and presentation of the My Brother’s Keeper Fellows and Friends Retreat in Ellenville, New York (Attachment I.)

Chancellor Rosa provided words of reflection and introduced the “Focus of Our Work” video – 2018 Opening Bell Activities – School Days showcasing Regents opening day school visits (Attachment II.)

ACTION ITEM

Executive Session Motion

MOVED, that the Board of Regents convene in executive session on Tuesday, September 17th at 11:05 a.m. to discuss current litigation matters and to discuss matters leading to the appointment and employment of a particular person with the Department.

Motion by: Vice Chancellor T. Andrew Brown
Seconded by: Regent Wade S. Norwood
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION

NYS Board of Regents Early Childhood Workgroup’s Blue Ribbon Committee Final Recommendations

Regent Young, Regent Reyes and members of the Blue Ribbon Committee, Dr. Jeffrey Kaczorowski, Dr. Aisha Ray and Sherry Cleary presented the Committee’s final recommendations to the Board of Regents (Attachment III).

Chancellor Betty A. Rosa adjourned the meeting.
MEETING OF THE FULL BOARD, Tuesday, September 18th at 11:10 a.m.

Board Members in Attendance:
Betty A. Rosa, Chancellor
T. Andrew Brown, Vice Chancellor
Roger Tilles
Lester W. Young, Jr.
Christine D. Cea
Wade S. Norwood
Kathleen M. Cashin
Judith Chin
Beverly L. Ouderkirk
Catherine Collins
Judith Johnson
Nan Eileen Mead
Elizabeth S. Hakanson
Luis O. Reyes
Susan W. Mittler

Also present were Commissioner of Education, MaryEllen Elia, Executive Deputy Commissioner, Elizabeth Berlin, Counsel and Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs, Alison B. Bianchi, and the Secretary, Board of Regents, Anthony Lofrumento. Regents James E. Cottrell and Josephine Victoria Finn were absent and excused.

Regent Johnson provided words of reflection and introduced the “Focus of Our Work” video – East Ramapo Central School District Summer Slide Prevention.

Charter Applications
BR (A) 1

MOVED, that the Board of Regents approve each application in accordance with the recommendations contained in the summary table (see Appendix I.)

Summary of the July 2018 Meeting of the Board of Regents
BR (A) 2

MOVED, that the Summary of the July 2018 Meeting of the Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York be approved.

Motion by: Regent Roger Tilles
Seconded by: Regent Christine D. Cea
Action: Motion carried unanimously.
PROGRAM AREA CONSENT ITEMS

Adult Career and Continuing Education Services (ACCES)

Proposed Repeal and Addition of a New Part 147 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Readers Aid Program to Implement Chapter 350 of the Laws of 2017

BR (CA) 1

MOVED, that Part 147 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is repealed and a new Part 147 is added, as submitted, effective October 3, 2018.

Higher Education

Conferral of Degrees: Dowling College, Elim Bible Institute and College; and Elyon College

BR (CA) 2

MOVED, that the Board of Regents confer upon the following individuals, who have completed the requirements for registered degree programs at Dowling College, Elim Bible Institute and College, and Elyon College for the respective degree as listed below:

Dowling College
The following students have completed the requirements for their respective awards as indicated:

Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)
Kerimian, Debby Lynne

Master of Science (M.S.)
Lee, David Matthew

Bachelor of Science (B.S.)
Swan, Lance Robert

Advanced Certificate
Kerimian, Debby Lynne
Elim Bible Institute and College
The following students have completed the requirements for the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) award:

Brito Velazquez, Sorangely Linci
Dowers, Katelyn Marie
Eggleston, Christopher S.
Forte, Benjamin Clayton
Hahn, Emily O.
Leyland, Frederick
Lynch, Joshua J.
McDonald, Isaiah Caleb
Medeiros, Patrick C.
Moss, Russell W.
Ronnenberg, Michael John
Rybka, William Christopher
Sandoval, Salvador
Shoemaker, Andrew
Sierson, Jacob Mitchell
Smith, Miriam
Stern, Anna Ruth
van Bruggen, Michiel Adiël
VanLoon, Benjamin T.
Waters, Conor James
Winheld, Jessica Ruth
Yrjölä, Hannah Maijox

Elyon College
The following student has completed the requirements for the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) award:

Mashinsky, Rivka

The following students have completed the requirements for the Associate in Science (A.S.) award:

Breuer, Miriam
Fasten, Batsheva
Friedman, Gendy
Gluck, Chaya
Gottehrer, Malky
Graber, Devorah
Grossman, Devora
Isaacs, Rachel
Jakabovics, Yehudis
Klitnick, Tzippora
Kugelman, Blima Gittel
Landau, Chaia G.
Levine, Esther
Parnes, Julia
Paskus, Devorah
Pinter, Bracha (Bruchie)
Reiss, Miriam
Schwartz, Rachel
Schwartz, Shprintzy
Streicher, Baila
Tauber, Tziporah
Wachs, Pessie

The following student has completed the requirements for the Certificate (CERT) award:

Schischa, Esther

Laboratory Institute of Merchandising (DBA LIM College): Regents Authorization to award the Master of Science (M.S.) Degree
BR (CA) 3

MOVED, that the Board of Regents authorize Laboratory Institute of Merchandising (DBA LIM College) to award the Master of Science (M.S.) degree on students who successfully complete registered programs at LIM College effective September 18, 2018.

Daemen College: Master Plan Amendment to Establish a Branch Campus in Brooklyn, NY
BR (CA) 4

MOVED, that the Board of Regents approve an amendment to the master plan for Daemen College to establish a branch campus in Brooklyn, NY, and Regents authorization to award the Master of Science (M.S.) degree at the branch campus. The amendment will be effective until September 17, 2019, unless the Department registers the branch campus and its related programs prior to that date, in which case master plan amendment shall be without term.

Proposed Amendments to Section 4-1.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents Relating to Voluntary Institutional Accreditation for Title IV Purposes
BR (CA) 5

MOVED, that §4-1.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents be amended, as submitted, effective October 3, 2018.
Proposed Amendment to Section 80-1.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Extension of the edTPA Safety Net for Candidates Who Receive a Failing Score on the Library Specialist edTPA
BR (CA) 6

MOVED, that §80-1.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be amended, as submitted, effective October 3, 2018.

Fei Tian College, Middletown: Master Plan Amendment to offer Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree programs in Biomedical Science and in Data Science
BR (CA) 7

MOVED, that the Board of Regents approve an amendment to the master plan of Fei Tian College to grant the Bachelor of Science degree at its branch campus in Middletown, NY. The amendment will be effective until September 18, 2019, unless the degree programs are registered prior to that date, in which case master plan amendment shall be without term.

Proposed Amendment to Section 80-1.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Reinstatement of the Educational Technology Specialist Content Specialty Test Safety Net for Candidates Seeking Education Technology Specialist Certification
BR (CA) 8

MOVED, that §80-1.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be amended, as submitted, effective October 3, 2018.

Proposed Addition of a New Section 80-3.16 to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education to Allow Individuals Completing a Program Accredited by the American Speech, Language, and Hearing Association (ASHA) to Obtain an Initial Certificate in Speech and Language Disabilities (All Grades)
BR (CA) 11

MOVED, that §80-3.16 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be added, as submitted, effective October 3, 2018.

Professional Practice

(Re)Appointments of Members to the State Boards for the Professions and (Re)Appointments of Extended Members to the State Boards for the Professions for Service on Licensure Disciplinary and/or Licensure Restoration and Moral Character Panels
BR (CA) 9

MOVED, that the Board of Regents should approve the proposed (re)appointments.
MOVED, that the Board of Regents approve the recommendations of the Committee on the Professions regarding licensing petitions and degree conferrals.

MOVED, that the Regents approve the consent agenda items.

Motion by: Regent Wade S. Norwood
Seconded by: Regent Susan W. Mittler
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

CULTURAL EDUCATION

Your Committee on Cultural Education had its scheduled meeting on September 17, 2018. Regent Roger Tilles and Regent Judith Johnson, Co-Chairs of the Cultural Education Committee, submitted the following written report. In attendance were committee members: Regent Tilles, Co-Chair, Regent Johnson, Co-Chair, Regent Cea, Regent Ouderkirk and Regent Mead.

