



TO: Higher Education Committee

FROM: John L. D'Agati

SUBJECT: Update on TeachNY

DATE: April 5, 2018

AUTHORIZATION(S):

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SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

The Board of Regents will be provided with an update on the TeachNY Initiative.

Proposed Handling

This issue will come before the Regents for discussion at their April 2018 meeting of the Higher Education Committee.

Background Information

In 2012, the Department awarded the State University of New York (SUNY), The City University of New York (CUNY), and the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities with a multi-million-dollar Race to the Top grant to develop and implement a reform initiative focused on educator preparation. The goal was to support the implementation of new certification requirements and create P-20 partnerships – between K-12 practitioners and higher education faculty – aligned to new ELA and math learning standards to better meet the needs of students.

Building on this work, in July of 2014, the Department awarded \$500,000 of Race to the Top funding to SUNY to convene a group of State and national experts to set a bold new course for educator preparation in New York through an initiative called TeachNY. As proposed, TeachNY would be carried out in three phases, the first to culminate in the experts' findings and recommendations. The second phase would be

marked by full engagement of SUNY—campus and system leadership, governance, faculty, students—and its partners in translating the recommendations into proposed policy for action by the SUNY Board of Trustees. The third phase would be implementation (with targeted, strategic investment) and evaluation.

The first phase of TeachNY concluded with the release of the TeachNY Advisory Council's report of recommendations on May 18, 2016. On that date, Commissioner Elia joined SUNY Chancellor Emeritus Nancy Zimpher to release the Council's report. In addition, the second phase of the project expanded to include partners from across P-20. The Commissioner and then-SUNY Chancellor Zimpher announced the launch of a statewide listening tour and a campaign to lift up the teaching profession. From May 2016 through March 2017, eight regional policy workshops and listening sessions were held at SUNY campuses across the state and at CUNY's City College. Over 1,000 educators and stakeholders attended these events from across higher education sectors and P-12, including pre- and in-service teachers, school and district leaders, higher education faculty and administrators, and other constituents with a stake in the future of teaching and learning in New York State.

As a result of the feedback received on the listening tour, it became clear that in order for TeachNY to reach its transformative potential, it must be matched—if not surpassed—by a collaborative effort to improve New York State's policy and regulatory environment to support recruitment, preparation, selection, induction, and long-term professional development of excellent educators. Achieving sustained improvement in the preparation of teachers and leaders will require unprecedented partnership between P-12 and higher education leadership and practitioners, along with support from the Governor and Legislature, and other stakeholders with a role in the educator preparation pipeline.

In October 2016, Commissioner Elia and SUNY Chancellor Emeritus Zimpher convened the first meeting of the TeachNY Statewide Roundtable with representatives from key stakeholder groups who could help chart a course forward for educator preparation policy statewide (see Attachment A for the list of members of the TeachNY Statewide Roundtable). The Roundtable convened eight times between October 2016 and March 2018 and welcomed expert presentations and held discussions on topics including teacher supply and demand, teacher leadership, and clinical experiences and residencies, that have informed the work of the Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching as well as the Department's Clinical Practice Work Group. Going forward, the work of the TeachNY Statewide Roundtable will be continued under the banner of the New York Teacher Table.

In January 2018, using TeachNY as an example, the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the College Football Playoff Foundation (CFPF)—who already partner on the National Teacher of the Year events—launched a national Teacher Table Network. This new approach recognizes that current efforts to improve recruitment and retention have not yielded the dramatic results that students and teachers deserve, in part because they have not consistently included teachers as a leading voice and have

needed a more comprehensive, thoughtful, data-driven approach to solving these problems.

To chart a new course in tackling teacher shortages, CCSSO and CFPF are supporting the launch of state Teacher Tables that are comprised of no less than 50 percent New York teachers. The work of the state Teacher Tables is powered by research by New York's Rockefeller Institute of Government, which is conducting a deep dive into the current and potential future teaching workforce in each state provide a data-rich foundation to conversations that will be tailored to each state's priorities and context with an opportunity to identify specific problems, strategies, and measurable outcomes. New York will be the second state to launch a Teacher Table.

Attachment A: Members of the TeachNY Statewide Roundtable

Nancy L. Zimpher and MaryEllen Elia, Co-Chairs

- H. Carl McCall, Chair, SUNY Board of Trustees
- Kathleen M. Cashin, New York State Board of Regents

Invited State Representatives

- Carl L. Marcellino, Chair, Senate Education Committee
- Catherine Nolan, Chair, Assembly Committee on Education
- Kenneth P. LaValle, Chair, Senate Higher Education Committee
- Deborah J. Glick, Chair, Assembly Committee on Higher Education
- Roberta Reardon, Commissioner, New York State Department of Labor
- Jere Hochman, Deputy Secretary for Education, Executive Chamber

P-12 Representatives

- Kevin Casey, Executive Director, School Administrators Association of New York State
- Carol Conklin-Spillane, President, Empire State Supervisors and Administrators Association
- Charles S. Dedrick, Executive Director, New York State Council of School Superintendents
- Evelyn DeJesus, Vice President for Education, United Federation of Teachers
- Jolene DiBrango, Executive Vice President, New York State United Teachers
- Timothy G. Kremer, Executive Director, New York State School Boards Association
- Ernest Logan, President, Council of School Supervisors and Administrators
- Valerie Lovelace, Executive Director, Greater Capital Region Teacher Center
- Jeffrey Matteson, District Superintendent, Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES
- Catherine Romano, Education Coordinator, New York State PTA
- Josephine Salvador, Executive Director, New York State Master Teacher Program
- Annette Romano, Co-Director, National Board Council of New York
- Phil Weinberg, Deputy Chancellor for Teaching and Learning, New York City Department of Education

Higher Education Representatives

- David Cantaffa, Assistant Provost for Educator Preparation, State University of New York
- Nancy Dubetz, President, New York State Association of Teacher Educators
- Frederick E. Kowal, President, United University Professions
- Ashleigh Thompson, University Dean for Education, City University of New York
- Joanna Masingila, President, New York Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- Susan Nesbitt Perez, Vice President for Outreach, Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities