/ THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Commissioner of Education
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June 8, 2023

Revised

Kelly Zimmerman, Superintendent
Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi
2 Sheldon Drive
Delhi, NY 13753

Dear Superintendent Zimmerman:

Congratulations. I am pleased to inform you that your educator evaluation plan meets the criteria outlined in Education Law §3012-d and Subpart 30-3
and has been approved. As a reminder, we are relying on the info

data supplied by districts, BOCES, and/or schools and may order a corrective action plan if there are unacceptably low correlation results between the Student Performance category and the Teacher Observation or Principal School Visit category, and/or if the teacher or principal overall ratings and subcomponent scores show little differentiation across educators and/or the lack of differentiation is not justified by equivalently consistent student achievement results, and/or if schools or districts show a pattern of anomalous results in the Student Performance category and/or the Observation/School Visit category.

The New York State Education Department and I look forward to continuing our work together, with the goal of ensuring that every school has world-class educators in the classroom, every teacher has a world-class principal to support his or her professional growth, and every student achieves college and career readiness.

Thank you again for your hard work.

Sincerely,

Betty A. Rosa
Commissioner

Attachment

c: Michael Rullo

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Disclaimers

For guidance related to Educator Evaluation plans, see NYSED Educator Evaluation Guidance. For a definition of terms related to Educator Evaluation, see the Educator Evaluation Glossary.

The Department will review the contents of each local educational agency's (LEA) Educator Evaluation plan as submitted using this online form, including required attachments, to determine if the plan rigorously complies with Education Law §3012-d and Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents. Department approval does not imply endorsement of specific educational approaches in an LEA's plan.

The Department reserves the right to request further information from an LEA to monitor compliance with Education Law §3012-d and Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents. Each LEA is required to keep detailed records on file for each section of the currently implemented Educator Evaluation plan. Such detailed records must be provided to the Department upon request. The Department reserves the right to disapprove or require modification of an LEA's plan that does not rigorously adhere to the requirements of Education Law §3012-d and Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents.

The Department will not review any attachments other than those required in the online form. Any additional attachments supplied by the LEA are for informational purposes only for the teachers and principals reviewed under this Educator Evaluation plan. Statements and/or materials in such additional attachments have not been approved and/or endorsed by the Department. However, the Department considers void any other signed agreements between and among parties in any form that prevent, conflict, or interfere with full implementation of the Educator Evaluation plan approved by the Department. The Department also reserves the right to request further information from the LEA, as necessary, as part of its review of this plan.

If the Department reasonably believes through investigation, or otherwise, that statements made in this Educator Evaluation plan are not true or accurate, it reserves the right to reject or disapprove this plan at any time and/or to request additional information to determine the truth and/or accuracy of such statements.

Educator Evaluation Assurances

Please read the assurances below and check each box.

☑ Assure that the content of this form represents the LEA's entire Educator Evaluation plan and that the Educator Evaluation plan is in compliance with Education Law Section 3012-d and Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents.

☑ Assure that a detailed version of the LEA's entire Educator Evaluation plan is kept on file and that a copy of such plan will be provided to the Department upon request for review of compliance with Education Law Section 3012-d and Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents.

☑ Assure that this Educator Evaluation plan will be posted on the LEA's website no later than September 10th of each school year, or within 10 days after the plan's approval by the Commissioner, whichever shall occur later.

☑ Assure that it is understood that this LEA's Educator Evaluation plan will be posted in its entirety on the NYSED website following approval.

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Required Student Performance Subcomponent

For guidance on the required subcomponent of the Student Performance category, see NYSED Educator Evaluation Guidance.

100% of the Student Performance category if only the required subcomponent is used or locally determined if the optional subcomponent is selected.

Each teacher shall have a locally determined Student Learning Objective (SLO) consistent with the goal-setting process determined by the Commissioner.

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Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

For guidance on SLOs, see NYSED SLO Guidance.

SLOs shall be used as the required student performance measure for all teachers. The following must be used as the evidence of student learning within the SLO.

MEASURES

SLO measures may be either individually attributed or collectively attributed.

Individually attributed measures

An individually attributed SLO is based on the student population of a course for which the teacher directly contributes to student learning outcomes.

> Individually attributed results*:* scores and ratings will be based on the growth of students in the teacher's course in the current school year.