Regents, in addition to Cultural Education Committee Members, in attendance were: Chancellor Rosa, Vice Chancellor Brown, Regent Norwood, Regent Cashin, Regent Hakanson, Regent Reyes, and Regent Mittler. Also in attendance were Commissioner Elia, Executive Deputy Commissioner Berlin, Senior Deputy Commissioner for Educational Policy Jhone Ebert, and Counsel and Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs Alison Bianchi.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Co-Chair’s Remarks: Regent Tilles and Regent Johnson welcomed everyone. Regent Tilles introduced Jennifer Childress, the new Associate in Instructional Services for the Arts in the Office of Curriculum and Instruction. Jennifer’s role is to implement the new learning standards for the arts and collaborate with schools, teachers and parents across the state as well as lead the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission for the Arts to establish a viable graduation pathway in the Arts for students.

Regent Tilles then introduced Deputy Commissioner Mark Schaming. Deputy Commissioner Schaming provided a brief report on Office of Cultural Education news and activities:

- In July the Museum announced the exciting return of an 18th-century tomahawk
gifted to Cornplanter, the respected Seneca leader, by President George Washington in 1792. For nearly 70 years this tomahawk was in the hands of private collectors, after being stolen from the Museum in the late 1940s. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous collector, the pipe tomahawk was returned to the State Museum’s collections earlier this summer and is now on exhibition.

- This summer the State Museum again welcomed a group of Albany City School District teens, many from underserved communities in Albany, to work at the Museum for 5 weeks this summer. Eleven teens created and implemented their own educational programs for visitors to enjoy, especially for our youngest visitors.

- The Annual Archives Awards, including the Student Research Awards, will be held at noon on Wednesday, October 17 on the 4th floor of the Cultural Education Center.

- In August the State Library awarded $24 million to 230 public libraries and library systems statewide for construction and renovation projects. These State funds will help our public libraries make much-needed renovations and technology upgrades.

Regent Tilles and Commissioner Elia updated the Cultural Education Committee on a recent cultural education showcase trip that Regent Tilles, Vice Chancellor Brown, Regent Norwood, and Commissioner Elia attended in Rochester this summer and expressed plans to make similar trips to other areas of the state this school year. Regent Tilles and Commissioner Elia discussed the great collaboration that occurs between the P-12 school system and the cultural education institutions in the Rochester area and how to encourage these partnerships to continue to grow and support students.

Lastly, Regent Tilles and Deputy Commissioner Schaming updated the Committee on the vacant State Librarian position. The position is currently posted, and the Department is accepting applications from interested candidates.

State Museum Gallery Renewal Update [CE (D) 1]

Deputy Commissioner Mark Schaming presented an update on the Museum’s gallery renewal project. This major renovation will be the first since the Museum moved to the Cultural Education Center in 1976. Across 40,000 square feet of gallery space, the renovation will result in new exhibitions about New York’s natural, human, and cultural history; incorporate interactive technology; and provide a visitor-friendly environment with a flexible wall system and clear orientation and way-finding.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Your Higher Education Committee held its scheduled meeting on September 18, 2018. All members were present with the exception of Regent Cottrell.
Action Items

MOTION FOR ACTION BY FULL BOARD

Madam Chancellor and Colleagues: Your Higher Education Committee recommends, and we move, that the Board of Regents act affirmatively upon each recommendation in the written report of the Committee’s deliberations at its meeting on September 18, 2018, copies of which have been distributed to each member of the Board of Regents.

Matters Not Requiring Board Action:

Proposed Amendment to Sections 52.21, 57.2, 75.8, 80.1, 80.2, 80.3, 80.5, 80.6, 90.18, 100.2, 100.13, 100.15, 100.17, 100.19, 151-1, 154-2, and 200.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and 30-1, 30-2 and 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents Relating to Professional Development Plans and Other Related Requirements for School Districts and BOCES

Your Committee discussed proposed amendments to the Commissioner’s Regulations and the Rules of the Board of Regents relating to professional development requirements for school districts and BOCES. It is anticipated that, following the 60-day public comment period required under the State Administrative Procedure Act, the proposed amendments will be presented to the Board for adoption at its January 2019 meeting. HE (D) 2

Proposed Amendments to Section 80-3.7 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Initial Certificate Requirements for Individuals Who Have a Graduate Degree and Two Years of Postsecondary Teaching Experience in the Area of the Certificate Sought or a Closely Related Area

Your Committee discussed proposed amendments to the Commissioner’s Regulations relating to allowing candidates who have a graduate degree and two years of postsecondary teaching experience in the certificate area sought or a closely related area to earn the Initial certificate through individual evaluation. It is anticipated that, following the 60-day public comment period required under the State Administrative Procedure Act, the proposed amendments will be presented to the Board for adoption at its January 2019 meeting. HE (D) 1

Proposed Amendments to Sections 52.21 and 80-3.10 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Pilot P-20 Partnerships for Principal Preparation Program

Your Committee discussed proposed amendments to the Commissioner’s Regulations and the Rules of the Board of Regents relating to the establishment of pilot partnerships between eligible public school districts, institutions of higher education, and other organizations with experience supporting, developing and training leaders, to improve the preparation of school building leaders. It is anticipated that, following the 60-day public
comment period required under the State Administrative Procedure Act, the proposed amendments will be presented to the Board for adoption at its January 2019 meeting. HE (D) 3

Matters Requiring Board Action:

**Substantive Change to Scope of Institutional Accreditation – Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary.** Your Committee discussed a substantive change to the institutional accreditation for Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary to include the Master of Divinity (M.Div.) program in Theology. The program was approved by the Regents in April 2018. The substantive change was approved by the Board and the institution was granted authority to award degrees at the master’s level. HE (A) 1

**Consent Agenda**

The Board of Regents acted on the following consent agenda items at the September 2018 meeting.

**Proposed Addition of a New Section 80-3.16 to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education to Allow Individuals Completing a Program Accredited by the American Speech, Language, and Hearing Association (ASHA) to Obtain an Initial Certificate in Speech and Language Disabilities (All Grades)**

The Board of Regents approved, as submitted, the addition of Section 80-3.16 of the Commissioner’s Regulations effective October 3, 2018. BR (CA) 11

**Proposed Amendments to Section 4-1.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents Relating to Voluntary Institutional Accreditation for Title IV Purposes**

The Board of Regents approved, as submitted, the amendment to the Commissioner’s Regulations effective October 3, 2018. BR (CA) 5

**Proposed Amendment to Section 80-1.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Extension of the edTPA Safety Net for Candidates Who Receive a Failing Score on the Library Specialist edTPA**

The Board of Regents approved, as submitted, the amendment to the Commissioner’s Regulations effective October 3, 2018. BR (CA) 6

**Proposed Amendment to Section 80-1.5 of the Commissioner’s Regulations Relating to the Reinstatement of the Educational Technology Specialist Content Specialty Test Safety Net for Candidates Seeking Education Technology Specialist Certification.**

The Board of Regents approved, as submitted, the amendment to the Commissioner’s Regulations effective October 3, 2018. BR (CA) 8
Fei Tian College, Middletown: Master Plan Amendment to offer Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree programs in Biomedical Science and in Data Science

The Board of Regents approved an amendment to the master plan of Fei Tian College to grant the Bachelor of Science degree at its branch campus in Middletown, New York. This amendment will be effective until September 18, 2019, unless the degree programs are registered prior to that date, in which case master plan amendment shall be without term. BR (CA) 7

Daemen College: Master Plan Amendment to Establish a Branch Campus in Brooklyn, New York

The Board of Regents approved an amendment to the master plan of Daemen College to establish a branch campus in Brooklyn, New York and authorized the College to award the Master of Science (M.S.) degree at the branch campus. This amendment will be effective until September 17, 2019, unless the Department registers the branch campus and its related programs prior to that date, in which case master plan amendment shall be without term. BR (CA) 4

Laboratory Institute of Merchandising (DBA LIM College): Regents Authorization to award the Master of Science (M.S.) Degree

The Board of Regents authorized Laboratory Institute of Merchandising (DBA LIM College) to award the Master of Science (M.S.) degree on students who successfully complete registered programs at LIM College effective September 18, 2018. BR (CA) 3

Conferral of Degrees: Dowling College, Elim Bible Institute and College, and Elyon College

The Board of Regents approved the conferral of the respective degrees upon listed individuals who have completed the requirements for registered degree programs at Dowling College, Elim Bible Institute and College, and Elyon College.

