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

FROM: Valerie Grey, Fiscal Agent

SUBJECT: Acceptance of a $1,600,000, three-year grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (the "Foundation")

DATE: November 30, 2012

AUTHORIZATION(S):

Issue for Decision

Approval of a $1,600,000, two-year grant to The University of the State of New York Regents Research Fund from the Foundation. The Foundation's educational mission is to dramatically improve education so that all young people have the opportunity to reach their full potential. The Foundation seeks to ensure that all students graduate from high school ready for college and career and prepared to complete a postsecondary degree or certificate with value in the workplace.

Reason(s) for Consideration

This grant from the Foundation is awarded to support the Regents Research Fund Fellowship Program's work to connect the State's new teacher and leader evaluation system to improved teacher and leader practice. This critical funding will support comprehensive professional development around the use of video, surveys, and other observation tools, and assist teachers and leaders to use observation and evaluation to dramatically improve instructional practices. Regents Research Fellows, in collaboration with New York State United Teachers (NYSUT), will lead and implement this project.

Proposed Handling

Approval

Recommendation

That the Board of Regents accept the sum of $1,600,000 from the Foundation to support the project described above.