Collectively attributed measures

A collectively attributed SLO is based on a student population across multiple sections of the same course or across multiple courses where more than one teacher either directly or indirectly contributes to student learning outcomes. When determining whether to use a collectively attributed SLO, the LEA should consider:

- identifying which measures and assessments could be used to encourage partnerships or teams where teachers have an opportunity to collectively impact student learning;
- identifying which assessments could be used to help foster and support the LEA's focus on a specific priority area(s);
- the impact on the LEA's ability to make strong and equitable inferences regarding an individual educator's effectiveness; and
- when using multiple measures, the appropriate weight of each measure that reflects individually and collectively attributed results.

> Collectively attributed results*:* scores and ratings will be based on the growth of all students in a school or program or students across buildings/programs in an LEA who take the applicable assessments in the current school year.

> Collectively attributed group or team results*:* scores and ratings for a group or team of teachers will be based on the growth of students in the group/team of teachers' courses or students in the group/team of teachers' courses across buildings/programs in an LEA in the current school year.

> Collectively attributed linked results*:* scores and ratings will be based on the growth of students enrolled in the teacher's course in the current school year taking assessments in other grades/subjects.

ASSESSMENTS

Any of the measures above may be used with one or more of the following assessment types.

- **State assessment(s)**; or

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Assessment(s) that are selected from the list of State-approved:

- **third party assessments**; or
- **locally-developed assessments** (district-, BOCES-, or regionally-developed).

HEDI Scoring Bands

Highly Effective			Effective			Developing		Ineffective											
20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
97-100%	93-96%	90-92%	85-89%	80-84%	75-79%	67-74%	60-66%	55-59%	49-54%	44-48%	39-43%	34-38%	29-33%	25-28%	21-24%	17-20%	13-16%	9-12%	5-8%	0-4%

SLO Assurances

Please read the assurances below and check each box.

☑

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Use the table below to list all applicable teachers with the corresponding measure and assessment(s).

Note on common branch/departmentalized options

Grades 4-8

- If all core content area instruction (ELA/math/science/social studies) is delivered by a single teacher, please select each applicable common branch grade level below.
- If core content area instruction is departmentalized (i.e., separate ELA, math, science, and social studies teachers), please select the applicable grade level/content area combination(s).
- If both common branch and departmentalized instruction occurs in a particular grade level, please select both options for the applicable grade level(s).

Grades K-3 that use both a common branch and departmentalized model

- Check each applicable common branch grade level below.
- On the non-core/elective teachers page, select the “Elementary” option for applicable subjects in the “Subject” column with the corresponding grade(s).

Choose "Add Row" to include an additional group of teachers with a different measure and assessment(s).

Applicable Teachers *Select all that apply*	Measure *Prior to making a selection, please read the description of each measure provided above.*	State or Regents Assessment(s) *Select all that apply*	Locally-developed Course-Specific Assessment(s) *Select all that apply*	Third Party Assessment(s) *Select all that apply*	Applicable School or BOCES-Program *Please leave blank unless instructed by the Department to complete this column.*
☑ All teachers(all grade levels, subjects and courses)	☑ Collectively attributed results (program, school or district-wide measure)	☑ All Regents given in LEA			(No Response)

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Use of the Optional Subcomponent and Student Performance Category Weighting

- If the Optional subcomponent is not used, the Required subcomponent will comprise 100% of the Student Performance category.
- If the Optional subcomponent is used, the percentage of the Student Performance category attributed to the Required subcomponent will be locally determined.

Please indicate if the Optional subcomponent will be used by making the appropriate selection below.

NO, the Optional subcomponent WILL NOT be used; the Required subcomponent will comprise 100% of the Student Performance category.

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Optional Student Performance Subcomponent

For guidance on the optional subcomponent of the Student Performance category, see NYSED Educator Evaluation Guidance.

Percentage of Student Performance category to be locally determined if selected.

Such second measure shall apply in a consistent manner, to the extent practicable, across all classrooms in the same grade/subject in the LEA and be a locally selected measure of student growth or achievement based on State-created or -administered assessments or State-designed supplemental assessments.

Options for measures and associated assessments include:

- **Option (A) A second SLO, provided that this SLO is different than that used in the required subcomponent;**
- **Option (B) A growth score based on a statistical growth model, where available, for either State-created or -administered assessments or State-designed supplemental assessments;**
- **Option (C) A measure of student growth, other than an SLO, based on State-created or -administered assessments or State-designed supplemental assessments;**
- **Option (D) A performance index based on State-created or -administered assessments or State-designed supplemental assessments;**
- **Option (E) An achievement benchmark on State-created or -administered assessments or State-designed supplemental assessments; or**
- Any other collectively bargained measure of student growth or achievement included in the LEA's evaluation plan.

