



Associate Commissioner  
Office of Curriculum, Assessment and Educational Technology

**TO:** BOCES District Superintendents  
Superintendents of Public and Nonpublic Schools  
Principals of Public, Charter, and Nonpublic Schools

**FROM:** Ken Wagner

**SUBJECT:** Mathematics Model Content Frameworks for Regents Examinations and High School Curriculum Modules to be Used in New York State

**DATE:** Revised April 2013

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) is a consortium of 22 states and the District of Columbia working together to develop next-generation K-12 assessments in English and math. As part of its proposal to the U.S. Department of Education, PARCC committed to developing model content frameworks for mathematics to serve as a bridge between the Common Core State Standards and the PARCC assessments. PARCC developed the Model Content Frameworks to help:

- Inform development of item specifications and blueprints for the PARCC assessments, and
- Support implementation of the Common Core State Standards

The PARCC Model Content Frameworks were developed through a state-led process that included mathematics content experts in PARCC member states (including New York State) and members of the Common Core State Standards writing team. Although the primary purpose of the Model Content Frameworks is to provide a frame for the PARCC assessments, they are also voluntary resources to help educators and those developing curricula and instructional materials. The PARCC Frameworks are posted at: <http://www.parcconline.org/parcc-model-content-frameworks>.

Although the Board of Regents has not yet determined if New York State will administer PARCC assessments when they are available beginning in the 2014-15 school year, the PARCC Model Content Frameworks are firmly rooted in the Common Core Learning Standards and college/career readiness. Therefore, all curricular and professional development resources produced by the State Education Department will follow these Frameworks, as will State assessments beginning with the 2013-14 school year.

Building the State's new assessments and curriculum modules using the PARCC Model Content Framework means that:

- The standards associated with each of the three courses in the Mathematics Traditional Course Pathways (Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II) are articulated in the PARCC Model Content Frameworks. Although the PARCC Model Content Frameworks are informed by Appendix A of the Common Core for Mathematics, there are differences between the two. Moving forward, educators in New York State are encouraged to use the PARCC Model Content Frameworks to guide their curriculum development and instructional practices.
- The emphases of various mathematics clusters are articulated in the PARCC Model Content Frameworks. Those clusters with greater emphases will be more prominent on the State's new assessments and in the State's new curriculum modules. Note that the cluster emphases that have been posted previously on [EngageNY.org](http://EngageNY.org) are being updated to reflect the emphases in the PARCC Model Content Frameworks. This includes many changes to the high school math cluster emphases, and a minor change to the Grade 8 cluster emphases.

Please note that the new Model Content Frameworks were finalized after the 2013 New York State Grades 3-8 test specifications were completed, so the Grades 3-8 Test Guides released in November 2012 supersede the PARCC Model Content Frameworks for the 2013 test administration (e.g., the Grade 8 functions cluster "Use functions to model relationships between quantities" was treated by NYSED as a supporting content emphasis for test development purposes, although the new PARCC MCF lists this cluster as a major content emphasis). This minor change to the 8th grade math assessment will be implemented in 2014.

The Common Core Regents Examination in Algebra I will be first administered in June 2014 (see <http://engageny.org/resource/common-core-implementation-timeline>). Additional guidance on the phase-in of these new exams will be provided shortly.

If you have any questions about the Model Content Frameworks, please contact the Office of Curriculum & Instruction at [emscurric@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:emscurric@mail.nysed.gov). Thank you for your continued assistance as we move forward with this challenging and important work.