September 11, 2018

To: BOCES District Superintendents
         Superintendents of Public School Districts
         Principals of Public Schools
         Charter School Leaders

From: Kathleen R. DeCataldo

Subject: Academic Intervention Services for the 2018-19 School Year Based on Spring 2018 Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Assessment Scores

As you are aware, **embargoed** student scores for the Spring 2018 Grades 3 – 8 English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Tests have been distributed to schools and districts with an anticipated public release of statewide data at the end of September. While the Grades 3-8 ELA and Mathematics test results are under the embargo until the public news release, it is required that the data remain confidential and may not be published in any format to anyone outside of school officials and personnel who need to know and use the data for programmatic planning, scheduling, and other preparation for the 2018-19 school year.

Each school year, districts must develop a policy, or review the existing policy, for providing Academic Intervention Services (AIS). We recognize that school personnel must make decisions about providing AIS to students for the 2018-19 school year prior to the public release. The **embargoed** median scale score between Levels 2 and 3 for the Grades 3-8 ELA and Mathematics assessments are provided below for this purpose and are subject to same embargo requirements outlined above until the public release of data at the end of September.

2018 Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Tests
Median Scale Score between Level 2 and Level 3

Grade	English Language Arts	Mathematics
3	592	593
4	593	595
5	601	598
6	596	598
7	599	599
8	593	603

Description of the Two-Step Process for Identifying Students to Receive AIS

For the 2018-19 school year, districts shall continue to identify students to receive AIS in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics based on Grades 3-8 scores through a two-step process. First, all students performing below the median scale score between a Level 2/partially proficient and a Level 3/proficient on a Grade 3-8 ELA or Mathematics state assessment shall be considered for AIS. Second, upon identification of a student for consideration for AIS, districts shall then use a district-developed procedure that considers multiple-measures of student performance for determining which students shall receive AIS. The district-developed procedure must be applied uniformly at each grade level. These multiple measures may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1) Developmental reading assessments for grades K-6;
2) New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT);
3) Benchmark and lesson-embedded assessments for reading and math in grades K-6 based on teacher designed and selected assessments;
4) Common formative assessments that provide information about students' skills;
5) Unit and lesson assessments for ELA, mathematics, science, social studies and Languages Other than English (LOTE) for grades 7-8; and/or
6) Results of psychoeducational evaluations based on a variety of assessments and inventories.

Regardless of the measures used, they must be applied uniformly at each grade level and in each content area when determining which students shall receive AIS. After the district considers a student's scores on multiple measures of student performance, the district determines whether the student is required to receive AIS. District policies for providing AIS, including a description of which student performance measures and associated scores will be utilized to determine eligibility, must be posted on the district website or distributed to parents in writing.

Please contact the Office of Student Support Services if you have questions at (518) 486-6090 or StudentSupportServices@nysed.gov.