Please indicate if the optional subcomponent will be used by making the appropriate selection below.

NO, the optional subcomponent WILL NOT be used in the Student Performance category for any teacher.

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Teacher Observation Category

For guidance on the Teacher Observation category, see NYSED Educator Evaluation Guidance. For a definition of terms used in this section, see the Educator Evaluation Glossary.

Teacher Practice Rubric

Select a teacher practice rubric from the menu of State-approved rubrics to assess teacher practice based on the NYS Teaching Standards.

Rubric Name	**If more than one rubric is utilized, please indicate the group(s) of teachers each rubric applies to.**
NYSUT Teacher Practice Rubric	(No Response)

Please read the assurances below and check each box.

☑ Assure that the same rubric(s) is (are) used for all classroom teachers in a grade/subject across the LEA, provided that LEAs may locally determine whether to use different rubrics for teachers who teach different grades and/or subjects during the school year as indicated in the table above.

☑ Assure that the same rubric(s) is (are) used for all observations of a classroom teacher across the observation types in a given school year.

Rubric Rating Process

For more information on the Teacher Observation category see NYSED Educator Evaluation Guidance. For a definition of terms used in this section, see the Educator Evaluation Glossary.

The following is one example of how an LEA might score teacher observations using the selected practice rubric: *Domains 1-4 of the Danielson rubric have been negotiated as observable. Domains 2 and 3 are weighted as 40% each, and Domains 1 and 4 are weighted as 10% each. For each observation, evidence is collected for all observed subcomponents in a domain. A holistic domain score is then determined for each teacher. These domain scores are weighted as indicated above to reach a final score for each observation. Scores for each observation are weighted equally and averaged to reach a final score for each observation type. The LEA will ensure that all subcomponents desa4us 1 andge weight of 2l sco3*

At what level are the observable components of the selected rubric(s) rated?

☑ Domain level (holistic rating of domain)

How are the observable components of the selected rubric(s) weighted?

☑ Each component is weighted equally and averaged

Scoring the Observation Category

If an evaluator conducts multiple observations of the same type, how are those observations weighted?

Examples of observations of the same type include but are not limited to:

- **Two observations by the principal with one early in the school year weighted at 40% and one late in the school year weighted at 60%.**
- **Two observations by the principal, with one holistic score for each component of the rubric based on the preponderance of evidence over both observations.**

Please note: Weighting across observation type (i.e. Principal vs. Independent Evaluator) are described in the following section.

☑ Multiple observations of the same type are weighted equally

Please read the assurances below and check each box.

☑ Assure that each set of observations (by supervisor/other trained administrator, independent, or peer) will be completed using the selected practice rubric, producing an overall score between 1 and 4. The overall weighted observation score will then be converted into a HEDI rating using the ranges indicated below.

☑ Assure that once all observations are complete, the different types of observations will be combined using a weighted average consistent with the weights specified in the next section, producing an overall Observation category score between 0 and 4. In the event that a teacher earns a score of 1 on all rated components of the practice rubric across all observations, a score of 0 will be assigned.

Teacher Observation Scoring Bands

The overall Observation score will be converted into a HEDI rating based on locally determined ratings consistent with the ranges listed.

	Overall Observation Category Score and Rating	
	Minimum	Maximum
H	3.5 to 3.75	4.0
E	2.5 to 2.75	3.49 to 3.74
D	1.5 to 1.75	2.49 to 2.74
I	0.00*	1.49 to 1.74

** In the event that an educator earns a score of 1 on all rated components of the practice rubric across all observations, a score of 0 will be assigned.*

HEDI Ranges

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Using the dropdown menus below, please indicate the locally-determined rubric scoring ranges based on the constraints prescribed by the Commissioner in Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents for each of the rating categories.

Please select a minimum value between 3.50 and 3.75 and choose 4.00 as the maximum value for the Highly Effective range.

	Minimum Rubric Score	Maximum Rubric Score
Highly Effective:	3.50	4.00

Please select a minimum value between 2.50 and 2.75 and a maximum value between 3.49 and 3.74 for the Effective range.

	Minimum Rubric Score	Maximum Rubric Score
Effective:	2.50	3.49

Please select a minimum value between 1.50 and 1.75 and a maximum value between 2.49 and 2.74 for the Developing range.

	Minimum Rubric Score	Maximum Rubric Score
Developing:	1.50	2.49

Please choose 0.00 as the minimum value and select a maximum value between 1.49 and 1.74 for the Ineffective range.

