



**Graduation Measures
Blue Ribbon Commission Demographics**

September 2022

2019: Time to Rethink the Diploma

Commentary

It's time that we rethink the high school diploma



By Betty Rosa
Regents Chancellor

English language learners, and low-income students from their peers who are white and attend school in low-need districts.

It was encouraging to see signs that we

The latest graduation rate figures are similar to the results we have seen in each of the last several years (see story, page 5). The graduation rate continues to slowly edge up, but stubborn gaps in achievement persist – gaps that separate students of color, students with disabilities,

New Yorkers. But I and other Regents view it as essential. In recent years, the Board of Regents and the State Education Department tackled equally controversial issues when we revised the state's learning standards and adopted our plan to comply with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. Those experiences point the way forward. In each case, the final product resulted from a lengthy process that was collaborative, deliberative and transparent. Each involved gathering input from many partners, including parents, teachers and school administrators, as well as representatives of higher education, the business community and the general public.

We all remember the strong push back

I will ask them to focus on three areas of research, practice and policy. They will address key questions, such as:

- What do we want our children to know and to be able to do before they graduate?
- How do we want them to demonstrate such knowledge and skills?
- To what degree does requiring passage of Regents exams for a diploma improve student achievement, graduation rates and college readiness?
- What other measures of achievement (e.g., capstone projects, alternative assessments or engagement in civic and community activities) could serve as indicators of high school completion?

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Draft Timeline

Phase I: Information Gathering & Learning

- **November 2019 – March 2020:**
 - Literature review of research and practices in other states.
 - Regional meetings held beginning Jan. – Mar. 2020 to gather feedback from across the state.
- **March 2020:** All workshops canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Fall 2021 – Spring 2022:** Workshops held in virtual format.
- **Spring / Summer 2022:** Compiled Regional Meeting feedback.
- **Fall 2022:**
 - Present regional meeting and literature review findings to the Board.
 - Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) and draft meeting schedule.

Phase II: Blue Ribbon Commission

- **Fall 2022 – Winter / Spring 2023:**
 - Commission's first meeting – the BRC convenes and defines its scope of work.
 - Blue Ribbon Commission second meeting to identify priority areas and a framework for moving forward. Establish sub-groups for priority areas.
- **Winter 2023 – Spring 2023:** Sub-groups meet.
- **Spring 2023 – Summer 2023:** Sub-groups develop proposed recommendations.
- **Fall 2023 – Winter 2024:** Sub-groups advance recommendations to the BRC.
- **Winter 2024 – Spring 2024:** The BRC finalizes recommendations and a report is prepared.

Phase III: Regents Discussion

- **Spring / Summer 2024:** The Blue Ribbon Commission's final report is presented to the Board of Regents for consideration.

Blue Ribbon Commission: Selection Process Overview

Regents and stakeholders submitted names of candidates

All nominees sent invitations to apply; members of education community and the public welcome to apply

Received over 400 completed applications;

