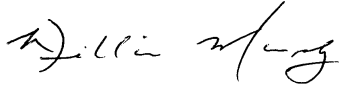





TO: Higher Education Committee

FROM: William P. Murphy 

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment of Section 80-3.10 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Relating to the Experience Requirement for Professional School Building Leader Certification

DATE: November 3, 2022

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Should the Board of Regents adopt the proposed amendment of section 80-3.10 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to the experience requirement for Professional School Building Leader certification?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review of policy.

Proposed Handling

The proposed amendment is submitted to the Higher Education Committee for discussion at its November 2022 meeting. A copy of the proposed amendment is attached (Attachment A).

Procedural History

A Notice of Proposed Rule Making will be published in the State Register on November 30, 2022, for a 60-day public comment period. Supporting materials are available upon request from the Secretary to the Board of Regents.

Background Information

Section 80-3.10 of the Commissioner's regulations describe the requirements for the Professional School Building Leader certificate, including three years of experience

in an educational leadership position in public or non-public schools; at least one of those three years of experience must be experience as a school building leader.

There have been concerns from the P-12 community related to the requirement that at least one year of the educational leadership experience is at the school-building leader level and the impact this requirement is having on a school-building leader's ability to progress from the Initial certificate to the Professional certificate. Specifically, as the nature of the work of school administrators has evolved, there is an increasing expectation that building-level leaders are familiar with district-level issues. Further, district-level administrators often regularly work in building environments and perform tasks that might have traditionally been assigned to school building leaders.

As such, a candidate for the Professional School Building Leader certificate whose job title and/or physical location within a district would not have traditionally corresponded to school building leadership may, in fact, have acquired the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to serve as a school building leader through district-level leadership experience.

To address these concerns, the Department proposes to amend the experience requirements for Professional School Building Leader certification by removing the requirement that at least one of the three years of experience in an educational leadership position be as a school building leader. This proposed amendment will provide school districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) with greater flexibility to assign administrators to the roles and responsibilities that are needed in their local education agencies. It will also ensure that candidates for the Professional School Building Leader certificate receive appropriate recognition of their experience in the educational leadership service regardless of whether they are assigned to a role that covers a single school building or multiple buildings within a school district.

Related Regents Items

Not applicable.

Recommendation

Not applicable.

Timetable for Implementation

Following the 60-day public comment period required under the State Administrative Procedure Act, it is anticipated that the proposed amendment will be presented to the Board of Regents for adoption at its March 2023 meeting. If adopted at the March meeting, the proposed amendment will become effective on March 29, 2023.

Attachment A

AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to sections 101, 207, 208, 305, 308, 3001, 3004, and 3009 of the Education Law.

1. Subparagraph (i) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of section 80-3.10 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended to read as follows:

(i) Requirements for the professional certificate as a school building leader in the educational leadership service. The candidate shall have successfully completed, in addition to the requirements for the initial certificate: three years of school experience in an educational leadership position in public or non-public schools N-12[, including at least one year of such experience as a school building leader]. The candidate who completes this requirement in total or part through providing educational leadership service in a school district or board of cooperative educational services in New York State shall be required to participate in a mentoring program in the first year of employment unless the candidate has successfully completed two years of educational leadership service prior to such public school service.