P-12 EDUCATION

Your P-12 Education Committee held its scheduled meeting on September 17, 2018. All members were present, except for Regents Cottrell and Finn, who were excused.

ACTION ITEMS

Revisions to Charters Authorized by the Board of Regents [P-12 (A) 1]

Your Committee recommends that the Board of Regents finds that: (1) the charter school meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) the charter school can demonstrate the ability to operate
in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the request to amend the charter is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law; and (4) granting the request to amend the charter will have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the charter revision for Brighter Choice Charter School for Boys and amends the provisional charter accordingly.

Your Committee recommends that the Board of Regents finds that: (1) the charter school meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) the charter school can demonstrate the ability to operate in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the request to amend the charter is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of section twenty-eight hundred fifty of Article 56 of the Education Law; and (4) granting the request to amend the charter will have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, and the Board of Regents therefore approves the charter revision for Brighter Choice Charter School for Girls and amends the provisional charter accordingly.

The motion passed. Regent Collins abstained.

**Prohibition Against Meal Shaming [P-12 (A) 2]**

Your Committee recommends that a new §114.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be added, as submitted, effective September 18, 2018, as an emergency action upon a finding by the Board of Regents that such action is necessary for the preservation of the general welfare to immediately implement the requirements of Education Law §908 as added by Section 1 of Part B of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

**School Breakfast Programs [P-12 (A) 3]**

Your Committee recommends that §114.1 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education be amended, as submitted, effective September 18, 2018, as an emergency action upon a finding by the Board of Regents that such action is necessary for the preservation of the general welfare to immediately implement the requirements of §2 of Part B of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2018 and 7 CFR Part 220. The motion passed unanimously.

**Reports of Incidents of Harassment, Bullying, and/or Discrimination Pursuant to the Dignity for All Students Act [P-12 (A) 4]**

Your Committee recommends that a new subparagraph (x) be added to paragraph (1) of subdivision (kk) of §100.2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to reports of incidents of harassment, bullying and/or discrimination pursuant to the dignity for all students act, as submitted, effective October 3, 2018. The motion passed
Minimum Instruction Requirement for State Aid [P-12 (A) 5]

Your Committee recommends that §§175.2 and 1755 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to the minimum instruction requirement for State Aid, be amended as submitted, effective October 3, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

Implementation of the State’s Approved Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Plan [P-12 (A) 6 REVISED]

Your Committee recommends that sections 100.2(ff), 100.2(m), 100.18, 100.19 and Part 120 of the Commissioner’s Regulations as amended and section 100.21 as added to the Commissioner’s Regulations as an emergency measure at the June 2018 Board of Regents meeting be repealed, effective September 18, 2018; and further that sections 100.2(ff), 100.2(m), 100.18, 100.19 and Part 120 of the Commissioner’s Regulations be amended and that section 100.21 be added to the Commissioner’s Regulations, as submitted, effective September 18, 2018, as an emergency action upon a finding by the Board of Regents that such action is necessary for the preservation of general welfare to ensure that the State’s USDE approved ESSA plan can be implemented beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, consistent with the requirements set forth by the USDE and to ensure that the emergency rule adopted at the June Regents meeting, and subsequently revised, can remain continuously in effect until adopted as a permanent rule. The motion passed unanimously.

Follow-up Discussions Regarding the Charter School Performance Framework [P-12 (A) 7]

Your Committee recommends that the Board of Regents endorses the Charter School Performance Framework as described in this item and directs staff to revise and update the Charter School Performance Framework, in consultation with the field, as necessary, consistent with the Charter School Renewal Policy and the guiding principles outlined in the Charter School Performance Framework. The motion passed. Regents Cashin, Collins, Mead, Reyes, and Mittler voted in opposition. Regent Johnson abstained.

MOTION FOR ACTION BY FULL BOARD

Madam Chancellor and Colleagues: Your P-12 Education Committee recommends, and we move, that the Board of Regents act affirmatively upon each recommendation in the written report of the Committee’s deliberations at its meeting on September 18, 2018, copies of which have been distributed to each Regent.

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Senior Deputy Commissioner’s Report — Senior Deputy Commissioner Jhone Ebert updated the Committee on the following initiative and celebration.
**Restorative Practices Training** – This summer, free Restorative Practices training was provided to school and BOCES staff. Restorative practices are one of the school climate frameworks we are promoting in our efforts to improve school climate. Dr. Tom Cavanaugh from Colorado State University, who has dedicated his personal and professional work to restorative justice since 1996, provided a 4-day train the trainer program.

**Paul Overbaugh Award** – This summer, Paul Overbaugh, the Department’s Pupil Transportation Director, received the President’s Award from the New York Association for Pupil Transportation in recognition of the commitment to student safety he has shown throughout his career. Paul joined our team this past April and the Department is very fortunate to have his expertise.

**Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Students with Disabilities [P-12 (D) 1]** – the Committee discussed proposed regulations to conform to recent amendments to both New York State (NYS) Education Law and NYS Social Services Law relating to students with disabilities. It is anticipated that the proposed rule will be presented to the Board of Regents for permanent adoption at the January 2019 Regents meeting. If adopted at the January 2019 meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective on January 30, 2019.

**PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE**

Your Professional Practice Committee held its scheduled meeting on September 18, 2018. All members were present, except Regent Josephine Victoria Finn and Regent James E. Cottrell. Chancellor Betty A. Rosa was also present but did not vote on any case or action.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Professional Discipline Cases**

Your Committee recommends that the reports of the Regents Review Committees, including rulings, findings of fact, determinations as to guilt, and recommendations, by unanimous or majority vote, contained in those reports which have been distributed to you, be accepted in 8 cases. In addition, your Committee recommends, upon the recommendation of the Committee on the Professions, that 58 consent order applications and 26 surrender applications be granted.

These recommendations are made following the review of 92 cases involving thirty-three registered professional nurses, nineteen licensed practical nurses, ten licensed practical nurses who are also registered professional nurses, three certified public accountants, two chiropractors, two dentists, one acupuncturist, one architect, one dental hygienist, one dentist who is also a holder of a dental enteral conscious sedation certificate, one licensed marriage and family therapist, one licensed master social worker, one massage therapist,
one pharmacy, one podiatrist, one registered professional nurse who is also a nurse practitioner (Adult Health), and one veterinarian.

MOTION FOR ACTION BY FULL BOARD

Madam Chancellor and Colleagues: Your Professional Practice Committee recommends, and we move, that the Board of Regents act affirmatively upon each recommendation in the written report of the Committee’s deliberations at its meeting on September 18, 2018, copies of which have been distributed to each Regent.

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Your Committee discussed several topics of interest, including:

- Deputy Commissioner’s Report/Update
- Full Board Consent Agenda Items
- Board (Re)Appointments
- Licensing Petitions

Proposed Amendment to Section 63.9 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Administration of Vaccinations by Pharmacists - PPC (A) 1

Your Committee discussed the following: a revised proposed amendment to §63.9 of the Commissioner’s regulations relating to administration of vaccinations by pharmacists. The revised proposed amendment implements Part DD of Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2018, which effective April 12, 2018, amends the education law to authorize a licensed pharmacist to administer influenza vaccine to children between two and eighteen years of age pursuant to a patient specific order or a non-patient specific regimen prescribed ordered by a physician or certified nurse practitioner and requires such pharmacists to include in their respective immunization patient privacy areas education materials on influenza vaccinations for children as determined by the Commissioner and the Commissioner of the Department of Health

Proposed Addition of Section 64.9 to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to Regulation of Advanced Home Health Aides - PPC (A) 2

Your Committee discussed the following: a proposed addition of §64.9 to the Commissioner’s regulations relating to advanced home health aides. The proposed addition of section 64.9 to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education establishes the requirements for becoming an advanced home health aides (AHHAs), the assignment of advanced task to AHHAs, the direct supervision of AHHAs by RNs, the performance of advanced tasks by AHHAs, AHHA training and competency, and AHHA training programs.

