



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

TO: P-12 Education Committee
FROM: Ken Slentz 
SUBJECT: Academic Intervention Services

DATE: July 15, 2013

AUTHORIZATION(S):


SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Should the Regents consider providing flexibility in the provision of Academic Intervention Services?

Reason for Consideration

Review of policy.

Proposed Handling

This item will come before the Regents P-12 Education Committee for discussion at the July 2013 Regents meeting.

Background Information

The Department has communicated to the field an expectation that there will be a decrease in the percentage of students who demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to meet grade-level Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) relative to the percentage of students demonstrating this against the 2005 standards. This was done in conjunction with the implementation of the Common Core-based assessments in grades 3-8 English language arts (ELA) and mathematics. The Department has provided a significant combination of tools, professional development, instructional materials and resources to assist the field in aligning curriculum, instruction, and local assessments to the Common Core Learning Standards.

To ensure that existing support services, including Academic Intervention Services (AIS) and Title I compensatory services, remain relevant and appropriate as New York implements the CCLS, the Department recommends that the Regents consider providing districts regulatory flexibility in the provision of Academic Intervention Services. Such flexibility might include, but would not be limited to, the following:

- Continue with a current AIS model for certain groups of students, or
- Move to or expand on a Response to Intervention (RTI) model, or
- Use a blended approach of AIS and RTI (e.g., RTI in lower grades, AIS in upper grades) as determined by a district.

In addition to providing flexibility options, Department staff will also recommend to the Regents, if appropriate, adjustments in the eligibility criteria for districts providing services to students.

A school district would continue to be required to provide compensatory services to eligible students as required by Title I.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Regents direct the Department to develop proposed amendments to Commissioner's Regulations to provide flexibility in the provision of Academic Intervention Services. If the Regents direct Department staff to develop proposed regulatory amendments, staff will propose such amendments to the Board for adoption as an emergency measure at the September 2013 Regents meeting.