

SED Update September 2012

Technology and Assessment

Because Computer Based Assessment/Testing (CBT) is a part of PARCC, SED has a plan in place to prepare for Computer Based Assessment (CBT). A Statewide CBT Work Group has been established. This group is going to work through these issues. SED has created a [new page](#) about Computer Based Assessment (CBT).

The [Tech Readiness Tool](#) has been selected to be used by SED to collect data from districts about their technology readiness. The Commissioner sent a memo in May requesting that a point person for each district be identified. The point person was then invited to submit a report via this tool. Not all districts submitted a report; districts can also resubmit their data when purchase and changes occur. The goal is for every district to complete this survey. Reports will be generated every six months from PARCC describing our readiness for CBT. If you need to submit the name of your district point person, please send the name and email address to edtech@mail.nysed.gov. *The RIC will be following up with districts to help get this done.*

SED will provide field guidance in the future, preparing for PARCC and other potential changes in NY's testing program. The context will be larger than just technology needs for testing, but testing is driving the work at this time.

Districts should convene (or utilize an existing structure) of stakeholders to proactively examine issues of technology. Who are the stakeholders? And, how should each stakeholder group be involved in which piece? It is likely that the immediate need to prepare for Computer Based Assessment will come before a more proactive look at district's technology needs.

SED Organizational Changes

The offices of Curriculum, Assessment and Educational Technology have been merged with Ken Wagner as the Associate Commissioner. [CTE](#) and [Student Support Services](#) have moved elsewhere. Here is the latest [organizational chart](#) for upper management at SED.

Common Core Implementation Update

Curriculum modules have started to roll out. This year, for P-2 ELA, the focus is on listening and learning. There is [stuff](#) that is very good in them and there are some assumptions that the vendor has that are not necessarily appropriate to all contexts. Images and workbooks will be available for teachers to use if a district chooses. By mid-October this will be all up. In year two there will be student skills development (decoding, etc.) that is intended to get students to a grade-level reading place by 3rd grade. For 3-5 ELA, [materials](#) are rolling out now. 6-12 ELA [units](#) have just started to appear. These are not necessarily a comprehensive set, but isolated examples.

Math modules are not yet ready. No target date has been set. A few [samples](#) of things are available. *It is important to understand that just because things are posted at nysed.gov or engageny.org it does not mean that the curriculum resources are required.*

The Commissioner is going to be meeting with District Superintendents (DSs) to assess implementation progress in regions and components).

A draft of a **framework for K-8 Social Studies** has just been [posted](#) for comment by October 11th. This is the "Common Core-infused" framework they were promising.

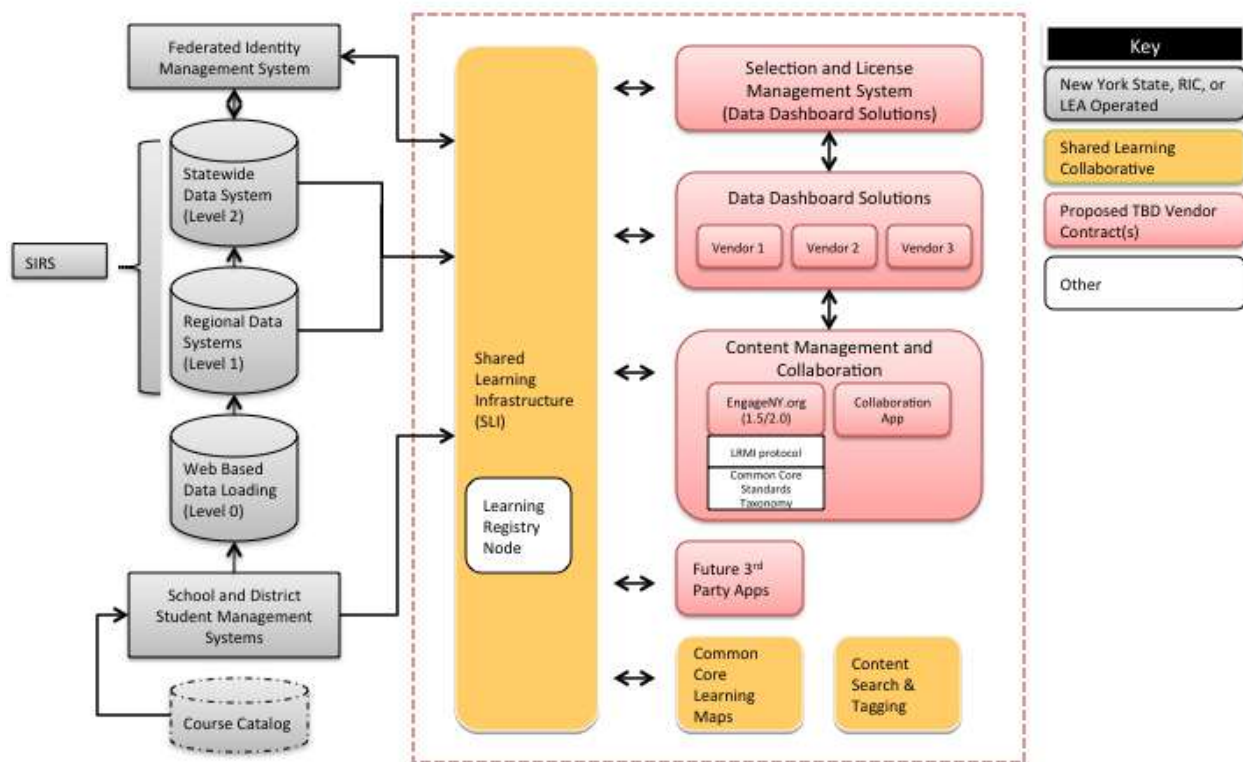
Assessment

The Board of Regents is [considering](#) whether to split Global up into two years and how to handle the Regents examination.

Education Data Portal Implementation Update

Two contracts have been issued. One is the place where you go to get in to the system (engageNY 1.5 is coming this fall; engageNY 2.0 in the future). The other was eventually broken into three parts to build a data dashboard for students, teachers, and families. They can only do this for so long under Race To The Top so they are trying to get as much done now in order have things in place in to the future (beyond RTTT).

The state is intending to address: data storage; data transport; identify and access management; single sign-on portal; open, non-proprietary architecture and standards; and LEA selection (App store). At the fall 2013 launch: data dashboards for educators, students, and families (districts choose from three vendors); Common Core-aligned content repository for the public and educators (engageNY); E-communities for educators; easy path from data to aligned content; ability for LEA's, BOCES, NYSED, or third-parties provide more apps in the future. Possible future apps: learning maps; recommendation engines; assessment apps; career and college readiness apps; and learning management system apps.



Field Testing

The [memo](#) about field testing was distributed to the field on September 6th. The fall field testing is actually part of what had previously been planned for the spring; schools that have to field test in the fall will not have to field test in the spring.

Growth Scores for 4-8 ELA and Math Teachers

By now, teachers should have received their reports in a way that helps them understand how this one component fits in the total composite scores. [Resources](#) are available to help interpret these scores.

Work Skills Credential

The Board of Regents continues to [consider](#) whether there should be a skills-based credential which is based on CDOS, replacing the IEP Diploma.