MOVED, that the Committee Reports be approved.

Motion by: Regent Judith Johnson
Seconded by: Regent Judith Chin
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Early Childhood Workgroup Blue Ribbon Committee Final Report and Recommendations – Motion for Approval

VOTED, that the Board of Regents accept the final recommendations of the NYS Board of Regents Early Childhood Workgroup’s Blue Ribbon Committee as presented in the Committee’s September 17, 2018 Final Draft Report and Recommendations (http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/ECBRC_Final%20Report%209.17.18_USE.pdf).

Motion by: Regent Luis O. Reyes
Seconded by: Regent Lester W. Young, Jr.
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

State Education Department August 2018 Fiscal Report
BR (A) 3

MOVED, that the Board accepts the August 2018 State Education Department Fiscal Report as presented.

Motion by: Regent Beverly L. Ouderkirk
Seconded by: Regent Wade S. Norwood
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Appointment of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
BR (A) 4

MOVED, that the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Ms. Phyllis Morris to the position of Chief Financial Officer.

Motion by: Regent Roger Tilles
Seconded by: Regent Christine D. Cea
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Announcement of the Marge A. Tierney Memorial Scholarship Award Winner

The 2018 Marge A. Tierney Scholarship was awarded by Commissioner MaryEllen Elia to Samiha Tashneem, of Bronx, New York.
2019 Teacher of the Year  
(Attachment IV)

Commissioner Elia and Chancellor Rosa opened the Teacher of the Year Awards.

Chancellor Rosa introduced the 2018 Teacher of the Year, Christopher Albrecht to speak as to his experience as Teacher of the Year.

Regent Susan W. Mittler introduced finalist Rachel Murat, who has just begun her 23rd year as a social studies and technology integration teacher at Maine-Endwell High School in Endwell.

Chancellor Rosa introduced finalist William “Billy” Green. Billy Green is a chemistry teacher as well as the Science Department Chair and New Teacher Instructional Coach at the Frederick Douglas Academy III High School in the South Bronx.

Chancellor Rosa presented the Teacher of the Year for 2019 Alhassan Susso, of International Community High School in the South Bronx, New York. Mr. Susso also received the Commissioner Thomas Sobol Award and the David Johnson Award.

Chancellor Rosa invited Mr. Susso to provide remarks to the Board (Attachment V.)

Commissioner Elia recognized in attendance the 2017 Teacher of the Year Amy Hysick, 2016 Teacher of the Year Dana McDonough, 2015 Teacher of the Year Charles Giglio and 2005 Teacher of the Year Elizabeth Day.

Regent Reyes recognized that September 20th marks the one year anniversary of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico and that there are 2,538 displaced students throughout New York State.

Chancellor Rosa adjourned the meeting.
# Appendix I
NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF REGENTS CHARTER ACTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Institution</th>
<th>Program Area</th>
<th>County (City/Town) of Location</th>
<th>Description of Charter Action(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Asia Society</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>New York (New York)</td>
<td>Amend charter to increase maximum number of trustees from 70 to 100.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behold!</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Columbia (New Lebanon)</td>
<td>Dissolve charter and approval to distribute remaining assets to Shaker Museum/Mount Lebanon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomfield Public Library</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Ontario (Bloomfield)</td>
<td>Grant provisional charter for five years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Carlisle Historical Society</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Schoharie (Carlisle)</td>
<td>Extend provisional charter for five years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll Historical Society</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Chautauqua (Frewsburg)</td>
<td>Extend provisional charter for five years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Century Association Archives Foundation</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>New York (New York)</td>
<td>Extend provisional charter for five years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinton Community Library</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Dutchess (Clinton)</td>
<td>Grant an absolute charter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Finger Lakes Agricultural Museum at The Oliver Farm</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Ontario (Hopewell)</td>
<td>Grant provisional charter for five years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middleburgh Historical Society</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Schoharie (Middleburgh)</td>
<td>Grant an absolute charter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Arab Masonic Historical Society</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Franklin (Tupper Lake)</td>
<td>Extend provisional charter for five years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum of American Theater</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Westchester (Somers)</td>
<td>Amend provisional charter to change the corporate address and extend charter for five years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>City</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philmont Public Library</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>Philmont</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Toy Museum of NY</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Kings</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wharton Studio Museum</td>
<td>CE</td>
<td>Tompkins</td>
<td>Ithaca</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic School Region of the Northwest and South Bronx</td>
<td>P12</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Faith Christian School</td>
<td>P12</td>
<td>Bronx</td>
<td>Bronx</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate Board of Education, Diocese of Rochester</td>
<td>P12</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>Rochester</td>
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<tr>
<td>DeSales Catholic School</td>
<td>P12</td>
<td>Niagara</td>
<td>Lockport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fontbonne Hall Academy</td>
<td>P12</td>
<td>Kings</td>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Keswell School</td>
<td>P12</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Place of Miracles Academy</td>
<td>P12</td>
<td>Bronx</td>
<td>Bronx</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Joseph Regional School</td>
<td>P12</td>
<td>Genesee</td>
<td>Batavia</td>
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<td>Tiegerman School</td>
<td>P12</td>
<td>Nassau</td>
<td>Glen Cove</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central European University</td>
<td>HE</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>HE</td>
<td>Tompkins</td>
<td>Ithaca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution</td>
<td>HE</td>
<td>County (City)</td>
<td>Action Description</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daemen College</td>
<td>HE</td>
<td>Erie (Snyder)</td>
<td>Amend charter to add authority to establish a branch campus in Brooklyn, NY.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fei Tian College</td>
<td>HE</td>
<td>Orange (Cuddebackville)</td>
<td>Amend charter to add authority to confer the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree at the Middletown branch campus.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Board of Regents announced disciplinary actions resulting in the revocation of 3 licenses, surrender of 26 licenses and 63 other disciplinary actions. The penalty indicated for each case relates solely to the misconduct set forth in that particular case.

I. REVOCATIONS AND SURRENDERS

**Chiropractic**

Shimon J. Metz; Chiropractor, West Hempstead, NY 11552-1155; Lic. No. 008102; Cal. No. 29164; **Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty:** Revocation.

**Massage Therapy**

Ilya Arnopolskiy; Massage Therapist; Owego, NY 13827; Lic. No. 029833; Cal. No. 30654; **Application to surrender license granted. Summary:** Licensee admitted to the charge of touching sexual parts of female clients while rendering massage therapy in or about between February 2, 2017 and April 7, 2017.

**Mental Health Practitioners**

Steven M. Marsh; Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist; West Islip, NY 11795; Lic. No. 001267; Cal. No. 30508; **Application to surrender license granted. Summary:** Licensee did not contest charges of conduct in the profession which evidences moral unfitness, willful verbal and physical abuse, and practicing the profession of licensed marriage and family therapy while the license was suspended.

**Nursing**

Kimberly L. States; Registered Professional Nurse; Painted Post, NY 14870; Lic. No. 527982; Cal. No. 29593; **Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty:** Revocation.

Greg Stafford Gaba; Registered Professional Nurse; Marshall, MO 65340; Lic. No. 503169; Cal. No. 29974; **Application to surrender license granted. Summary:** Licensee admitted to the charge of having been found guilty of diverting controlled substances and dangerous drugs for his personal use by the Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California, which conduct if committed in New York State would constitute practicing nursing fraudulently.
Sharon L. Clements; Registered Professional Nurse; Hollywood, FL 33021-1738; Lic. No. 347860; Cal. No. 30036; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of having been found guilty of failing to meet minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing nursing practice including engaging in acts for which the licensee is not qualified by training or experience in the State of Florida, where the conduct if committed in New York, would constitute practicing the profession of nursing with negligence on more than on occasion.