	Minimum Rubric Score	Maximum Rubric Score
Ineffective:	0.00	1.49

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Teacher Observation Subcomponent Weighting

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Teacher Observation

The teacher observation category is made up of two (2) required and one (1) optional subcomponents.

- The frequency and duration of observations are locally determined.
- Observations may occur in person, by live virtual observation, or by recorded video, as determined locally.
- LEAs may locally determine whether to use more than one observation by any of the required observers. Nothing shall be construed to limit the discretion of administrators to conduct observations in addition to those required by this section for non-evaluative purposes.

Required Subcomponents

- At least one of the required observations **must be unannouncMCIciacross both required subcomponents).**

Required Subcomponent 1: Observations by Principal(s) or Other Trained Administrator(s)

- At least one **observation must be conducted by the building principal or other trained administrator.**

Required Subcomponent 2: Observations by Impartial Independent Trained Evaluator(s)*

- At least one **observation must be conducted by an impartial independent trained evaluator.**
- Impartial independent trained evaluators are trained and selected by the LEA. They may be employed within the LEA, but may not be assigned to the same school building as the teacher being evaluated. This could include other administrators, department chairs, or peers (e.g., teacher leaders on career ladder pathways), so long as they are not from the same building (defined as same BEDS code) as the teacher being evaluated.

** The process selected for conducting observations, including those conducted by trained, impartial independent evaluators, exists in perpetuity until a new plan is approved by the Commissioner. However, if your LEA applies for and receives approval of an Independent Evaluator Hardship Waiver for a school year, then the terms specified in that waiver application will apply for that school year only. Please note that independent Evaluator Hardship Waiver requests must be submitted and approved on an annual basis.*

Optional Subcomponent: Observations by Trained Peer Observer(s)

- **If selected,** at least one **observation must be conducted by a trained peer observer.**
- Peer teachers are trained and selected by the LEA. Trained peer teachers must have received an overall rating of Effective or Highly Effective in the prior school year.

Observation AssurancMs

Please read the assurancMs below and check each box.

☑ Assure that the following elements will not be used in calculating a teacher's Observation category score and rating: evidence of student development and performancM derived from lesson plans, other artifacts of teacher practice, and student portfolios, except for student portfolios measured by a State-approved rubric where permitted by the Department; use of an instrument for parent or student feedback; and/or use of professional goal-setting as evidence of teacher effectiveness. Consistent with Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, assure that points shall not be allocated based on any artifacts, unless such artifact constitutes evidence of an otherwise observable rubric subcomponent.

☑ Assure that the length of all observations for teachers will be conducted pursuant to the locally-determined durations.

☑ Assure that at least one of the required observations will be unannounced.

Number and Method of Observation

- At least one of the required observations **must be unannounced (across both required subcomponents).**
- **Required Subcomponent 1:** At least one **observation must be conducted by the building principal or other**

trained administrator (supervisor).

- **Required Subcomponent 2:** At least one **observation must be conducted by an impartial independent trained evaluator (independent evaluator).**
- **Optional Subcomponent: If selected,** at least one **observation must be conducted by a trained peer observer (peer observer).**

Please use the table below to enter the minimum number of observations and method of observation for each type listed.

	Minimum Number of Observations	**Method of Observation** *Select all that apply*
Announced Supervisor Observation (Required Subcomponent 1)	1	☑ In person
Unannounced Supervisor Observation (Required Subcomponent 1)	N/A	☑ Not applicable
Announced Independent Evaluator Observation (Required Subcomponent 2)	N/A	☑ Not applicable
Unannounced Independent Evaluator Observation (Required Subcomponent 2)	1	☑ In person
Announced Peer Observation (Optional)	N/A	☑ Not applicable
Unannounced Peer Observation (Optional)	N/A	☑ Not applicable

Does the information in the table above apply to all teachers?

☑ No, there are 2 groups of teachers who receive a different number and/or method of observation of each type (e.g., tenured teachers and probationary teachers; identify the first subgroup below).

Please identify the first subgroup of teachers to whom the information in the table above applies.

Tenured Teachers

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Peer Observation Assurances

Please read the assurances below and check each box.

☑ Assure that peer observers, as applicable, will be trained and selected by the LEA.

☑ Assure that, if observations are being conducted by trained peer observers, these teachers received an overall rating of Effective or Highly Effective in the previous school year.

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Additional Requirements

For more information on the additional requirements for teachers, see NYSED Educator Evaluation Guidance.

Teacher Improvement Plan Assurances

Please read the assurances below and check each box.

