



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

To: Higher Education Committee  
From: John L. D'Agati *John L. D'Agati*  
Subject: Update on Certification Examinations and edTPA Task Force  
Date: March 9, 2015  
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### **SUMMARY**

#### **Item for Discussion**

This presentation and panel discussion will provide an overview of the certification examinations implemented in 2013, including the School Building Leader (SBL) Part I and Part II, Academic Literacy Skills Test (ALST), Educating All Students (EAS) test and edTPA. This presentation will also provide an update on the work of the edTPA Task Force. The Task Force co-chairs will discuss the charge of the Task Force and highlight several of the Task Force's recommendations and next steps.

#### **Background Information**

At the November and December 2009 Board of Regents meetings, the Board approved a number of initiatives for the purpose of transforming teaching and learning and school leadership in New York State. The Board of Regents discussion included the development of new examinations, creation of performance assessments for teachers and school building leaders, and the revision of the current Content Specialty Tests (CSTs).

This presentation provides an update on the current performance of New York State teacher and school building leader candidates on the operationalized certification examinations, including the edTPA, ALST, EAS and the SBL Part I and Part II. This presentation will also provide an update and overview on the development, implementation and supports for edTPA.

In addition, the Department will report to the Board on the edTPA Task Force. The Task Force was established in April 2014 to provide an opportunity for representatives from New York teacher and leader preparation programs to review and provide recommendations to the Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning and Equity (SCALE), the higher education

sector and the Board in support of improving the implementation of edTPA. Specifically, **the charge of the edTPA Task Force was to:**

1. work proactively with the Department, SCALE, and the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education as SCALE continues to refine the edTPA assessment, including review of the rubrics and handbooks;
2. work proactively with the Department and SCALE to support implementation of the edTPA by SUNY, CUNY and the independent sector; and
3. collaborate with the Department and SCALE on the development of a process for the identification and dissemination of exemplary practices in NYS programs as they implement the edTPA.

Representatives on the Task Force included: a BOCES district superintendent, a school superintendent, a building principal, classroom teachers, a teacher center director, candidates who took the edTPA, deans of schools of education, members of the Teacher Education Advisory Group (TEAG), Faculty Development MOU program administrators, edTPA coordinators, United University Professions (UUP) representatives, Professional Staff Congress (PSC) representatives, and other representatives from institutions of higher education. Representatives from SCALE, AACTE and NYSUT were also in attendance at each meeting.

An update on the work of the Task Force will be provided by the Task Force co-chairs, Scott Bischooping, District Superintendent of Schools at Wayne - Finger Lakes BOCES and Debra Colley, Dean of the College of Education at Niagara University.

### **Task Force Co-Chairs**

**Task Force Co-chair, Debra Colley, Dean of the College of Education at Niagara University.** Debra Colley has served as dean of Niagara University's College of Education since August 1999. Before joining the University, she held leadership positions in the New York State Education Department, serving in both the Office of Higher Education and the Office of Vocational and Education Services for Individuals with Disabilities. Dr. Colley holds a Bachelor's Degree from Buffalo State College and Master's and Doctoral degrees from the University at Buffalo.

**Task Force Co-chair, Scott Bischooping, District Superintendent of Schools at Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES.** Scott Bischooping joined Wayne - Finger Lakes BOCES as the District Superintendent in February 2013. Prior to that appointment, he served the Livonia Central School District for 25 years in many different capacities including: Superintendent, Business Education Teacher, High School Principal, and Director of Instruction. District Superintendent Bischooping earned his Master's Degree and Certificate of Advanced Study in Education Administration from the State University of New York College at Brockport.