



## UTICA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Utica City School District Parents,

As you already may be aware, the New York State Education Department is in the process of rolling out a new set of standards for 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics. These *Next Generation Learning Standards*, adopted by the New York State Board of Regents, will replace the *Common Core Learning Standards* beginning in September of 2020.

The *Next Generation Learning Standards* along with the multi-year phase-in schedule were developed following a great deal of input and feedback from stakeholders across the state, including educators and parents through a process that began a couple of years ago. Since last winter, school districts have begun raising awareness of the new standards as part of Phase I of the implementation process. In our District, this has included informational presentations and workshops in order to familiarize our teachers with the *Next Generation Learning Standards*.

In order to help familiarize parents with the new standards, I have included the "At a Glance" document that has been sent out by the New York State Education Department. I have also instructed our building principals to present information on the *Next Generation Learning Standards* to parents at information nights over the next couple of months so that you have the opportunity to learn and ask questions about the standards. More detailed information can be found on-line at [www.nysed.gov/next-generation-learningstandards](http://www.nysed.gov/next-generation-learningstandards).

As noted, the *Next Generation Learning Standards* are scheduled for full implementation in September of 2020. Students will be assessed on these new standards beginning in the Spring of 2021 through the New York State 3-8 testing program. School performance and accountability will be based on student performance on these assessments.

Our schools depend on student performance data from the New York State 3-8 assessments to provide valuable information on what standards, skills and concepts need to be addressed in our instructional programs as a whole, as well as to formulate interventions designed to meet the academic needs of individual students. The student performance data from these assessments also provides a very important roadmap for school improvement initiatives that give our schools the best chance at meeting local and state performance measures under the revised *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA). I have also included a brochure showing what indicators are being used to evaluate school performance under the new ESSA guidelines.

The Utica City School District and the New York State Education Department share a common goal which is to provide a high quality, standards-based education to all of our students so that they have the best chance to succeed at whatever path they choose in their bright future. We look forward to working together with our parents to complete a smooth transition to this new set of important learning standards well in advance of the September 2020 implementation.

Sincerely,

Bruce J. Karam  
Superintendent of Schools  
Utica City School District

BJK/cac  
enclosures

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## WHAT EDUCATORS NEED TO KNOW

### ABOUT THE STATE'S IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP



The Next Generation Learning Standards describe what students are expected to know and be able to do at various grade levels in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. They will be rolled out strategically over the next three years, providing ample time to raise awareness, build capacity, and implement the standards.

### How will NYSED help educators implement the new standards

The Next Generation ELA and Mathematics Learning Standards Implementation Roadmap lays out a recommended three-year plan with shared goals and activities to achieve those goals to support educators and stakeholders during the transition to new standards.

It was developed through a collaborative process between the State Education Department and partners including New York State United Teachers, the Staff and Curriculum Development Network, the Big 5 School Districts, BOCES district superintendents, the statewide Professional Learning Team and representatives from school districts.

### Where can I access the Roadmap?

The Roadmap is available on the State Education Department's NYS Next Generation Learning Standards website on the [Implementation page](#). There, you can also find links to the standards, suggested resources and other helpful documents.

### The standards will be in full use in classrooms in 2020, and students will be assessed on them in 2021.

*Please note: In Spring 2021, the NYS Grades 3-8 assessments will align to the NYS Next Generation Learning Standards. The timeline regarding assessment alignment at the high school level has not been determined and will be forthcoming.*

### How do I use the Roadmap?

The Roadmap is organized into three phases:

1. Raising Awareness
2. Building Capacity and
3. Full Implementation.

Each of these phases contains goals, key implementation activities to achieve the goal, the stakeholder groups who need to complete each activity, and a timeline for completion. These goals and activities will be developed as a local decision.

### Can I adapt the Roadmap?

Decisions about curriculum and professional development are made locally based on district needs. Similarly, decisions about goals and determining success criteria within the Roadmap will be made locally.