64 members selected

Used a standard rubric to score applicants



NYS Graduation Measures Blue Ribbon Commission

Co-Chairs Vice Chancellor Finn & Regent Chin

Parent
Advisory
Committee

Steering Committee

Student
Advisory
Committee

Subcommittee
Program Requirements and
Learning Experiences

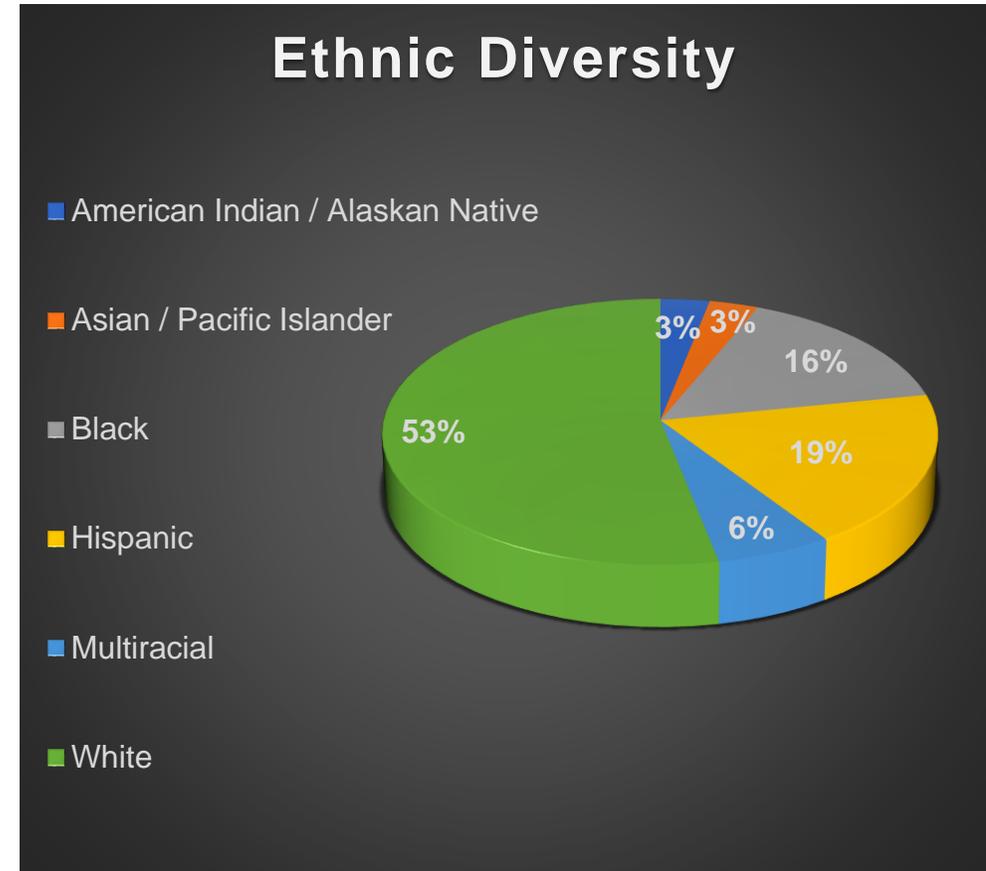
Chair Vice Chancellor Finn
Regent Ferrer member

Subcommittee
Measurements and Assessment

Chair Regent Chin
Regent Wills member

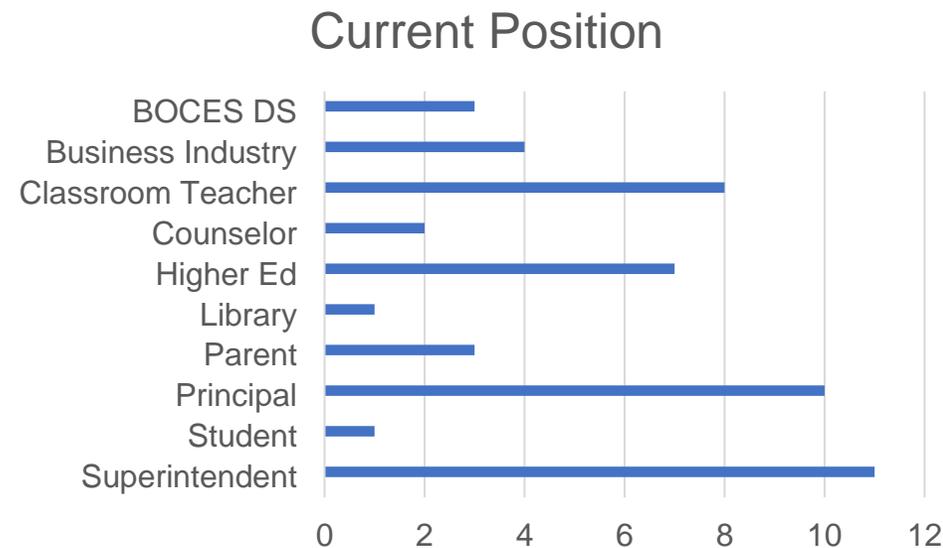
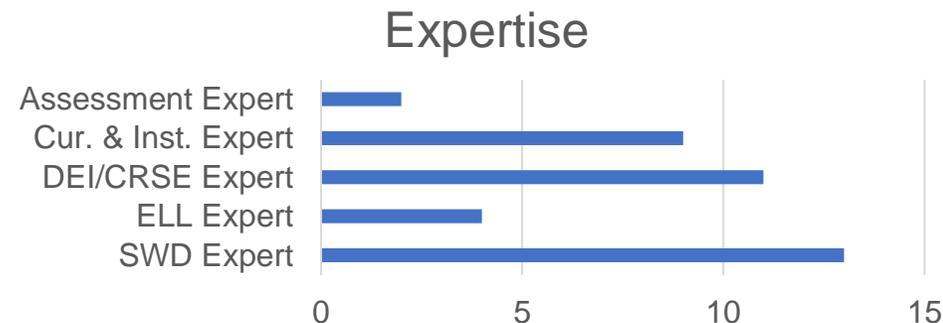
BRC Members by Ethnic Diversity

