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

New York State Education Department
Office of Teacher and Leader Effectiveness
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MEMORANDUM

To: Superintendent Terrence Clark, BETHPAGE UFSD
From: Dr. Julia Rafal-Baer, Assistant Commissioner
Date: 06/15/2014
Re: **Assessment Administration in Conjunction with Annual Professional Performance Reviews (APPRs)**

The Department recognizes that during the first year of full implementation of Annual Professional Performance Reviews (APPR), a variety of pressures at the state and local level may have resulted in students in some districts and BOCES being tested more than needed or in rote standardized test preparation that crowds out quality instruction. Numerous stakeholders, including – and most importantly – families and students, have raised concerns as a result of these local decisions.

The State has not created any additional tests as part of the implementation of the Common Core. All required state tests other than two high school social studies Regents exams – including all grades 3-8 assessments and high school exams in English, math, and science – are required by federal law. On February 11, 2014, the Board of Regents adopted emergency regulations to address the concerns raised by stakeholders and to adjust and improve the implementation of the Common Core standards and teacher/principal evaluation. The approved regulatory amendments to the APPR system are intended to help districts and BOCES reduce local testing and ensure that the amount of testing is the minimum necessary to inform effective decision-making. At its March 2014 meeting, the Board of Regents made a series of technical amendments to the regulations to clarify the requirements for districts and BOCES that opt to use an assessment that is not a traditional standardized assessment for grades K-2 for APPR purposes. The Department has developed a webpage with multiple resources in order to help districts and BOCES successfully navigate the regulatory amendments and efficiently access relevant material: http://www.engageny.org/resource/guidance-on-the-approved-regulatory-amendments-to-appr-to-help-reduce-local-testing.

Based on the concerns conveyed to the Commissioner surrounding the use of assessments, and in accordance with Section 1 of Subpart F of Chapter 56 of the laws of 2014, the Commissioner has directed the Office of Teacher and Leader Effectiveness to review your APPR plan to identify opportunities for you to act locally to ensure that your district is using the minimum assessments necessary to inform effective decision making, consistent with your instructional vision. As you are now in the second full year of APPR implementation, the Department encourages you to use this letter to help review your currently approved APPR plan to identify modifications that would be approvable by the Department and result in less testing for your students. As you know, the Department has consistently communicated that **the amount of testing should be the minimum necessary** to inform effective decision-making at the classroom, school, and district/BOCES level.

The Department has developed guidance and technical support materials regarding the role of assessments within the APPR system. These materials include methods to eliminate, where consistent with the district's or BOCES' instructional vision, the use of pre-tests and other locally-adopted standardized tests. In lieu of pre-tests, districts and BOCES can use past performance trends, historical data and/or prior-year test results to establish targets for determining student learning growth. Additionally, locally-adopted standardized tests can be replaced with state assessments, school-wide growth measures, or performance-based assessments. Education Law §3012-c provides you with design flexibility. The Department encourages you and your local bargaining units to use the available resources to ensure that thoughtful conversation occurs, and strategic decisions are made, regarding the use of student assessments. *Teaching, not testing, is the core of our work*. There are an assortment of ways in which a district or BOCES can design a meaningful and authentic assessment program that provides information to drive instructional decisions, ultimately leading to an increase in students' knowledge and skills. By taking the time to re-review your local assessment practices, you can engage in collaborative conversations with your local stakeholders about ways in which you might choose to use data and/or evidence more effectively and efficiently to ensure that all local tests help inform instruction and improve student learning, rather than needlessly add to the number of assessments administered within your district.

To help further facilitate these conversations on the local level, the Office of Teacher and Leader Effectiveness has reviewed your APPR plan and determined that there are a number of ways in which, through a material change request, you could make thoughtful adjustments consistent with your district's instructional vision to your currently approved APPR plan to reduce and/or refine assessments used, subject to collective bargaining decisions[1].

Teaching, not testing, is the core of the Regents Reform Agenda.

