



Ira Schwartz, Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Accountability  
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May 18, 2015

Dear Colleagues:

In April 2015, Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2015 added a new section 211-f to Education Law that creates a School/District Receivership Program to address chronically underperforming schools. The New York State Education Department (NYSED or “the Department”) has developed, for consideration by the Board of Regents, amendments to the Commissioner’s Regulations to implement the provisions of the new statute.

At the May 2015 Board of Regents meeting, the Department presented for discussion draft regulations regarding School/District Receivership. The Department anticipates bringing to the Board Regents for its consideration at the June 2015 Board of Regents meeting regulations for adoption as an emergency action, with regulations for permanent adoption to be brought for consideration in September 2015.

On Wednesday, May 27, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., you are invited to the Empire State Plaza Convention Center, Room 7, S Mall Arterial, Albany, NY 12242 where the Department will hold a statewide meeting for districts with Priority Schools and other key stakeholders to provide an overview of the School Receivership law, the draft regulations, and the \$75 million School Turnaround Grant Program for which “Persistently Failing Schools” are eligible to apply.

The purpose of the meeting on May 27, 2015 is to receive your feedback and recommendations on specific elements of the draft regulations and to gain an understanding of how the Department can work with the field to implement the receivership program.

We are requesting that you participate in this very important meeting. Note: we are able to accommodate a maximum of three representatives per school district. Please review the enclosed copy of Education law 211-f and the May 2015 Regents Item pertaining to Receivership, which includes a copy of the draft regulations.

In order to confirm your attendance at the Wednesday, May 27, 2015 meeting, we ask that you send an e-mail to [accountinfo@nysed.gov](mailto:accountinfo@nysed.gov) by noon on Thursday, May 21, 2015 with the names of the representatives who will attend the School Receivership meeting on behalf of your organization/district. Following confirmation of your attendance, you will receive the agenda for the meeting and a list of questions we ask you to consider in advance of the meeting. Lastly, we encourage you to include in your response e-mail any questions or recommendations that you

may have regarding School Receivership so that we can consider them in preparing for the meeting. If you have any questions regarding the meeting, please direct them to [accountinfo@nysed.gov](mailto:accountinfo@nysed.gov).

We are committed to working with you to implement this new initiative in the way that will best help you to improve academic performance in Priority Schools. We look forward to your participation in this important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ira Schwartz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "I" and a long, sweeping underline.

Ira Schwartz