Ethnic Diversity		
	Total	Percent
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2	3%
Asian / Pacific Islander	2	3%
Black	10	16%
Hispanic	12	19%
Multiracial	4	6%
White	34	53%



BRC Members by Expertise and Current Position

Expertise	Total	Percent
Assessment Expert	2	3%
Curriculum & Instruction Expert	9	15%
DEI/CRSE Expert	11	18%
ELL Expert	4	5%
SWD Expert	13	18%
Current Position	Total	Percent
BOCES DS	3	5%
Business Industry	4	7%
Classroom Teacher	8	12%
Counselor	2	3%
Higher Ed	7	12%
Library	1	2%
Parent	3	5%
Principal	10	15%
Student	1*	2%
Superintendent	11	17%

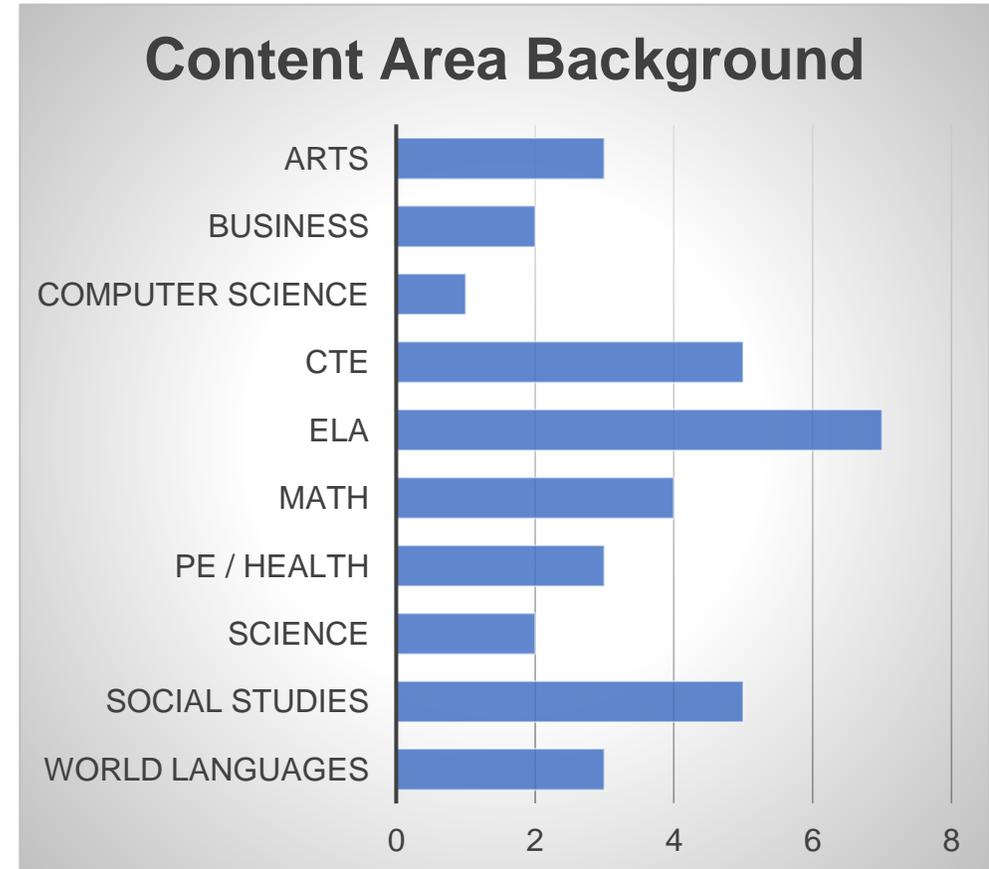


4 members from Charter Schools
3 members from Nonpublic Schools

* At least 3 additional students will be added

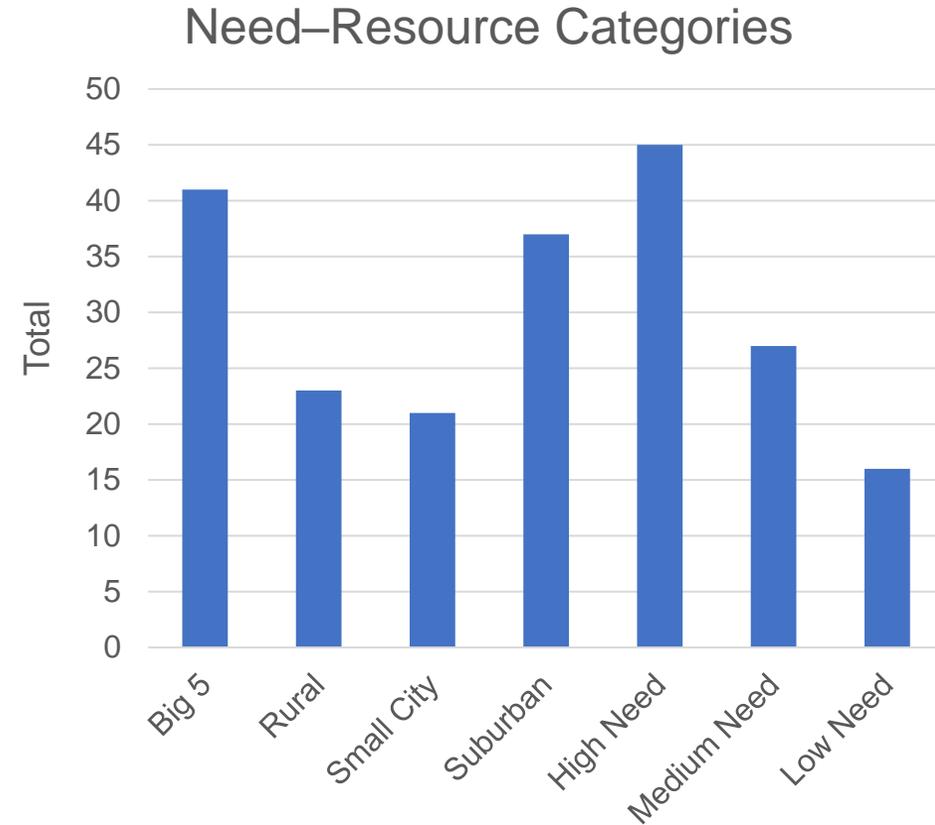
BRC Members by Content Area Background

Content Area Background	
Arts	3
Business	2
Computer Science	1
CTE	5
ELA	7
Math	4
Physical Education / Health	3
Science	2
Social Studies	5
World Languages	3