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[1] Please note: material changes for the 2014-15 school year must be submitted by March 1, 2015 (see: APPR Guidance: C8 http://www.engageny.org/sites/default/files/resource/attachments/appr-field-guidance.pdf. For districts or BOCES that want to make a material change to their APPR plan solely to eliminate unnecessary student assessments, the Department provides an expedited review process using the Expedited Material Change Form (https://www.engageny.org/file/96856/download/expedited-mc-fill-in-form-distribute.pdf). Please also see: https://www.engageny.org/file/96851/download/expedited-mc-cover-letter-2-24-14.pdf for further information).

Consideration 1: Use of Pre-Assessments

The use of pre-assessments in a grade or subject is a local decision to be made consistent with your district's instructional vision.

The APPR team has found the following examples of where your district has collectively bargained the use of a pre-assessment as a baseline measurement in Task 2, the State Growth or Other Comparable Measures subcomponent and/or in Task 3, the Locally-selected Measures subcomponent (please note that the information below reflects information taken directly from your district's currently approved APPR plan):

Task 2 Course Name
K ELA
1 ELA
2 ELA
3 ELA
K Math
1 Math
2 Math
3 Math
6 SCI
7 SCI
8 SCI
6 SS
7 SS
8 SS
Global 1
Global 2
American History
Living Environment
Earth Science
Chemistry
Physics
Algebra 1
Geometry
Algebra 2
9 English
10 English
11 English
Child Study HS
Chorale HS
Chorus 6
Chorus 7
Chorus HS
Classroom Music 4-Elem.
Classroom Music 5-Elem.
Computer Analysis 7
Band HS
Digital World
AP World History
Digital Photo HS

FACS 7
Academic Exploration MS
Academy MS
Accounting HS
Aerobics
AP Government
AP Language
Art 7
AP US History
Band 7
Art 6
Economics
Art 8
Art Elementary
Band 4-Elem.
Band 5-Elem.
Band 6
AP Physics
Physical Education Elem.
Web Design 8
Music Appreciation 6
Music Appreciation 7
Note Reading 4-Elem.
Orchestra 4-Elem.
Orchestra 5-Elem.
Orchestra 6
Orchestra 7
Physical Education 6
English Comm. 8
Physical Education 8
Technology 8
Physical Education HS
Precalculus
Reading 6
Reading 7
Reading 8
SCALE English
Science Research 7
Science Research 8
Science Research HS
Sculpture HS
Physical Education 7
Health HS
English Comm. 7
English Lit. 6
Senior Seminar
FACS 8
Forensics

French 7
French 8
French HS
Government
Health 6
Vocal Music 2-Elem.
Health 8
Technology-Micro 6
Italian 7
Italian 8
Italian HS
Spanish 7
Spanish 8
Spanish HS
Statistics
Studio Art HS
Technology 7
English Comm. 6
Health 7

Task 3 Course Name
4 ELA
5 ELA
6 ELA
7 ELA
8 ELA
4 Math
5 Math
6 Math
7 Math
8 Math
K ELA
1 ELA
2 ELA
3 ELA
K Math
1 Math
2 Math
3 Math
6 SCI
7 SCI
8 SCI
6 SS
7 SS
8 SS
Global 1
Global 2
American History

Living Environment
Earth Science
Chemistry
Physics
Algebra 1
Geometry
Algebra 2
9 English
10 English
11 English
Classroom Music 5-Elem.
Classroom Music 4-Elem.
Chorus HS
Chorus 7
Chorus 6
Chorale HS
Child Study HS
Band HS
Band 7
Band 6
Art Elementary
Band 4-Elem.
Academy MS
Aerobics HS
Accounting HS
Academic Exploration MS
Art 8
Art 7
Art 6
AP World History
AP US History
AP Physics
AP Language
AP Government
Band 5-Elem.
Science Research HS
Digital World
Physical Education 6
Physical Education 7
Physical Education 8
Physical Education Elem.
Physical Education HS
Precalculus
Reading 6
Reading 7
Reading 8
SCALE English
Orchestra 6

