

New York State Education Department  
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Dear Colleagues,

I am sending all of you a heartfelt welcome to the start of this academic year. The beginning of a new school year has always been a celebration of the possibilities that await our children, teachers, and families. School leaders spend their summer session re-designing new opportunities for the children to excel and develop their love of learning. This year's start is more joyous than ever.

Although masks and health safety precautions are still part of the daily preventive measures of a school, the courses developed to support a well-rounded education for our children is the primary focus.

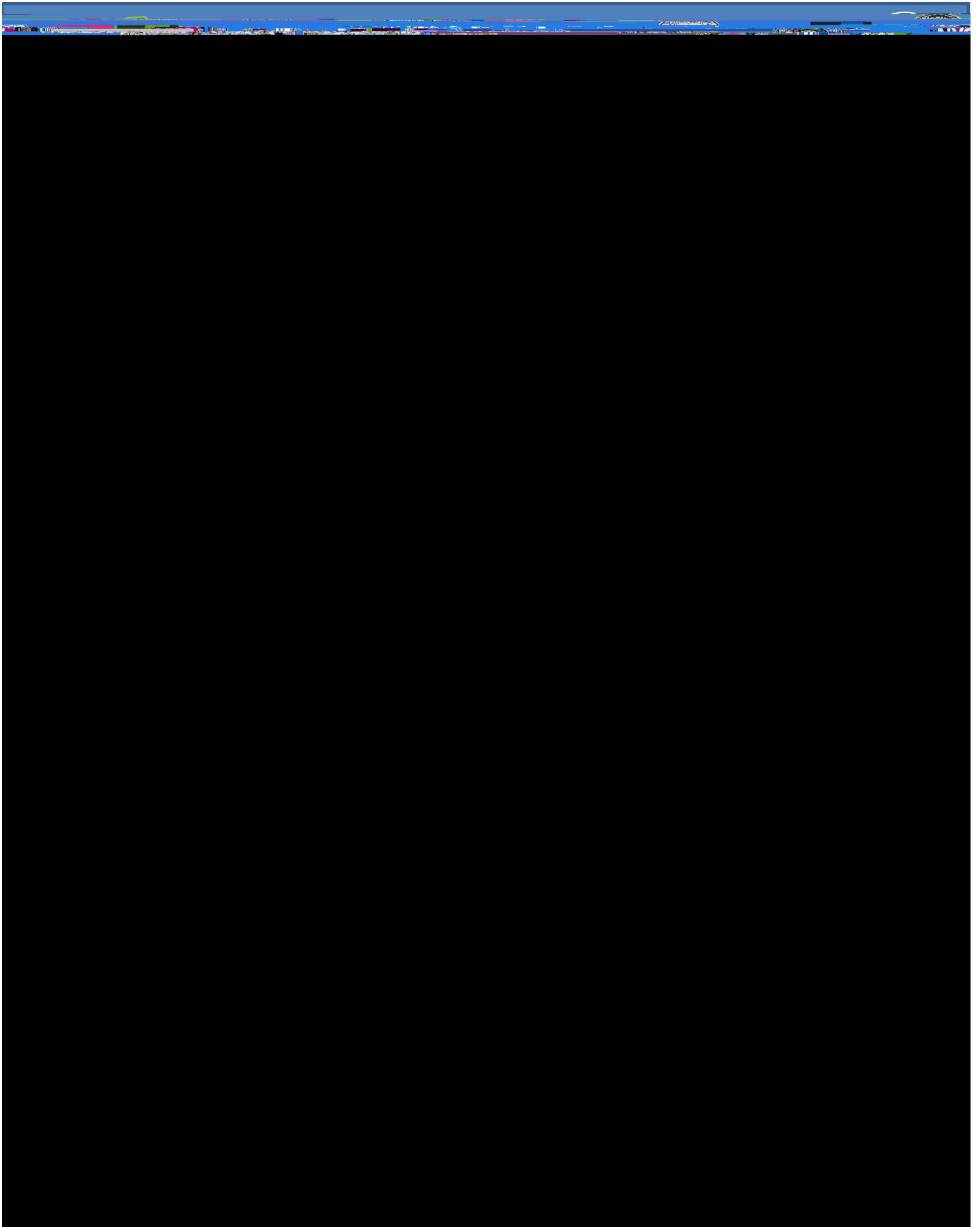
Education is one of our most important professions, and educators are mem-



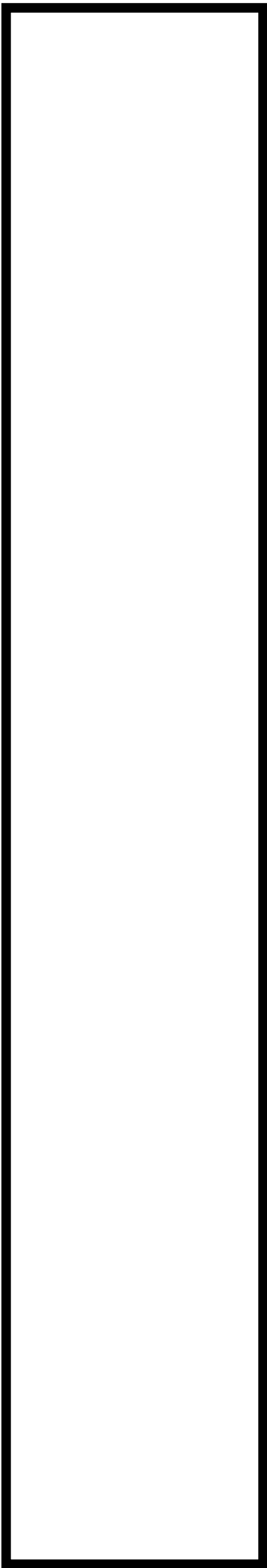
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Over the summer, OBEWL convened a select group of ELL administrators from our ELL Leadership Council to identify potential uses for the funding provided to schools by the American Rescue Plan to benefit English Language Learners









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NYSED has now officially begun the "raising awareness and building capacity"



The Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages has offered a monthly workshop series since January to support educators in the transition to the NYS Learning Standards for World Languages, which were adopted in March 2021. The recordings of the following workshops are now available on our [World Languages Professional Learning site](#). Please consider bookmarking our page for easy future reference! Participants who view the recording of a workshop may earn CTLE credit by answering at least seven out of ten questions correctly on a multiple-





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September is #LibraryCardSignUpMonth! Visit your library's website to learn how you can access resources to help you and your children this school year.

NOVELny—the New York Online Virtual Electronic Library— has a fresh new look and an updated Librarian Toolkit to match! Click [here](#) to view style guidelines and brand assets, and get access to database icons, vendor downloads, and handouts.

This year, more than ever, we can appreciate the joy of walking into classrooms filled with students, led by dedicated and talented teachers. As students and educators return to the classroom, please join us in fostering a culture of belonging, connect on, and hope.

Read the #BackToSchool letters to educators and families written by Board of Regents Chancellor Lester W. Young, Jr. and by Commissioner Betty A. Rosa. They are available here: [Letter to educators](#), [Letter to families](#).

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## NEW YORK STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS (NYSTCE) TEST FEES AND REFUND POLICY

The fees for almost all [NYSTCE tests](#) decreased, effective August 31, 2021. For example, the fees decreased from the [Education All Students \(EAS\) test](#) from \$92 to \$80, single-subject Content Specialty Tests (CSTs) from \$13

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The RBERNs support OBEWL's mission to ensure that all students' individual educational paths and socio-economical needs are met in multiple languages leading them to college, career, and



The mission of the New York State Education Department's Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages is to ensure that all New York State English Language Learners (ELLs) attain the highest level of academic success and that all Multilingual Learners (MLs) – which include ELLs, Former/Ever ELLs, World Languages students, and heritage speakers of World Languages – achieve the highest level of language proficiency in English and in one or more other languages.