Deborah Ann Casale; Registered Professional Nurse; North Babylon, NY 11703; Lic. No. 414702; Cal. No. 30135; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of having been convicted of Falsifying Business Records in the 1st Degree, a class E felony, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 7th Degree, a class A misdemeanor; and, Petit Larceny, a class A misdemeanor.

Noelle Croal; Licensed Practical Nurse; Hempstead, NY 11550; Lic. No. 207302; Cal. No. 30467; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of failing to report and document that a patient rolled onto the floor mat from her bed.

Kyle Ray Holman; Licensed Practical Nurse; Etna, WY 83118; Lic. No. 232231; Cal. No. 30490; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee did not contest the charge of suturing the finger of an Urgent Care Center patient in the State of California.

Laurie Gay Reich; Registered Professional Nurse; Powell, WY 82435-9719; Lic. No. 528762; Cal. No. 30529; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of diverting narcotics for his own use while practicing as a registered nurse in the State of Colorado.

Cindy Ann Parmelee; Registered Professional Nurse; North Las Vegas, NV 89031; Lic. No. 277668; Cal. No. 30574; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of failing to properly document the administration of controlled substance medications in patient medication administration records while practicing as a licensed professional nurse in the State of Nevada.

Andrell J. Leppanen; Licensed Practical Nurse; Dannemora, NY 12929; Lic. No. 285829; Cal. No. 30598; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of having been convicted of Murder in the 2nd Degree and Assault in the 1st Degree.

Kristi Leigh Planick; Registered Professional Nurse; Mansfield, OH 44903-9296; Lic. No. 627077; Cal. No. 30614; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of having been convicted of Vehicular Assault in the State of Ohio, a felony of the 4th Degree, which in New York would constitute Assault in the 3rd Degree, a class A misdemeanor.
Sophie Pride; Registered Professional Nurse; Philadelphia, PA 19152; Lic. No. 489768; Cal. No. 30631; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of having been found guilty of professional misconduct in Pennsylvania, where the conduct if committed in New York would constitute unprofessional misconduct; being habitually drunk or being dependent on, or a habitual user of narcotics, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens, or other drug having similar effects.

Patricia C. Joseph; Licensed Practical Nurse; Stafford, TX 77477; Lic. No. 290759; Cal. No. 30636; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee did not contest the charge of finding of professional misconduct by the Texas State Board of Nursing for creating an inaccurate medical record, which if committed in New York State, would constitute professional misconduct for failing to maintain a record for each patient which accurately reflects the evaluation and treatment of the patient in violation of section 6509(9) of the New York Education law and section 29.2 (a)(3) of the Rules of the Board of Regents (8 NYCRR).

Cheryl Ann Edmondson; Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Professional Nurse; Buford, GA 30519; Lic. Nos. 165818, 375095; Cal. Nos. 30641, 30642; Application to surrender licenses granted. Summary: Licensee did not contest the charge of finding of professional misconduct by the Florida State Board of Nursing for making deceptive, untrue, or fraudulent representations in or related to the practice of a profession, which if committed in New York State, would constitute professional misconduct for willfully making or filing a false report in violation of section 6509(9) of the New York Education law and section 29.1 (b)(6) of the Rules of the Board of Regents (8NYCRR).

Cynthia Renee Lucas; Registered Professional Nurse; Pascagoula, MS 39567; Lic. No. 725000; Cal. No. 30660; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of having been found guilty of professional misconduct in Mississippi, where the conduct if committed in New York would constitute unprofessional conduct; practicing the profession of nursing with gross negligence; and being dependent on or a habitual user of narcotics.

Silvio Jesus Ruiz; Registered Professional Nurse; Miami, FL 33193-5706; Lic. No. 600398; Cal. No. 30661; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of having been convicted of Conspiracy to Commit Health Care Fraud and False Statement in Florida.

Stacy Eleanor McAdams; Licensed Practical Nurse; Pawling, NY 12564-1418; Lic. No. 229013; Cal. No. 30697; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of having been convicted of 3 counts of Willful Violation of Health Laws, a misdemeanor.
Donna Maria Hanna; Registered Professional Nurse; Santa Barbara, CA 93110-4066; Lic. No. 537882; Cal. No. 30706; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of Colorado habitual user.

Debra A. McGurrin a/k/a Debra Luckett a/k/a Debra M. Luckett; Registered Professional Nurse; Walton, KY 41094; Lic. No. 374161; Cal. No. 30712; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee did not contest the charge of being habitually drunk in that she was habitually dependent on alcohol.

Christine Vigneau; Registered Professional Nurse; Gulfport, FL 33707; Lic. No. 542074; Cal. No. 30713; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee did not contest the charge of up until in or about March 2011, being dependent on and a habitual user of the controlled substances Percocet and Demerol.

Marie A. Anders; Registered Professional Nurse; Orland Park, IL 60467; Lic. No. 414547; Cal. No. 30714; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee did not contest the charge of failing to properly document according to facility policy in Arizona.

Lori Jean Klees; Registered Professional Nurse; Los Angeles, CA 90034; Lic. No. 545392; Cal. No. 30715; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of having been convicted of driving with a blood alcohol level of 0.08 percent or more in the State of California, a misdemeanor, and which if committed within this state, would have constituted Driving While Intoxicated, an unclassified misdemeanor.

Jessica Leigh Hardy; Registered Professional Nurse; Dana Point, CA 92629; Lic. No. 708781; Cal. No. 30717; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of in the State of Tennessee, obtaining unauthorized prescriptions under the names of providers in order to obtain controlled substances.

Podiatry

Perrin Edwards; Podiatrist; Hudson, NY 12534; Lic. No. 002903; Cal. No. 30643; Application to surrender license granted. Summary: Licensee admitted to the charge of having been convicted of Health Care Fraud.

Public Accountancy

Judah Wernick; Certified Public Accountant; Woodmere, NY 11598; Lic. No. 061181; Cal. No. 28480; Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty: Revocation.

Social Work

Joseph L. Overlock; Licensed Master Social Worker; Siasconset, MA 02564; Lic. No. 073155; Cal. No. 30400; Application to surrender license granted. Summary:
Licensee did not contest the charge of entering into a long-term intimate romantic relationship with a patient.

II. OTHER REGENTS DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Acupuncture

Ying Li; Acupuncturist; Oakland Gardens, NY 11364; Lic. No. 001336; Cal. No. 27653; Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty: 2 years suspension, execution of last 12 months of suspension stayed, probation 2 years.

Architecture

Edward C. Hicks; Architect; Flushing, NY 11358-1909; Lic. No. 016413; Cal. No. 30533; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $2,500 fine.

Chiropractic

Scott Joseph Keller; Chiropractor; Ronkonkoma, NY 11779; Lic. No. 007598; Cal. No. 30308; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: Indefinite actual suspension for not less than 30 months and until fit to practice, 3 years probation to commence subsequent to termination of suspension and upon actual return to practice, $10,000 fine payable within 2 years.

Dentistry

Jin Wook Song; Dentist; Carthage, NY 13619; Lic. No. 048707; Cal. No. 28074; Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty: Partial indefinite suspension in specified areas for a minimum of 2 years and until completion of retraining in each of these specified areas, probation 4 years concurrent with commencement of partial indefinite suspension, terms of probation include requirements that, during period of probation, respondent be prohibited from practicing dentistry in the specified areas to which her suspension applies until such time as respondent has been duly notified of the termination of such suspensions in these specified areas and that, in addition, respondent be required to successfully complete coursework in Risk Management and in Ethics during period of probation, $2,500 fine.

John Thomas Gordon; Dentist; Islip Terrace, NY 11752; Lic. No. 044635; Cal. No. 29951; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 month actual suspension, 23 months stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

Honey Ojha; Dentist, Dental Enteral Conscious Sedation; New Hartford, NY 13413; Lic. No. 054720, Cert. No. 000601; Cal. Nos. 29962, 29963; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspensions, 2 years probation, $3,000 fine.
Shakera Zelawar; Dental Hygienist; Clifton Park, NY 12065; Lic. No. 025875; Cal. No. 30527-8403; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension, 1 year probation, $250 fine.

