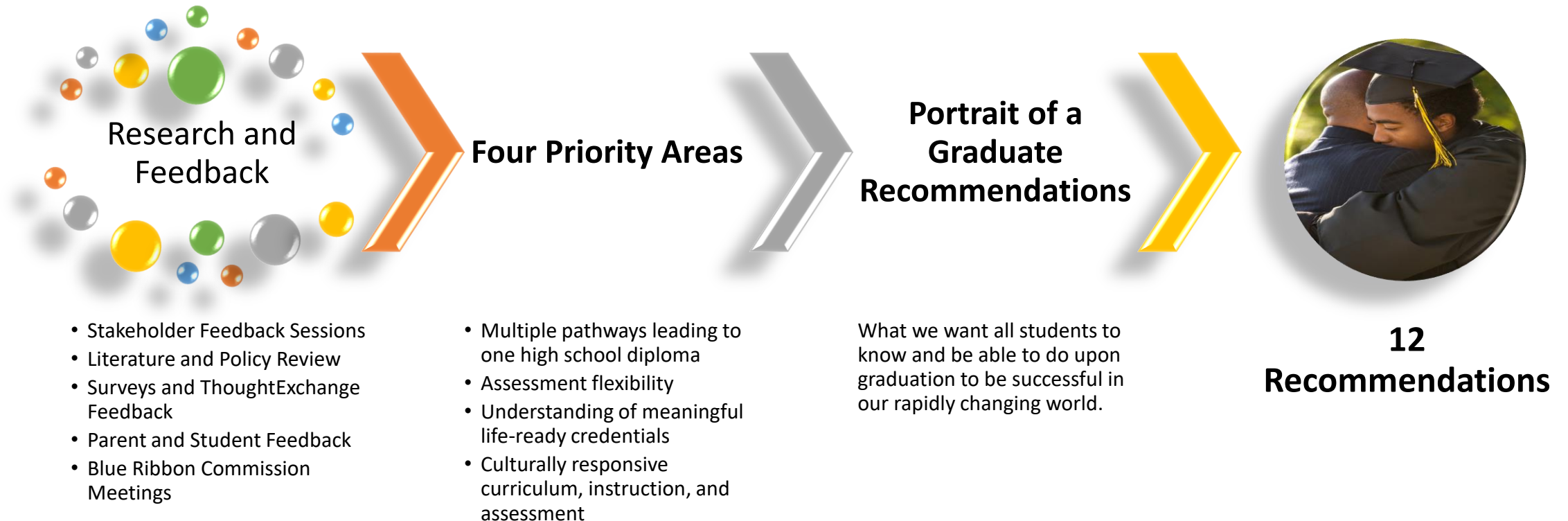


New York State Graduation Measures Initiative

A large, stylized graphic of a graduation cap (mortarboard) in the background. The cap is composed of several overlapping, chevron-like shapes in shades of blue and gold. The top of the cap is a dark blue, and the main body is a lighter blue. The tassel is a dark blue cord hanging from the right side of the cap.

Recommendations from the
Blue Ribbon Commission
November 2023

Work of the Commission



Four Priorities



Consideration of
multiple pathways
leading to one
diploma



Review of
assessment
flexibility



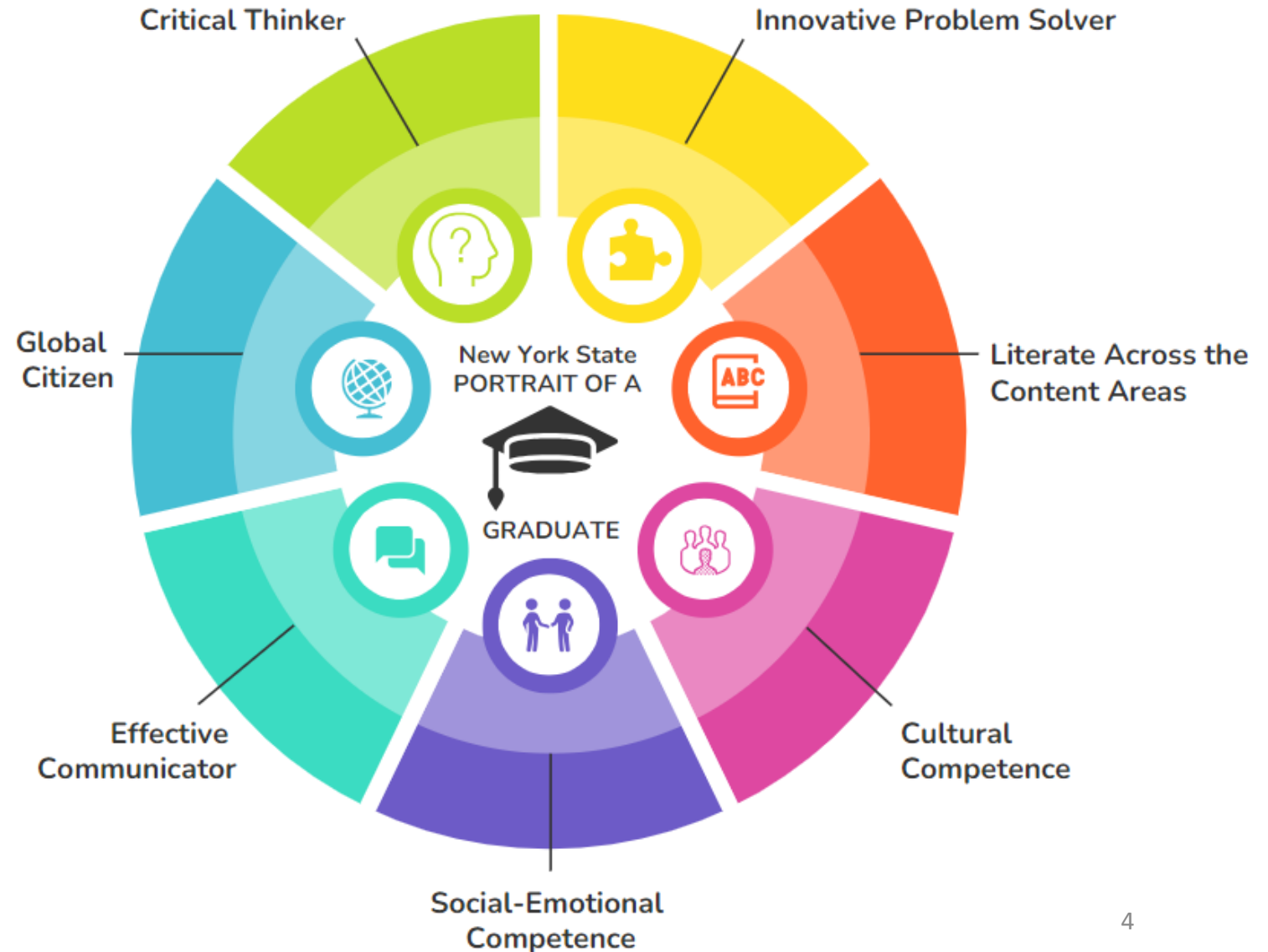
Understanding of
meaningful life-
ready credentials



Culturally responsive
curriculum,
instruction, and
assessment

Portrait of a Graduate

New York State graduates are ready for **college**, **careers**, and **civic engagement**!



Identifying the Recommendations



Developing

June Commission Meeting

July In-Person Convening



Refining

Steering Committee with support from All4Ed in July and August 2023



Voting

59 Recommendation Suggestions

37 identified by at least 75% of members as a high or medium priority

Recommendations

12 Recommendations



1 Number of Diplomas and Seals/Endorsements

Replace the three diploma types with one diploma with the option to add seals and endorsements.



2 Credit Requirements

Diploma credit requirements must include:

- civic responsibility/ethics;
- cultural competence;
- financial literacy education, including systems, personal finance, and the social-historical context;
- fine and performing arts;
- science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) credit(s); and
- writing, including writing skills for real-world scenarios.





3 Access to Career and Technical Education

Ensure access to career and technical education, including internships and work-based learning opportunities for all students across the State.

4 Reorganization of Credit Requirements

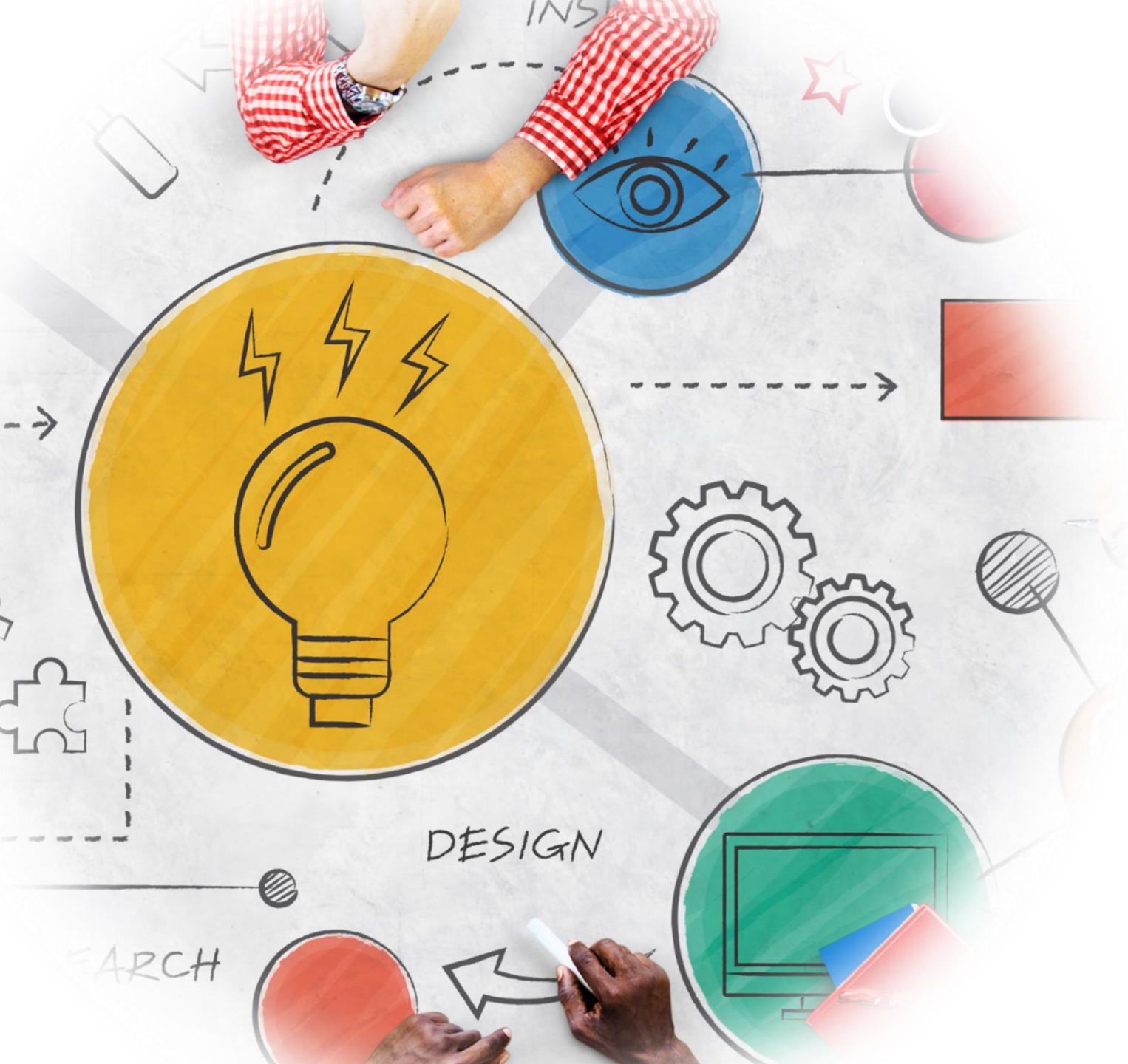
Move to a model that organizes credit requirements, including content area credit requirements into larger categories (e.g., mathematics and science courses could be included in the “STEM” category).



5 Diploma Assessment Requirements

Reduce and/or modify diploma assessment requirements to allow more assessment options.





6 Performance-Based Assessments

Create State-developed rubric(s) for any performance-based assessments allowed as an option to satisfy the diploma assessment requirements.

Options for Specific Students

- 7 Create more specific, tailored graduation requirements to address the unique circumstances of certain groups of students (e.g., non-compulsory age students, newcomer students, refugee students).
- 8 Provide exemptions from diploma assessment requirements for: students with significant cognitive disabilities; and major life events and extenuating circumstances (e.g., medical conditions, death of a family member, trauma prior to sitting for a required exam).
- 9 Pursue regulatory changes to allow the discretion to confer high school degrees posthumously.





