

**PNW BOCES NYSED Curriculum and Assessment Update**  
**June 2009**

**Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Assessments**

As per Anne Schiano, Assistant Director, Office of Curriculum, Instruction & Technology  
The revised version of the Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Assessments were originally scheduled to be operational in 2010/2011. The release is being delayed by two years and the new assessments will come on line 2012/2013.

**ELA Standards Review**

As per Anne Schiano, Assistant Director, Office of Curriculum, Instruction & Technology

- The proposed ELA Standards are organized in two main groups: Literacy and Literature.
  - The Literacy group has three strands: Communication, Inquiry and Research, and Critical Thinking and Problem Solving.
  - The Literature group has two strands: Literacy Forms and Artistic Craft, and Responding to Literature.
  - Each strand will include standards and grade-level performance indicators.
- The review panel is currently reviewing the grade-by-grade performance indicators to ensure rigor and alignment with the current ELA standards.
- There will not be separate ESL Standards; however, curriculum guidance materials and instructional strategies will be developed to assist educators in working with English Language Learners.
- Timeline:
  - Statewide comment on the proposed ELA standards will take place in September 2009. T
  - The Board of Regents action on the proposed standards and performance indicators will take place in the fall.
- The Standards Review Process for other subjects is on hold due to budgetary constraints; however, it is planned that each content area will contain its own literacy standards.

**The Use of RCTs as Practice Materials**

As per Steven Katz, Director, Office of State Assessment, NYSED

In recent years, the RCTs in science, mathematics, and social studies and the August RCTs in Reading, have been provided to schools as restricted editions. This means that each test form is periodically re-used and, therefore, cannot be released for general public availability. Only students actually taking the test may open and read the questions in the test booklets and restricted test forms must be returned to the Department immediately after their administration. However, there are older editions of these tests, mainly pre-2006, that were released to the public and are still available which may serve as practice materials for students. Teachers may obtain printed copies of these older released editions by writing the office of Steven Katz.

### **Draft USNY Statewide Educational Technology Plan**

As per Larry Paska, Coordinator of Technology Policy, Office of Educational Technology Policy and Programs, NYSED

The Board of Regents discussed the USNY Statewide Educational Technology Plan at their May 2009 meeting which can be found at [www.emsc.nysed.gov/edtech](http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/edtech). The Board of Regents is seeking feedback to the proposed vision and goals which will be the foundation of the future educational technology plan. If you wish to provide feedback, complete the survey at <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/edtech/>.

### **Center on Instruction Resource: Principal's Reading Walk-Through: Kindergarten-Grade 3 -- Professional Development Module [K-3]**

As per Anne Schiano, Assistant Director, Office of Curriculum, Instruction & Technology

The Principal's Reading Walk-Through (PRWT) K-3 is a suite of professional development materials designed as a user-friendly tool for classroom walk-through implementation that can identify research-based reading instruction in the classroom quickly and accurately.

[http://www.centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=&grade\\_start=&grade\\_end=#203](http://www.centeroninstruction.org/resources.cfm?category=reading&subcategory=&grade_start=&grade_end=#203)