Science Research 8
Orchestra 5-Elem.
Sculpture HS
Senior Seminar
Spanish 7
Spanish 8
Spanish HS
Studio Art HS
Technology 7
Technology 8
Technology-Micro 6
Vocal Music 2-Elem.
Web Design 8
Science Research 7
Government
Digital Photo HS
Economics
Statistics
English Comm. 6
English Comm. 7
English Comm. 8
English Lit. 6
FACS 7
FACS 8
Forensics
French 7
Orchestra 7
French HS
Computer Analysis 7
Health 6
Health 7
Health 8
Health HS
Italian 7
Italian 8
Italian HS
Music Appreciation 6
Music Appreciation 7
Note Reading 4-Elem.
Orchestra 4-Elem.
French 8

Since pre-assessments are not a Department requirement with student learning objectives (SLOs), one possible approach through which your district could reduce the number of assessments given is by using past performance trends, historical data, and/or prior-year assessment results to inform the baseline used to set targets within SLOs, rather than requiring teachers to give a pre-assessment to students at the beginning of the interval of instruction (year, semester, quarter, etc.).

The following resources may be particularly helpful:
- The SLO 103 for Teachers webinar
  (http://www.engageny.org/resource/slo-103-for-teachers)
- The Assessments in APPR webinar
  (http://www.engageny.org/resource/assessments-in-annual-professional-performance-review-appr)
- Sections D28, D29, D37, D47, and D69 of the APPR Guidance document
  (http://www.engageny.org/sites/default/files/resource/attachments/appr-field-guidance.pdf)

In addition, please allow the following districts' approved APPR plans to serve as examples of districts that have made decisions to eliminate pre-assessment use in their APPR plans:
- Tuckahoe Union Free School District
  (http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/teachers-leaders/plans/docs/tuckahoe-ufsd-appr-plan.pdf)
- Rochester City School District
  (http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/teachers-leaders/plans/docs/rochester-appr-plan.pdf)
- Webster Central School District
  (http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/teachers-leaders/plans/docs/webster-appr-plan.pdf)

Consideration 2: Use of Multiple Assessments in Task 2 and Task 3

The use of different assessments for the Locally-selected Measures subcomponent from those used for the State Growth or Other Comparable Measures subcomponent is a local decision made through collective bargaining.

The APPR team has found examples of where your district has collectively bargained the use of different assessments in Task 3, the Locally-selected Measures subcomponent, than the district selected in Task 2, the State Growth or Other Comparable Measures subcomponent, to assess the same students within the same grade and subject.

There are a number of possible approaches through which your district can, subject to collective bargaining decisions, reduce the number of assessments in these subcomponents. Please see the chart below:

Course	Task 2 Assessment Name	Task 3 Assessment Name
4 ELA	NYS Grade 4 ELA Assessment	Measures of Academic Progress (ELA)
5 ELA	NYS Grade 5 ELA Assessment	Measures of Academic Progress (ELA)
6 ELA	NYS Grade 6 ELA Assessment	Measures of Academic Progress (ELA)
7 ELA	NYS Grade 7 ELA Assessment	Measures of Academic Progress (ELA)
8 ELA	NYS Grade 8 ELA Assessment	Measures of Academic Progress (ELA)
4 Math	NYS Grade 4 Math Assessment	Measures of Academic Progress (Math)
5 Math	NYS Grade 5 Math Assessment	Measures of Academic Progress (Math)
6 Math	NYS Grade 6 Math Assessment	Measures of Academic Progress (Math)
7 Math	NYS Grade 7 Math Assessment	Measures of Academic Progress (Math)
8 Math	NYS Grade 8 Math Assessment	Measures of Academic Progress (Math)
K ELA	Measures of Academic Progress (Primary Grades)	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade K ELA Assessment
1 ELA	Measures of Academic Progress (Primary Grades)	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 1 ELA Assessment
2 ELA	Measures of Academic Progress (Primary Grades)	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 2 ELA Assessment
3 ELA	NYS Grade 3 ELA Assessment	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 3 ELA Assessment
K Math	Measures of Academic Progress (Primary Grades)	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade K Math Assessment
1 Math	Measures of Academic Progress (Primary Grades)	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 1 Math Assessment
2 Math	Measures of Academic Progress (Primary Grades)	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 2 Math Assessment
3 Math	NYS Grade 3 Math Assessment	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 3 Math Assessment
6 SCI	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Science Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Science Assessment 2
7 SCI	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Science Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Science Assessment 2
8 SCI	NYS Grade 8 Science Assessment	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Science Assessment 2
6 SS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Social Studies Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Social Studies Assessment 2
7 SS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Social Studies Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Social Studies Assessment 2
8 SS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Social Studies Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Social Studies Assessment 2
Global 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Global I Assessment	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Global I Assessment 2
Global 2	Global 2 Regents	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Global II Assessment

