



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Commissioner of Education
President of the University of the State of New York
89 Washington Avenue, Room 111
Albany, New York 12234

E-mail: commissioner@nysed.gov
Tel: (518) 474-5844

November 26, 2024

Dear Stakeholders,

Now that the public comment period for the proposed Subpart 124-2 Regulations of the Commissioner of Education pertaining to regionalization conversations has concluded, we are providing an update on non-substantial edits that will be included when the regulations are presented to the Board of Regents for final adoption in December.

Key Non-Substantial Revisions

1. **Clarification on Monitoring and Amendments**

Section 124-2.5(d) will be revised to note that suggested amendments to regionalization plans will remain advisory rather than mandatory. This ensures that districts maintain full control over the plans they develop.

2. **Voluntary Participation Acknowledgment**

To address concerns about mandatory participation, a new provision (Section 124-2.8) will be added, which allows districts in consultation with their school boards, to elect not to participate in the regionalization planning process by submitting written notification by January 15, 2025.

Districts may delay submission of the Strength and Needs Tool while they confer with their Boards of Education regarding continued participation in the regionalization planning process. Should the district choose not to participate, they will not be required to submit the Strength and Needs Tool.

We believe these regulations offer a valuable framework for districts that choose to participate in thoughtful discussions of student opportunities. It is our hope that this action will move the process forward for those regions that have already begun to engage in fruitful planning.

Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting the success of New York's students.

Sincerely,



Betty A. Rosa
Commissioner