BRC Members by Need-Resource Categories

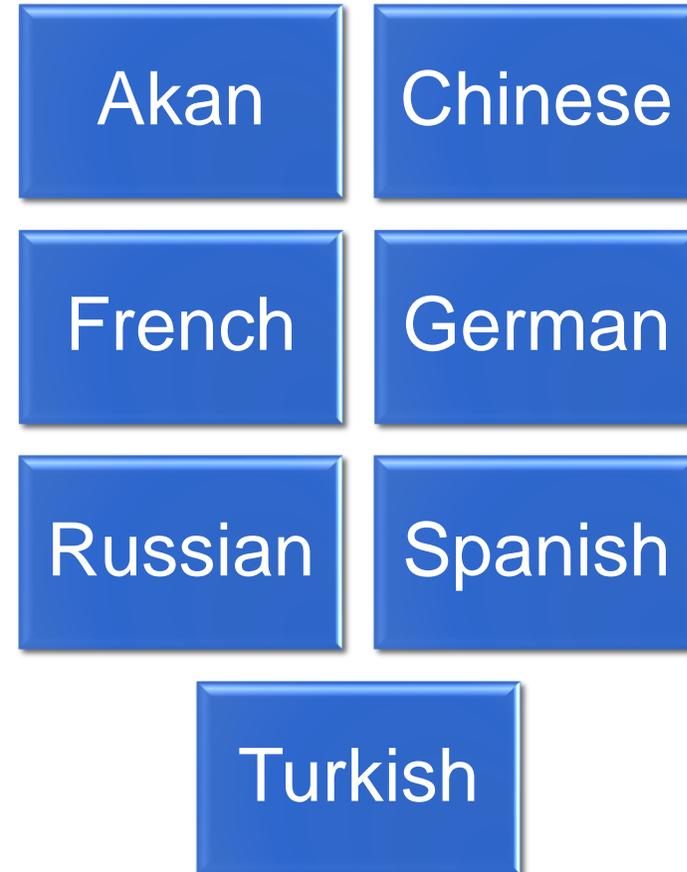
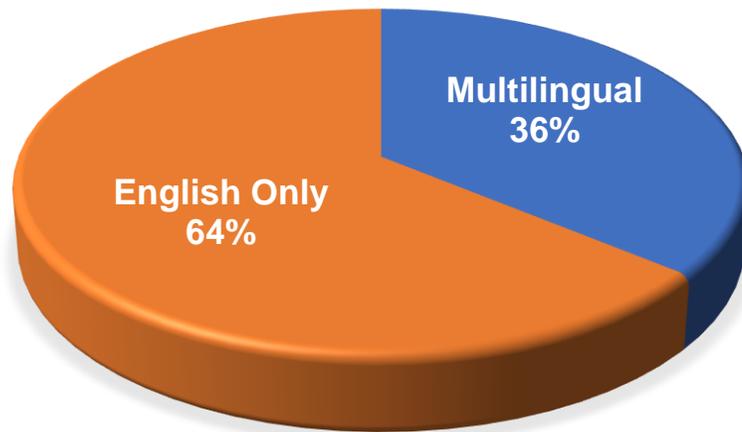
Need-Resource Categories		
	Total	Percentage *
Big 5	45	70%
Rural	23	36%
Small City	21	33%
Suburban	38	59%
High Need	49	77%
Medium Need	27	42%
Low Need	17	27%



*Individuals may have selected more than one category.

BRC Members by Linguistic Diversity

LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY



Charge of the Blue Ribbon Commission

Members of the Blue Ribbon Commission will be announced tomorrow afternoon.

To develop recommendations to the Board of Regents on what measures of learning and achievement could better serve New York's diverse student population as indicators of what they know and of their readiness for college, career, and civic life.

Questions