American History	American History Regents	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed American History Assessment
Living Environment	Living Environment Regents	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Living Environment Assessment
Earth Science	Earth Science Regents	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Earth Science Assessment
Chemistry	Chemistry Regents	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Chemistry Assessment
Physics	Physics Regents	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Physics Assessment
Algebra 1	Algebra 1 Regents	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Algebra I Assessment
Geometry	Geometry Regents	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Geometry Assessment
Algebra 2	Algebra 2 Regents	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Algebra II Assessment
9 English	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 9 ELA Assessment	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 9 ELA Assessment 2
10 English	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 10 ELA Assessment	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 10 ELA Assessment 2
11 English	Comprehensive English Regents	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 11 ELA Assessment
Government	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Government Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Government Assessment 2
Economics	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Economics Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Economics Assessment 2
Senior Seminar	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Senior Seminar Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Senior Seminar Assessment 2
Physical Education HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Physical Education Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Physical Education Assessment 2
Aerobics HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Aerobics Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Aerobics Assessment 2
Health HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Health Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Health Assessment 2
Digital World	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Digital World Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Digital World Assessment 2
Precalculus	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Precalculus Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Precalculus Assessment 2
Statistics	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Statistics Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed statistics Assessment 2
SCALE English	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed SCALE English Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed SCALE Assessment 2
Forensics	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Forensics Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Forensics Assessment 2
Science Research HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Science Research Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Science Research Assessment 2
Spanish HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Spanish Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Spanish Assessment 2
Italian HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Italian Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Italian Assessment 2
French HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed French Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed French Assessment 2
Chorus HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Chorus Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Chorus Assessment 2
Chorale HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Chorale Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Chorale Assessment 2
Band HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Band Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Band Assessment 2
Studio Art HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Studio Art Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Studio Art Assessment 2
Sculpture HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Sculpture Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Sculpture Assessment 2

Digital Photo HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Digital Photo Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Digital Photo Assessment 2
Accounting HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Accounting Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Accounting Assessment 2
Child Study HS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Child Study Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Child Study Assessment 2
AP World History	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AP World Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AP World Assessment 2
AP US History	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AP US History Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AP US Assessment 2
AP Physics	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AP Physics Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AP Physics Assessment 2
AP Government	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AP Government Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AP Government Assessment 2
AP Language	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AP Lang and Comp Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AP Language Assessment 2
Academic Exploration MS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Academic Exploration Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed AE Assessment 2
Art 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Art Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Art Assessment 2
Art 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Art Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Art Assessment 2
Art 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Art Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Art Assessment 2
English Lit. 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 English Literature Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Eng. Lit. Assessment 2
English Comm. 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 English Communication Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 English Communication Assessment 2
English Comm. 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 English Communication Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 English Communication Assessment 2
English Comm. 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 English Communication Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 English Communication Assessment 2
Reading 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Reading Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Reading Assessment 2
Reading 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Reading Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Reading Assessment 2
Reading 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Reading Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Reading Assessment 2
FACS 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 FACS Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 FACS Assessment 2
FACS 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 FACS Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 FACS Assessment 2
Technology-Micro 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Micro Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Micro Assessment 2
Computer Analysis 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Computer Analysis Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Computer Analysis Assessment 2
Web Design 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Web Design Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Web Design Assessment 2
Technology 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Technology Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Technology Assessment 2
Technology 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Technology Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Technology Assessment 2
Spanish 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Spanish Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Spanish Assessment 2
Spanish 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Spanish Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Spanish Assessment 2
Italian 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Italian Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Italian Assessment 2