Nursing

Thosha Korynn Labate; Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Professional Nurse; Rochester, NY 14612; Lic. Nos. 259048, 530063; Cal. Nos. 28939, 28940; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspensions, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

Tammy Lee Robinson; Licensed Practical Nurse; Rensselaer, NY 12144; Lic. No. 267759; Cal. No. 29250; Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty: 2 years suspension, execution of suspension stayed, probation 2 years, $500 fine.

Christine Denise Howard; Registered Professional Nurse; Savannah, GA 31404; Lic. No. 541998; Cal. No. 29496; Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty: $250 fine, suspension until substance abuse-free and fit to practice, probation 2 years to commence subsequent to termination of suspension and if and when return to practice in the State of New York.

Darryl Lynn Jebbett; Licensed Practical Nurse; Rochester, NY 14620; Lic. No. 234001; Cal. No. 29583; Found guilty of professional misconduct; Penalty: Indefinite suspension until fit to practice, upon termination of suspension, probation 2 years.

Ramesh Efran Kola; Licensed Practical Nurse; Albany, NY 12202; Lic. No. 243724; Cal. No. 29623; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

Luke D. Meissner; Registered Professional Nurse; Saranac Lake, NY 12983; Lic. No. 642035; Cal. No. 29634; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

Francine Paulette Francioli a/k/a Francine P. Whittaker; Licensed Practical Nurse; Youngstown, NY 14174; Lic. No. 289365; Cal. No. 29696; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $250 fine.

Kristin Marie Bolduc; Registered Professional Nurse; Freehold, NY 12431; Lic. No. 666126; Cal. No. 29943; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: Indefinite actual suspension until fit to practice, upon termination of suspension, 2 years probation to commence upon return to practice.

Kelly A. Aragona a/k/a Kelly Ann Osier; Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Professional Nurse; Clay, NY 13041; Lic. Nos. 253984, 509907; Cal. Nos. 30037,
Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspensions, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

Jonathan William Biggar; Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Professional Nurse; Tully, NY 13159-9424; Lic. Nos. 190611, 443311; Cal. Nos. 30109, 30110; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 month actual suspensions, 23 months stayed suspensions, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

Krystal Ann Jarrett a/k/a Krystal McQuown; Licensed Practical Nurse; North Rose, NY 14516; Lic. No. 293116; Cal. No. 30160; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: Indefinite actual suspension for no less than 6 months and until fit to practice, upon termination of suspension, 2 years probation to commence upon return to practice, $250 fine payable within 6 months.

Lisa Marie Kiernan; Registered Professional Nurse; Williston Park, NY 11596; Lic. No. 508698; Cal. No. 30167; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension; 1 year probation; $500 fine.

Michele Ann Goss; Registered Professional Nurse; Miller Place, NY 11764; Lic. No. 479079; Cal. No. 30199; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension, 1 year probation, $500 fine.

Gloria Vasquez; Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Professional Nurse; Bay Shore, NY 11706; Lic. Nos. 245484, 488910; Cal. Nos. 30215, 30214; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 month actual suspensions, 23 months stayed suspensions, 2 years probation.

Norine Edith Barnett; Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Professional Nurse; Beaver Dams, NY 14812; Lic. Nos. 236641, 491272; Cal. Nos. 30242, 30243; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspensions, 2 years probation.

Holly Rose Knaus; Licensed Practical Nurse; Orchard Park, NY 14217; Lic. No. 238519; Cal. No. 30260; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: Indefinite actual suspension until fit to practice, upon termination of suspension, 2 years probation to commence upon return to practice, $500 fine payable within 6 months.

Cindy Ann Martin; Registered Professional Nurse; Seneca Castle, NY 14547; Lic. No. 342238; Cal. No. 30274; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 month actual suspension, 23 months stayed suspension, 2 years probation to commence upon return to practice, $500 fine payable within 6 months.

Debbie Hicks a/k/a Debbie Buckley; Registered Professional Nurse; Buffalo, NY 14215-0402; Lic. No. 416023; Cal. No. 30307; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 6 months actual suspension, 18 months stayed suspension, 2
Kimberly Marie Gordon; Licensed Practical Nurse; Moriches, NY 11955-1214; Lic. No. 290903; Cal. No. 30313; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension, 1 year probation, $500 fine.

Kerri Jo McIntosh; Licensed Practical Nurse; Crown Point, NY 12928-1292; Lic. No. 265466; Cal. No. 30316; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension, 1 year probation, $500 fine.

Eleni Marie Green; Registered Professional Nurse; Rochester, NY 14609-1874; Lic. No. 720462; Cal. No. 30336; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

Carmen M. Santiago; Licensed Practical Nurse; Tivoli, NY 12583; Lic. No. 308469; Cal. No. 30350; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

Wendy Harbinger; Registered Professional Nurse; Saugerties, NY 12477; Lic. No. 355417; Cal. No. 30355; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 months actual suspension, 22 months stayed suspension, upon termination of actual suspension, 2 years probation to commence upon return to practice.

Katherine Louise Gallup; Registered Professional Nurse; Howes Cave, NY 12092; Lic. No. 677875; Cal. No. 30356; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 3 months actual suspension, 21 months stayed suspension, 2 years probation to commence upon return to practice, $500 fine payable within 4 months.

Salvatore Mattaliano; Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Professional Nurse; Brooklyn, NY 11228; Lic. Nos. 205138, 447931; Cal. Nos. 30357, 30358; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspensions, 2 years probation.

Karli C. Sydor; Registered Professional Nurse; Wynantskill, NY 12198; Lic. No. 633528; Cal. No. 30365; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

Teresa Marie Ruiz; Registered Professional Nurse; Portland, NY 14769; Lic. No. 606045; Cal. No. 30375; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 months actual suspension, 22 months stayed suspension, 2 years probation to commence if and when return to practice, $500 fine payable within 6 months.

Jamie Van Etten; Licensed Practical Nurse; Tully, NY 13159; Lic. No. 315308; Cal. No. 30382; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: Indefinite actual suspension for no less than 6 months and until fit to practice, upon termination of
suspension, 2 years probation to commence upon return to practice, $750 fine payable within 6 months.

**Alana Parker**; Licensed Practical Nurse; Watertown, NY 13601; Lic. No. 323039; Cal. No. 30385; **Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon:** 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

**Kimberly Jean Ratajczak**; Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Professional Nurse; Lockport, NY 14094; Lic. Nos. 255428, 532907; Cal. Nos. 30386, 30387; **Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon:** 2 years stayed suspensions, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

**Sosamma K. Mani**; Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Professional Nurse; New Hyde Park, NY 11040; Lic. Nos. 264842, 650879; Cal. Nos. 30431, 30432; **Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon:** 1 month actual suspensions, 23 months stayed suspensions, 2 years probation.

**Matthew Michael MacLeod**; Registered Professional Nurse; Rensselaer, NY 12144; Lic. No. 621796; Cal. No. 30442; **Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon:** 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

**Nancy Anne Sargus**; Registered Professional Nurse; Bronx, NY 10451; Lic. No. 436729; Cal. No. 30456; **Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon:** 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

**Ellen Gale Matzer**; Registered Professional Nurse; Wantagh, NY 11793; Lic. No. 310914; Cal. No. 30471; **Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon:** 1 month actual suspension, 23 months stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $500 fine.

**Jessie Elizabeth Marie Skiff a/k/a Jessie Doughty**; Licensed Practical Nurse; Ellenville, NY 12428; Lic. No. 270568; Cal. No. 30484; **Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon:** Indefinite actual suspension for a minimum of 1 month and until successful participation in course of therapy and treatment and until fit to practice, upon termination of suspension, 2 years probation.

**Lizbeth Tamayo**; Licensed Practical Nurse; Islip Terrace, NY 11752; Lic. No. 323660; Cal. No. 30501; **Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon:** 1 month actual suspension, 23 months stayed suspension, 2 years probation.

