



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: The Honorable Members of the Board of Regents
Acting in their Capacity as Trustees of The University of
the State of New York

FROM: Mary Drzonsc, Fiscal Agent *Mary Drzonsc*

SUBJECT: Acceptance of a stipend from the National Association of
State Boards of Education (NASBE)

DATE: October 18, 2016

AUTHORIZATION(S): *Margellen Elin*

Issue for Decision

New York was selected to be one of the Early Learning Network States for 2016-2018 and has been awarded a two-year stipend from NASBE.

Proposed Handling

Approval.

Procedural History

NASBE issued a request for applications titled "Recruiting Network States to Build a Strong Early Care and Education Workforce." NASBE asserts that State Boards of Education (SBE) play a distinct role in developing a well-qualified early learning workforce, which depends on governmental structure and authorities within each state. Generally, SBEs can support the early learning workforce by strengthening requirements for core competencies, improving professional development, and advancing workforce credentialing and preparation in cooperation with higher education systems. NASBE received a two-year grant from the Foundation for Child Development to build the capacity of SBEs to support the Early Care and Education workforce by establishing a Network of three to four states to develop, revise, or adopt policies and share practices with other states.

Reason(s) for Consideration

New York's work plan for this project will address first, educator competencies and certification and second, educator preparation programs. New York's Network Team, which consists of the Board of Regents, the Department's Offices of Higher Education and Early Learning, and the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council. Because a significant portion of this proposal builds upon existing initiatives, the most important outcome will be increased coherence, coordination, and communication to enhance the individual efforts of each internal partner and to bolster interagency efforts and efficiency as well as to align statewide and programmatic goals. These efforts will help place all students on a trajectory of success.

The Board of Regent's Early Childhood Work Group, which was originally convened in 2010, will provide an opportunity for the Board to examine, amend, and address education policy as it relates to early childhood. This Work Group will provide a forum wherein the New York Network Team can participate by providing valuable feedback, information, and other factors relevant to policy making to the Board.

New York State's investment in high-quality prekindergarten programs has grown from \$385 million to \$828 million per annum since 2013, which has not only led to expanded capacity to serve New York's youngest learners across the state, but has also multiplied opportunities for systems collaborations as well as created larger areas primed for effective partnership. The goal of joining NASBE's Network will be to align and increase the efficacy with which the individual partners implement their respective office-wide initiatives, to align statewide goals, and to be able to share statewide insights and feedback.

Recommendation

That the Board of Regents accept this stipend from the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE).