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The Office of Higher Education (OHE) newsletter describes the current and upcoming activities related to higher education, with a particular focus on the preparation of educators. This newsletter, past newsletters, and a subscription link are available online on the [OHE website](#).

We are pleased to announce that Dr. William Murphy is the new Deputy Commissioner for Higher Education. Over the past 15 years, Dr. Murphy has served in various roles at the State Education Department. In his most recent role as the Director of Professional Education in the Office of Professions, he led teams that evaluated professional licensure programs at public and private colleges and universities in New York State and internationally. Prior to joining the Department, Dr. Murphy was an Assistant Director at the Borough of Manhattan Community College Center for Continuing Education and the Director for the Workforce Development Institute. He earned a Ph.D. from the University at Albany, a master's degree from Baruch College, and a bachelor's degree from LeMoyne College.

The Board of Regents [adopted a regulatory amendment](#) that a teacher acting as a mentor to a teacher candidate (e.g., student teacher) may, at the discretion of the school district or BOCES, credit up to 25 clock hours toward his/her CTLE requirement in each five-year registration period. The regulatory amendment will become effective on December 31, 2019.

The Department is developing a new software system funded by a grant from the Wallace Foundation that will enable district leaders to tap into a larger pool of certified school building leaders who have the experience and credentials that meet the needs of their schools. The [presentation](#) to the Board of Regents describes how the computer search system will enable superintendents to enter customized search criteria and canvass potential candidates, while safeguarding individuals' personally identifiable information. The software system is scheduled to launch during the 2019-2020 academic year.

The Office of Curriculum and Instruction has posted a Fall 2019 [Science Update](#) and encourages science educators to visit its [Science webpage](#) for valuable information and resources regarding the implementation of the [New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards](#), such as the [Implementation Timeline](#). The resources could be utilized in teacher preparation programs to help teacher candidates learn about the Standards. Standards and curriculum resources for all subject areas are available on the [Office of Curriculum and Instruction website](#).

The Department is seeking educators to participate in the following committees that will meet in early 2020. Certified P-12 educators and higher education professionals, including both higher education teacher preparation faculty and higher education faculty who have content expertise,