

## THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234 Office of P-12

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**To:** School District Superintendent Receivers

From: Jason Harmon, Assistant Commissioner

**Date:** August 13, 2020

**Re:** Changes to the Public Hearing Regulations for Schools in Receivership

This memo is to inform you of the updated information on the regulatory requirement of holding a public meeting or hearing for schools in Receivership status. The New York State Education Department (NYSED or "the Department") acknowledges the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on communities across the state. We are working diligently to partner with schools and districts to support students and families during this challenging time.

In accordance with Commissioner's Regulations §100.19(c)(1)(iii), a Receivership School is required to hold a public meeting or hearing within 30 calendar days of the first day of student attendance each school year to discuss the school's performance. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Regents took action at its May 2020 meeting by amending Commissioner's Regulations §100.19 to include a new subsection (m) that provides the Commissioner with authority to adjust timelines pertaining to implementation of activities required under Commissioner's Regulations §100.19. Therefore, the Department is waiving the 30-day timeline requirement for holding the meeting or hearing for schools that are in Receivership status during the 2020-21 school year. The public meeting or hearing to discuss the performance of the school should be held no later than Tuesday, December 1, 2020. Although an in-person format is preferred, for the safety of the school community, virtual meetings or hearings are allowable as well. Please convey this timeline waiver to your Community Engagement Team (CET) members.

During these unprecedented times, the Department remains committed to assisting your efforts in supporting your school community. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or e-mail my team at <a href="mailto:accountinfo@nysed.gov">accountinfo@nysed.gov</a>.

cc: Kim Wilkins
Jennifer Todd
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Tracey Johnson
Antonio Parente
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