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TO: BOCES District Superintendents
Superintendents of Public Schools
Administrators of Public and Charter Schools

FROM: Charles A. Szuberla, Jr. *Charles A. Szuberla Jr.*

SUBJECT: Academic Intervention Services Requirements for 2015-16

To ensure that existing support services, including Academic Intervention Services (AIS) and Title I compensatory services, remain relevant and appropriate as New York continues to implement the Common Core Learning Standards, the Board of Regents at its September 2014 meeting directed the State Education Department (SED or "the Department") to develop proposed amendments to Commissioner's Regulations to continue providing flexibility to districts in the provision of AIS (see <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/914brca8.pdf>).

Accordingly, at the September 16, 2015, Board of Regents meeting, the Department will recommend that the Board approve amendments to regulations that require that districts continue to provide AIS to students scoring below the following scale scores on the 2015 Grades 3-8 English language arts and mathematics assessments:¹

Grade 3 English language arts, a scale score of 299
Grade 4 English language arts, a scale score of 296
Grade 5 English language arts, a scale score of 297
Grade 6 English language arts, a scale score of 297
Grade 7 English language arts, a scale score of 301
Grade 8 English language arts, a scale score of 302

Grade 3 mathematics, a scale score of 293
Grade 4 mathematics, a scale score of 284
Grade 5 mathematics, a scale score of 289
Grade 6 mathematics, a scale score of 289
Grade 7 mathematics, a scale score of 290
Grade 8 mathematics, a scale score of 293

¹ These are the same scale score cut points that were used to determine which students were required to receive AIS for grade 3-8 ELA and math during the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school year.

The Department will further recommend that those students scoring at or above these designated scale scores but below level 3/proficient not be required to receive academic intervention instructional and/or student support services during the 2015-16 school year unless the school district, in its discretion, deems it necessary. If these recommendations are adopted by the Board of Regents and districts receive flexibility in deciding whether certain students will receive AIS, districts should use multiple measures of student academic need to make these determinations.

The proposed regulations would require each school district to continue to implement a uniform process by which the district determines whether to offer AIS during the 2015-16 school year to struggling students and, no later than November 1, 2015, to either post to its website or distribute to parents in writing a description of this process.

If you have any questions regarding the requirements for the provision of AIS to students during the 2015-16 school year, please contact David Bryant in the Office of Student Support Services at 518-486-6090 or by e-mail at david.bryant@nysed.gov.

I wish you a highly productive and successful new school year.