**Jeanine B. Fogarty**; Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Professional Nurse; Buckhannon, WV 26201; Lic. Nos. 180171, 389909; Cal. Nos. 30543, 30542; **Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon:** 1 month actual suspensions, 11 months stayed suspensions, 1 year probation to commence upon return to practice in the State of New York, $500 fine payable within 30 days.
Kristen Davis Landry; Registered Professional Nurse; Elmira, NY 14904; Lic. No. 689820; Cal. No. 30544; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: Indefinite actual suspension until successful participation in course of therapy and treatment and until fit to practice, upon termination of suspension, 2 years probation to commence upon return to practice, $500 fine payable within 30 days.

Jereme Eugene Beers; Registered Professional Nurse; Reseda, CA 91335; Lic. No. 662888; Cal. No. 30545; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation to commence upon return to practice in the State of New York, $500 fine payable within 30 days.

Lisa Marcelle Cederbaum; Registered Professional Nurse, Nurse Practitioner (Adult Health); Truckee, CA 96160; Lic. No. 532399, Cert. No. 304324; Cal. Nos. 30546, 30547; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspensions, 2 years probation to commence upon return to practice in the State of New York, $500 fine payable within 30 days.

Kelly Ann Marie Mayerhofer a/k/a Kelly Ann Marie Tokarz; Licensed Practical Nurse; Chicago, IL 60657-3418; Lic. No. 302617; Cal. No. 30648; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension, 1 year probation to commence upon return to practice in the State of New York, $500 fine payable within 30 days.

Pharmacy

Zam Zam Pharmacy, Inc.; Pharmacy; Bronx, NY 10451; Reg. No. 031333; Cal. No. 30283; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: Censure and Reprimand, $10,000 fine payable within 30 days.

Public Accountancy

James Christopher Conery; Certified Public Accountant; Albany, NY 12205; Lic. No. 064873; Cal. No. 30129; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $2,500 fine.

Daniel Leon Rothbaum; Certified Public Accountant; Stamford, CT 06905; Lic. No. 069422; Cal. No. 30485; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 2 years stayed suspension, 2 years probation, $1,500 fine.

Veterinary Medicine

Mary B. Sykes; Veterinarian; Mamaroneck, NY 10543; Lic. No. 009065; Cal. No. 30376; Application for consent order granted; Penalty agreed upon: 1 year stayed suspension, 1 year probation, $1,000 fine.
Regent Finn and Regent Mead
Back to School
September 2018
Ithaca City School District

Ithaca

Regent Mittler and Dr. Luvelle Brown, Superintendent
Boys Prep Charter School
Bronx
Male Heroes
Welcome Students Back
Dr. Carl-Anthony Watson, Director of New School Development and Regent Young Kirkland, Principal

Regent Young and Dr. Khalek Kirkland, Principal
PS 173 – Fresh Meadow
Queens
PS 171 – Peter G. Van Alst
Queens
IS 126Q – Albert Shanker School for Visual & Performing Arts
Queens
Long Island City High School
Queens
NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF REGENTS
EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKGROUP’S
BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Blue Ribbon Committee Presenters:

Ms. Sherry Cleary, Executive Director, New York City Early Childhood Professional Development Institute, City University of New York

Dr. Jeffrey Kaczorowski, Vice Chair, New York State Department of Health’s Medicaid First 1000 Days on Medicaid Initiative

Dr. Aisha Ray, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Erikson Institute

Regents Early Childhood Workgroup:

Dr. Lester W. Young, Jr., Regent, Co-Chair

Dr. Luis O. Reyes, Regent, Co-Chair

ATTACHMENT III
VISION OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKGROUP’S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE

To transform the birth to age eight early care and education system in the State of New York.

“We envision a New York where ALL CHILDREN thrive from birth, flourish in preschool, enter the school age program on a trajectory of success, and are academically proficient in third grade by growing up healthy and having opportunities for high-quality early learning experiences that are culturally, linguistically, and developmentally appropriate.”
A total of 18 Final Recommendations are being advanced for consideration.

- Of these recommendations, nine require Budget approval. These budget recommendations were presented to the Board of Regents in December 2017 and included in the Regents Budget Priorities for the 2018-19 State Fiscal Year. The remaining nine recommendations would need a change in legislation or education policy.

- Recommendations are grouped according to the following three topics:
  - Comprehensive Services for Children and Families
  - Strengthening the Early Childhood Workforce
  - Statewide Supports and Infrastructure
COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

DR. JEFFREY KACZOROWSKI
IT IS A RARE AND EXCITING TIME
**BIG PICTURE:** These are the same kids and families in different systems across time

Medicaid/Child Health has a big role to play!

Education has a big role to play!
# First 1000 Days on Medicaid: 10-Point Plan

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** Denotes area of significant correlation with the Blue Ribbon Committee Recommendations
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Fund Prekindergarten Expansion (Budget): Provide $20M to expand the Prekindergarten Program to approximately 2,000 four-year-old children ($15M was allocated in the FY18 Budget).

Promote Blended Learning (Budget): Provide $6M for pilot programs to target funding to 10-month and summer inclusion prekindergarten programs for three- and four-year-old children.

Cultivate Local Community and Family Engagement (Budget): Provide $2M to give targeted communities the opportunity to meet their specific family and community engagement needs.

Require Full-Day Kindergarten (Legislation): Require full-day kindergarten in all school districts across the State, which will include lowering the compulsory age for education from 6 years old to 5 years old.
Recommendations for Comprehensive Services for Children and Families

Implement a Multi-Agency Comprehensive Developmental Screening Process (Budget): Provide $700,000 as a first step toward the implementation of a comprehensive developmental screening process for all children ages 0 to 8.

Support Emergent Multilingual Learners (Education Policy): Revise the Commissioner’s Regulations, Section 151.1, to include the identification of children enrolled in Prekindergarten who speak languages other than English in their homes as “Emergent Multilingual Learners.”

Develop Statewide Behavior Management Practices (Education Policy): Hold a convening of NYSED and OCFS staff to discuss best behavior management practices for staff to mitigate and ultimately eliminate Prekindergarten suspensions and expulsions, and leveraging lessons learned in existing successful initiatives.
STRENGTHENING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKFORCE

DR. AISHA RAY
DELIVERING HIGH QUALITY CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY EFFECTIVE TEACHER PREPARATION

Challenges

- High Quality
- Curriculum
- Faculty Dispositions
- Practice
- Reflection
- Exposure of Students to Content
- Faculty Promotion and Retention
WHAT IS MEANT BY “CULTURALLY EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION AND LEARNING”?

Early Care and Education Teaching Staff:

• Have specific training/preparation
• Use children’s home language
• Help young children develop complex positive identities
• Use culturally and linguistically appropriate strategies
• Use knowledge of the cultural worlds of children, of child development, and of instruction
• Build classroom communities
• Develop reflective capacities and interpersonal competence
• Develop “active” and “constructive” responses to children
Elevate Teacher Preparation and Professional Development (Budget): Provide $2.5M to adopt and implement a competency-based approach in pre-service teacher preparation programs and in-service professional development.

Develop Career Pathways for Early Childhood Educators (Education Policy): Improve retention of the workforce by creating a comprehensive, statewide strategy to assist and incentivize current and aspiring early childhood educators, including special education teachers, and ancillary staff to advance along the State’s career pathway ladder.

Strengthen Teacher and Leader Preparation (Education Policy): Develop collaborations between NYSED’s Office of Higher Education and Institutions of Higher Education teacher and leadership preparation programs to include culturally responsive family and community engagement principles and best practices.
Recruit a High-Quality Workforce (Education Policy): Recruit a diverse workforce of educators and providers who possess core knowledge and demonstrated competencies including cultural competency, from diverse backgrounds by creating partnerships, beginning at the high school level, who reflect the race, background, and/or culture of the students they may teach.

Develop Concentrations in Early Childhood Teacher Certification (Education Policy): Change teacher certification requirements in the existing birth-2nd Grade certificate to allow teacher candidates to choose a concentration in infant/toddler, Pre-K, 1-2, Bilingual Education, Special Education, or a combination thereof.