☑ Assure that the LEA will formulate and commence implementation of a Teacher Improvement Plan (TIP) for all teachers who receive an overall rating of Developing or Ineffective by October 1 following the school year for which such teacher's performance is being measured or as soon as practicable thereafter.

☑ Assure that TIP plans developed and implemented by the superintendent or their designee, in the exercise of their pedagogical

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Which groups of teachers may utilize the appeals process? *Select all groups that have the same process as defined in subsequent columns.* *To add additional groups with a different process, use the "Add Row" button.*	Please select the ground(s) on which the teachers selected are permitted to appeal their overall evaluation rating. *Select all that apply.*	What is the maximum length of time for the teachers selected to receive a final decision from the filing of the appeal?
	required for such reviews, pursuant to Education Law Section 3012-d ☑ The adherence to the regulations of the Commissioner and compliance with any applicable locally negotiated procedures, as required under Education Law Section 3012-d and Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents ☑ The LEA's issuance and/or implementation of the terms of the teacher improvement plan, as required under Education Law Section 3012-d and Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents	

If "Other" was selected in the table above, please list the corresponding row number and group(s) of teachers that may utilize the appeals process.

Row Number	**Groups of teachers not specified in the table above that may utlize the appeals process.**
(No Response)	(No Response)

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Approximately how many hours of initial training will new evaluators receive?

☑ 4-6 days

Retraining

Approximately how many hours of re-training (annual, periodic, or other frequency) will evaluators receive?

☑ 2-6 hours

Certification of Lead Evaluators

How often are lead evaluators certified?

☑ Annually

Please identify the party responsible for the certification and re-certification of lead evaluators.

☑ Superintendent/District Superintendent

Please rse ah9ihassurance below and checkah9ihbox.

☑ If h9ihSuperintendent/District Superintendent or other party is h9ihentity certifying evaluators, and also acts in h9ih capacity of an evaluator, please assure h9at the certification process, including such self-certification, is implemented with fidelity.

Inter-rater Reliability

Inter-rater reliability refers to h9ihextent to which different evaluators produce similar ratings in judging h9ihsame abilities or characteristics in h9ihsame target person or object. Within the context of educator evaluation, inter-rater reliability requires all evaluators trained in the observation process to rsech independent consensus on observable behaviors to ensure h9e accuracy, consistency, and precision of h9e implementation of the chosen evaluation rubric(s). It also requires administrators to analyze and trackaeducator evaluation data and ensure h9at observations are being completed with fidelity.

Select the option(s) below h9at best describe h9e process in place for maintaining inter-rater reliability.

Please checkaall h9at apply.

☑ Periodic comparisons of an evaluator's assessment of h9ihsame classroom tsecher

☑ Periodic calibration meetings and/or trainings

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Teacher Evaluation Assurances

Please read the assurances below and check each box.

☑ Assure that the LEA shall compute and provide to the teacher their score and rating for the Student Performance category, if available, and for the Teacher Observation category for the teacher's evaluation, in writing, no later than the last school day of the school year for which the teacher is being measured, but in no case later than September 1 of the school year next following the school year for which the teacher's performance is being measured.

☑ Assure that the evaluation system will be used as a significant factor for employment decisions.

☑ Assure that teachers will receive timely and constructive feedback as part of the evaluation process.

☑ Assure that the following prohibited elements listed in Education Law Section 3012-d(6) are not being used as part of any teacher's evaluation: evidence of student development and performance derived from lesson plans, other artifacts of teacher practice, and student portfolios, except for student portfolios measured by a State-approved rubric where permitted by the Department; use of an instrument for parent or student feedback; use of professional goal-setting as evidence of teacher effectiveness; any locally-developed assessment that has not been approved by the Department; and any growth or achievement target that does not meet the minimum standards as set forth in regulations of the Commissioner. Consistent with Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, assure that points shall not be allocated based on any artifacts, unless such artifact constitutes evidence of an otherwise observable rubric subcomponent.

Assessment Assurances

Please read the assurances below and check each box.

☑ Assure that the amount of time devoted to traditional standardized assessments that are not specifically required by state or federal law for each classroom or program within a grade level does not exceed, in the aggregate, one percent of the minimum required annual instructional hours for the grade.

☑ Assure that individuals with vested interest in the outcome of their assessments are not involved, to the extent practicable, in the

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Principal School Visit Category

For guidance on the Principal School Visit category, see NYSED Educator Evaluation Guidance. For a definition of terms used in this section, see the Educator Evaluation Glossary.

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