Italian 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Italian Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Italian Assessment 2
French 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 French Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 French Assessment 2
French 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 French Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 French Assessment 2
Band 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Band Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Band Assessment 2
Chorus 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Chorus Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Chorus Assessment 2
Music Appreciation 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Music Appreciation Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Music App Assessment 2
Orchestra 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Orchestra Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Orchestra Assessment 2
Band 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Band Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Band Assessment 2
Chorus 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Chorus Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Chorus Assessment 2
Music Appreciation 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Music Appreciation Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Music Appreciation ssessment 2
Orchestra 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Orchestra Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Orchestra Assessment 2
Physical Education 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 PE Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 PE Assessment 2
Physical Education 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 PE Growth Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 PE Assessment 2
Physical Education 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 PE Growth Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 PE Assessment 2
Health 6	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Health Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 6 Health Assessment 2
Health 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Health Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Health Assessment 2
Health 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Health Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Health Assessment 2
Science Research 7	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Science Research Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 7 Science Research Assessment 2
Science Research 8	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Science Research Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 8 Science Research Assessment 2
Academy MS	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Assessment	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Assessment 2
Art Elementary	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Art Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Art Assessment 2
Physical Education Elem.	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed PE Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed PE Assessment 2
Orchestra 4-Elem.	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 4 Orchestra Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 4 Orchestra Assessment 2
Band 4-Elem.	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 4 Band Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 4 Band Assessment 2
Band 5-Elem.	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 5 Band Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 5 Band Assessment 2
Orchestra 5-Elem.	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 5 Orchestra Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 5 Orchestra Assessment 2
Classroom Music 4-Elem.	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 4 Classroom Music Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 4 Classroom Music Assessment 2
Note Reading 4-Elem.	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 4 Reading Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 4 Reading Assessment 2
Classroom Music 5-Elem.	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 5 Music Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 5 Classroom Music Assessment 2
Vocal Music 2-Elem.	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 2 Vocal Music Growth Model Assessment 1	BETHPAGE UFSD-Developed Grade 5 Vocal Music Assessment 2

For Consideration Two, please keep in mind these possible approaches to reducing assessments given within a district:

1. ***State Growth and Locally-selected subcomponent measures may use different measures based on the same assessment.*** Remove one of the assessments used for either Task 2 or Task 3 and use the same assessment in both subcomponents, but in different ways (e.g., growth versus achievement; student sub-groups, such as lowest or highest performing students).

2. ***State assessments may be used in both State Growth and Locally-selected subcomponent measures (requiring no additional testing).*** Remove the current use of locally-adopted assessments and replace with existing State assessments and/or use a school- or BOCES-wide, group, or team growth measure (e.g., in a K-8 school building, for the State Growth subcomponent in those grades/subjects that do not lead to a State or Regents assessment: school-wide measure based on 4th grade ELA and Math State assessments; for the Locally-selected subcomponent: State-provided school-wide growth score for all students taking 4-8 ELA State assessments).

3. ***School-wide growth or achievement results may be used based on one or more State assessment(s) or other approved assessment(s).*** Remove the current use of locally-adopted assessments in one subcomponent and replace with school- or BOCES-wide, group, or team measures based on State assessments (State Growth subcomponent) or with school-wide growth or achievement based on State or locally-adopted assessments (Locally-selected subcomponent).

Please also keep in mind the following:

- "Assessments" need not be standardized tests, but could instead be performance assessments (e.g., extended essay responses, science experiments, and/or another authentic application of skills). For students in kindergarten through second grade, traditional standardized third party assessments are prohibited[2].
- For non-core subject areas in the State Growth or Other Comparable Measures subcomponent, you can remove additional assessments in favor of using school-wide, group, or team measures based on State/Regents assessments already given in the building. The only grades/subjects that cannot use a school-wide, group or team measures for the State Growth subcomponent are those with a State/Regents assessment in that grade/subject. All other grades/subjects are considered "non-core" and may use a school-wide, group, or team measure (Section D21 of the APPR Guidance document: http://www.engageny.org/sites/default/files/resource/attachments/appr-field-guidance.pdf).
- For principals, the same assessments that are used for the teachers' State Growth or Other Comparable Measures and/or Locally-selected Measures subcomponents can be used for principals in these subcomponents to avoid administering additional assessments to students.