Revise School Leader Certification Requirements (Education Policy): Change the certification for school leaders by requiring that school leaders (preservice) submit a certificate of completion of 8 hours each in special education, multilingual strategies, developmentally appropriate practice, and trauma-informed support.
STATEWIDE SUPPORTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SHERRY CLEYARY
Highly effective systems work requires a true trust and interdependence. Partners develop respect for the roles that each play and help to ensure each other’s success. The Blue Ribbon project inspired these relationships.
**Recommendations for Statewide Supports and Infrastructure**

**Establish Early Learning Technical Assistance Centers (Budget):** Provide $2M to establish five Early Learning Regional Technical Assistance Centers (TAC) to provide support to early care and educational settings.

**Conduct a Cost Validation Study (Budget):** Provide $300,000 to conduct a cost study to validate the actual cost of a high-quality prekindergarten program for all four-year-old children.

**Fund Expansion of QUALITYstarsNY (Budget):** Provide $3M to expand the availability of QUALITYstarsNY throughout the State by improving assessment tools and staff support; strengthening the existing system; improving coordination by leveraging all resources available for quality improvement; and expanding the number of programs and classrooms receiving support from QUALITYstarsNY.
Recommendaons for Statewide Supports and Infrastructure

Create a Multi-Agency Data System (Budget): Provide $500,000 to fund the first step toward the creation of a unified HIPAA and FERPA-compliant data system.

Address Prekindergarten Transportation (Education Policy): Establish a cross-system Transportation Workgroup to inform policy that will address issues related to transporting prekindergarten children.
SUMMARY

• These Recommendations are a first step in achieving the Regents’ ambitious vision for early care and education in New York.

• The Regents’ five-year phased-in approach to support and advance policies will prioritize children with greatest need and will require a coordinated effort with other State agencies and initiatives.

• These efforts will result in high-quality early childhood and education programs throughout New York State that recruit and retain highly effective, culturally responsive, and linguistically-prepared educators, and ensure young children get a healthy start from birth, become ready for kindergarten, stay on track to graduate from high school, and are successful in life.
TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

September 2018:
▪ Approval of recommendations by Board of Regents
▪ Final report to be printed and released

October - December 2018:
▪ Strategize with key State agency heads to jointly present recommendations
▪ Present recommendations and final report to key legislators and the executive
▪ Begin meeting with education advocates (NYSCOSS, NYSSBA, SAANYS, etc.)

January - April 2019:
▪ Continue to meet with the legislature and executive on recommendations needing budget approval

January - June 2019:
▪ Continue to meet with the legislature and executive on recommendations needing legislative approval
NYS Board of Regents Early Childhood Workgroup's
BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE

Final Recommendations

September, 2018

Betty A. Rosa, Chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents
Regent Lester W. Young, Jr. and Regent Luis O. Reyes, Co-Chairs
MaryEllen Elia, Commissioner of Education and President of The University
The University of the State of New York Department of Education

Be it Known that

Alhassan Susso

is hereby proclaimed

New York State Teacher of the Year for 2019

Betty A. Rosa
Chancellor
New York State Board of Regents

T. Andrew Brown
Vice Chancellor
New York State Board of Regents

MaryEllen Elia
Commissioner of Education and President of the University of the State of New York
The
University of the
Education
Department

In Recognition of

William H. Green

As a Finalist for

New York State Teacher of the Year
for 2019

Betty A. Rosa
Chancellor
New York State Board of Regents

MaryEllen Elia
Commissioner of Education
and President of the University of the State of New York
In Recognition of

Rachel Murat

As a Finalist for

New York State Teacher of the Year
for 2019

Betty A. Rosa
Chancellor
New York State Board of Regents

Susan W. Mittler
Member
New York State Board of Regents

MaryEllen Elia
Commissioner of Education
and President of the University of the State of New York
2019 Teacher of the Year Acceptance Speech - Alhassan Susso

Good morning, Chancellor Rosa, Commissioner Elia, Members of the Board of Regents, NYSUT Representatives, NY Teachers of the Year, Members of the NYC Dept of Education, the South Bronx Community, my International Community High School community, and my family, including my wife and daughter who are here with me this morning.

I am deeply honored to be the representative for the 215,000 teachers of the great state of NY, as the 2019 NY State Teacher of the Year.

Sitting in this chair today feels surreal. At the age of sixteen, I left the comfort and sanctuary of my Grandmother’s house in Africa’s smallest mainland country, The Gambia, in pursuit of a dream. On that fateful day in September of 2000, I left a familiar territory with just $20, two pairs of pants and shirts, and a debilitating eye disease.

When I arrived in the U.S. I settled in Poughkeepsie, NY. I enrolled in Poughkeepsie High School, and it became my refuge in my new country. I had many good teachers and one, who helped shape my teaching philosophy was Ms. Felter. Ms. Felter treated each student with utmost respect and dignity. In essence, she validated our humanity without highlighting our challenges.

Teaching should bring about joy and happiness every day because teaching is all about cultivating and nurturing relationships. It does not matter how outstanding our lessons are, how skilled we are at delivering those lessons or how knowledgeable we are in our subject matter (which are at the core of great teaching), if our students do not know how much we care about them.

In the December 2017 issue of The Atlantic, an article was published titled, "The Contradictions of Good Teaching: Many Educators who Succeed at Raising Test Scores Also Fail at Keeping Students Fulfilled." The central question of the article was, "Is a good teacher one who makes the students enjoy class the most or one who is strict and has high standards?" The real question we should be asking is, “Are these two ideas actually at odds with each other?” Any great teacher knows success without fulfillment is the ultimate failure.

I look forward to learning more about how my fellow teachers across the state ensure their students’ social and emotional well-being. Social and emotional learning plays a crucial role in academic achievement. According to a research by Loyola University, students who are enrolled in strong social and emotional learning programs at their schools, outperform their counterparts in their states’ standardized exams by 11 points. Also, 1 in 10 teens report a feeling of depression in New York. It is therefore imperative that practices such as gratitude, mindfulness, compassion and kindness are explicitly taught just as we teach all other academic curriculums. We need to empower our students to live meaningful lives through self-actualization.

In order to achieve the goals laid out in bloom taxonomy, Maslow must be met. As Emerson said, educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all. I look forward to working with this body to ensure that SEL standards are taught in every school across our great state.
I teach in the poorest congressional district in the United States. While my students do not have a lot of resources and live in uncertainty most of the time – what they bear far supersedes any tangible resource – what they bear, is the yearning to make a difference. Like Maria Feliz, who came to America from the Dominican Republic. Four years ago, when Maria placed on her vision board that she wanted to become a doctor, even I was a little ambivalent. Last spring, Maria and her classmates at Lehman College went to Nicaragua to volunteer at a makeshift hospital. Upon her return, she accepted a summer internship at Johns Hopkins in medical research and plans to enroll in medical school next year.

Like Saffiou, an immigrant from Togo in West Africa, who is pursuing Political Science and Economics at Lehman College. When Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico last year, he went down to help with the cleanup efforts. Saffiou did not know a soul in Puerto Rico. What he understood however, is that our bond of humanity far supersedes any trivial differences we may have.

Like Fatou, who is here with us today. Fatou entered our school labeled as a Student with Interrupted Formal Education. Despite this label, Fatou graduated among the top in her 2016 graduating class. She just completed an Associate Degree this past June from Bronx Manhattan Community College with a 4.0 GPA. She is currently pursuing her Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood Education at City College on her journey to becoming a teacher.

Fatou also serves as a counselor for the Family and Children’s Services, taking the skills that she learned from our Personal Development class to empower at-risk children.

Even though Maria, Saffiou and Fatou came from different parts of the world, with different beliefs and cultures – what they do have in common is an abiding faith in the possibility of this nation – that out of many, we’re one.

It is therefore important that we empower our students to achieve academic excellence, become culturally competent individuals, as well as social and emotional intelligent citizens. As empathy and compassion thrive in the classroom, so does learning.

I look forward to working with my fellow teachers, administrators, policy-makers, PTAs, and all interested parties in the field of education to ensure the wellbeing of our children.

Thank you