



SENIOR DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR P-12 EDUCATION

August 31, 2010

To: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Schools
Chancellor of NYC School
Council of School Administrators – New York City (CSA-NYC)
New York State Council of School Superintendents (NYSCOSS)
New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA)
New York State United Teachers (NYSUT)
New York State School Personnel Administrators (NYSASPA)
School Administrators Association of New York State (SAANYS)
United Federation of Teachers (UFT)
Conference of Big 5 Schools

From: John B. King Jr., Senior Deputy Commissioner for P-12 Education

Subject: Performance Evaluations for Teachers and Principals
Additional Questions and Answers

I am writing to share further guidance to my memorandum of August 5, 2010 (www.emsc.nysed.gov/memos/performanceval/memo.html) which provided preliminary guidance on the implementation of the new comprehensive teacher and principal performance evaluation law (Chapter 103 of the Laws of 2010). As promised in my earlier memo we have developed additional Questions and Answers relating to specific provisions of the new law to give further preliminary technical assistance to all parties based on the information available at this point in time.

Please remember that the new law will require implementing regulations. The Regents Task Force on Teacher and Principal Effectiveness (the advisory committee established under the new law) will need to review and make recommendations on many substantive issues in the statute. Upon receiving these recommendations, the Commissioner will need to formulate regulations for the approval of the Board of Regents so they are effective by July 1, 2011. Accordingly, any guidance SED provides at this time is preliminary and subject to change. This preliminary guidance is based upon our understanding of the intent of the law and information that is currently available.

Because there is much work to be done by the Regents Task Force and SED in making determinations on implementation of Chapter 103, many questions remain unanswered. Due to the many school districts and interested parties, I ask that individual schools districts work through their District Superintendents to address

their questions. We will work to keep the District Superintendents and the Superintendents of the Big Five cities informed through these Q & A's and future guidance documents.

Attachment

cc: Commissioner David Steiner
Valerie Grey, Chief Operating Officer
Joseph Frey, Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education
Erin O'Grady-Parent, Acting Counsel and Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs
Ken Slentz, Associate Commissioner for District Services
Robert Bentley, Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Teaching Initiatives