The following resources may be particularly helpful:

- The School-wide SLOs webinar (http://www.engageny.org/resource/school-wide-slos)
- The Assessments in APPR webinar (http://www.engageny.org/resource/assessments-in-annual-professional-performance-review-appr)
- For K-2 assessments used for the purposes of APPR, please see:
  - The Removal of Traditional Standardized Third Party Assessments in K-2 FAQ that provides further information as to the removal of K-2 traditional standardized third party assessments from the State-approved list (https://www.engageny.org/file/96701/download/k-2_removal_of_traditional_standardized_third_party_assessments_guidance.pdf)
  - The K-2 APPR Assessment Guidance document that provides guidance to districts and BOCES on selecting third party assessments for use with students in kindergarten through grade two (K-2) for the purposes of teacher and principal APPRs. This document replaces the Request for Qualification (RFQ) process previously used to determine state-approved K-2 assessments for APPR purposes (https://www.engageny.org/file/96706/download/k-2-assessment-guidance.pdf)
  - The APPR Guidance Document, specifically F15
  - The K-2 Assessment Pathways document (http://www.engageny.org/resource/early-elementary-assessments)
- Task 2 of Task-by-Task Guidance (see: Sections 2D24-2D28) and Task 3 (Sections 3D25-3D29) (http://www.engageny.org/resource/task-by-task-guidance)
- APPR Training Modules for Task 2 (slides 36-38) and Task 3 (slides 16, 30-35) (http://www.engageny.org/resource/appr-training-modules)

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[2] Please note: Effective March 2, 2014, the Department has removed all third party assessments for use in kindergarten through grade two **only** from its posted approved third-party assessment list. For further information about the regulatory amendments adopted at the February and March 2014 Regents' meetings, please see: http://www.engageny.org/resource/guidance-on-the-approved-regulatory-amendments-to-appr-to-help-reduce-local-testing, the K-2 Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) Assessment Guidance Document, the Removal of Traditional Standardized Third Party Assessments in K-2 FAQ and F15 of the APPR Guidance Document. Please note that school districts or BOCES with an APPR plan that was approved or determined by the Commissioner prior to April 1, 2014 that provides for the use of an approved student assessment for students in grades K-2 remains in effect in accordance with Education Law §3012-c(2)(l) and the district or BOCES may continue to use such assessments until a material change is made to their APPR plan and approved by the Commissioner to eliminate such use.

In addition, please allow the following districts' approved APPR plans to serve as examples of districts that have made decisions to eliminate assessments used in their APPR plans:

- [Parishville-Hopkinton Central School District](http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/teachers-leaders/plans/docs/parishville-hopkinton-appr-plan.pdf) (http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/teachers-leaders/plans/docs/parishville-hopkinton-appr-plan.pdf)
- [Rochester City School District](http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/teachers-leaders/plans/docs/rochester-appr-plan.pdf) (http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/teachers-leaders/plans/docs/rochester-appr-plan.pdf)
- [Webster Central School District](http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/teachers-leaders/plans/docs/webster-appr-plan.pdf) (http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/teachers-leaders/plans/docs/webster-appr-plan.pdf)

Please note that the items listed in this memorandum are in no way an exhaustive list of ways in which your district could adjust your approved APPR plan and are intended solely for informational purposes. Districts, within the context of state regulations and frameworks, should locally determine the most appropriate assessments to use within the APPR system after first analyzing their unique priorities and needs. To the extent it would be helpful, the APPR Team can provide additional technical assistance or clarify existing guidance to ensure that your district receives the support necessary to successfully make a material change to your approved APPR plan.

In accordance with Section 1 of Subpart F of Chapter 56 of the laws of 2014, please also note that all school districts are required to:

- publicly post this memorandum on the school district's website (if one exists);
- supplement the information contained in this memorandum to include any standardized tests not specified by the Department; and
- ensure a public discussion of the contents of this memorandum in a manner to be determined by the district, including discussion on the extent to which the standardized tests not required by state or federal law are beneficial to the educational process or may be eliminated to reduce over testing.

The New York State Education Department and the Office of Teacher and Leader Effectiveness will work alongside you to continue to look for ways to reduce testing that is not needed without sacrificing the valuable information provided by assessments. The Department encourages districts to do the same. Together, our collective goal is to ensure that every school has world-class educators in the classroom, every teacher has a world-class principal to support his or her professional growth, and every student achieves college and career readiness.

Please feel free to reach out to the APPR team via educatoreval@mail.nysed.gov for more information and assistance.