# What other support is available for Standards implementation?

The State Education Department, individual BOCES, New York State Teacher Centers and Regional Bilingual Education Resource Networks, are available to assist in this work by providing resources and professional development. Resources that correspond with the Roadmap will be posted on the [State Education Department's NYS Next Generation Learning Standards site](#).

## Phase I: Raise Awareness

Starting in Winter 2018 through Winter/Spring 2019, we want to ensure all education stakeholders are aware of the revised standards and the timeline for implementation and highlight areas of impact with respect to current standards, instruction, and assessment. This collaborative phase will help identify the necessary professional development that will occur in Phase II.\*

## Phase II: Capacity Building

Starting in Spring 2019 through Summer 2020, we will provide guidance and support for districts with regards to the professional development needs identified in Phase I, with a focus on the integration of the Next Generation ELA and Mathematics Learning Standards into curriculum, instruction, and assessment design.\*

## Phase III: Implementation

In September 2020 and on, local school districts will fully implement the NYS Next Generation Mathematics and ELA Learning Standards in classrooms for Prekindergarten-Grade 12.\*

*\*Please note: In Spring 2021, the NYS 3-8 assessments will align to the NYS Next Generation Learning Standards. The timeline regarding assessment alignment at the high school level has not been determined and will be forthcoming.*

1

**September 2017:** Adoption of NYS Next Generation Learning Standards.

2

**Phase I: Raise Awareness (Winter 2018-Winter/Spring 2019):**

Professional development on NYS Next Generation Learning Standards; two-day assessments measuring the 2011 P-12 Learning Standards.

3

**Phase II: Build Capacity (Spring 2019-Summer 2020):**

Professional development continuing on NYS Next Generation Learning Standards; two-day assessments measuring the 2011 P-12 Learning Standards.

4

**Phase III Full Implementation (September 2020 – ongoing):**

Full implementation of the NYS Next Generation Learning Standards.

5

**Spring 2021:** New Grades 3-8 assessments measuring the NYS Next Generation Learning Standards. The timeline regarding the full-implementation/assessment alignment at the high-school level has not yet been determined and will be forthcoming; however, full-implementation/assessment alignment will not be before the school year 2020-2021.



# 5

## Things every **parent** should know about New York State's plan for the **Every Student Succeeds Act**



### What is ESSA?

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a law that outlines how states can use federal money to support public schools. In January 2018, the federal government approved New York State's plan to spend the approximately \$1.6 billion the state receives annually under ESSA.

### Why does it matter?

New York State is committed to ensuring that all students succeed and thrive in school no matter who they are, where they live, where they go to school, or where they come from. Since fall 2016, New York State asked for feedback to design a plan that improves equity, access, and opportunity for *all* students.

### What do parents need to know?

Below are highlights of important elements for parents and families in the plan. We encourage you to visit [the ESSA Section of NYSED's website](#) to learn more about the plan.

## 1

### New York State values a well-rounded education for all.

Parents and families should know how their child's school is performing in many areas, not just academic subjects.

#### Schools and districts will be measured annually on these indicators

#### Future indicators

##### For all schools

- English language arts
- Math
- Science
- Progress in learning English (for those who are learning English as an additional language)
- Chronic absenteeism (absent 10% or more instructional days)

##### For high schools

- Social studies
- Graduation rate
- College, career, and civic readiness index: taking advanced coursework, earning technical education certificates, etc.

- Out-of-school suspensions (beginning with 2018-19 results)
- Being ready for high school (once data becomes available)

## 2

### New York State wants to reduce testing time and improve the testing experience.



State tests in grades 3-8 English and math will be reduced from three to two days each.

## 95%

The law requires that 95% of students in each tested subgroup take the appropriate state tests. New York State will work with parents, schools, and districts to increase participation.



New York State will continue to translate state math and science tests into more languages, and when funding becomes available, will create a language arts tests in students' native languages.

3

New York State will help teachers and school leaders be ready for success and ensure that all students have access to an excellent educator.



The state will look at changes in how teachers and leaders are prepared to make sure they are ready on day one.



New York State has many excellent teachers. We will ensure that all schools have the ability to attract and keep them.

4

New York State is piloting a process to ask parents for additional help when their child's school is identified for improvement.



If your child's school is identified as low-performing ...



... then it will have to ask parents, teachers, and students how they think the school can do better ...



... and you will be able to participate in deciding how your school spends part of the federal money it receives to improve.

5

New York State will provide parents with a more complete picture of their child's school.



New public reports will show information on student test scores, graduation rates, and other outcomes for schools, districts, and the state, consistent with privacy laws.

The reports also will give information on things parents care deeply about, such as class size or opportunities for students to participate in the arts.

Parents will know how much each school is spending per student through the new reports.












The New York State Education Department will use the information in these reports to help districts adjust spending or come up with new ways to meet students' needs.



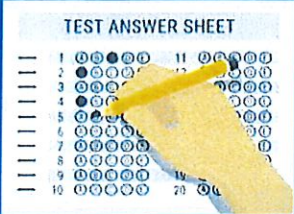



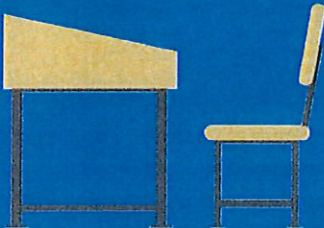
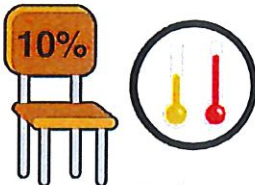
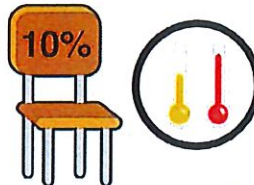
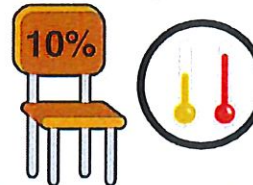




# NYSED ESSA ACCOUNTABILITY

## SEVEN MEASURES OF SUCCESS

	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT	 <p>Composite Performance Index which measures <b>achievement</b> on ELA, math and science state assessments.</p>	 <p>Composite Performance Index which measures <b>achievement</b> on ELA, math and science state assessments.</p>	 <p>CPI which measures <b>achievement</b> on ELA, math, science, and social studies state assessments.</p>
STUDENT GROWTH	 <p>Growth on state ELA and math 4-8 assessments. Comparing the scores in the current year to similar scores in prior years.</p>	 <p>Growth on state ELA and math 4-8 assessments. Comparing the scores in the current year to similar scores in prior years.</p>	
ACADEMIC PROGRESS	 <p>Current ELA and math state assessments against long-term goals and measures of interim progress (MIPs).</p>	 <p>Current ELA and math state assessments against long-term goals and measures of interim progress (MIPs).</p>	 <p>Current ELA and math state assessments against long-term goals and measures of interim progress (MIPs).</p>
GRADUATION RATES			 <p>Current four-, five-, and six-year cohort graduation rates against long-term goals and MIPs.</p>



	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL
<b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY</b> 	 <p>Progress of <b>ELL</b> in meeting their individual progress targets on NYSESLAT.</p>	 <p>Progress of <b>ELL</b> in meeting their individual progress targets on NYSESLAT.</p>	 <p>Progress of <b>ELL</b> in meeting their individual progress targets on NYSESLAT.</p>
<b>CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM</b> 	 <p>Percentage of students who miss 10%+ of the year against long-term goals and MIPs. (No K)</p>	 <p>Percentage of students who miss 10%+ of the year against long-term goals and MIPs.</p>	 <p>Percentage of students who miss 10%+ of the year against long-term goals and MIPs.</p>
<b>COLLEGE, CAREER AND CIVIC READINESS</b> 			 <p>Current diplomas, credentials, advanced course credits, CTE certifications, and other indicators against long-term goals and MIPs.</p>