Teacher Education

- 10 Require all NYS teacher preparation programs to provide instruction in culturally responsive-sustaining education (CR-SE) practices and pedagogy.
- 11 Require that professional development plans include culturally responsive-sustaining education practices and pedagogy.

12 NYS Learning Standards

Review and revise the NYS learning standards to:

- better align with college and career expectations and update for family and consumer sciences, health, media literacy, and climate education;
- emphasize higher-order skills and competencies (e.g., health education, communication, decision-making, time management, soft skills); and
- use a culturally responsive-sustaining education (CRSE)/diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and accessibility lens in all subject areas, including history.

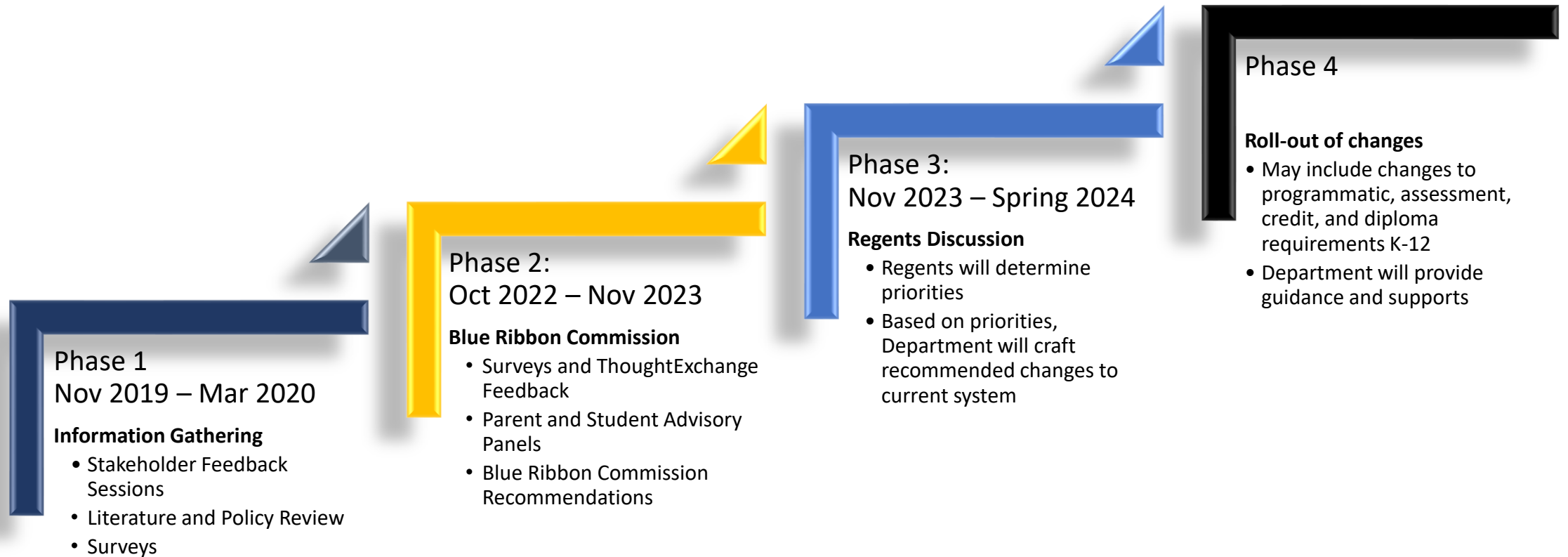




Additional Considerations

- Adequate funding
- Advocacy and education
- Engage higher education institutions
- Professional learning
- Evaluation of impact
- Future reevaluation

Next Steps



Blue Ribbon Commission Members

Jaan Aarismaa
Welding Technology Teacher
Delaware-Chenango-Madison-
Otsego BOCES

Hafid Aburto
Student
Grover Cleveland High School
(NYCDOE)

Francine Almash
Adjunct Professor
Center for Worker Education, City
College of New York, CUNY

Richard Altabe
Lower School Principal, Executive
Vice President of Institutional
Advancement
Hebrew Academy of Long Beach

Elizabeth Angeles*
Vice President, Advocacy
United Way of New York City

Stephen Beovich
Superintendent
Mount Pleasant Cottage School
Union Free School District

Carlos Berrios
Student
Newburgh Free Academy West
Campus

Donna Bonanno
Principal
Alice Austen School (NYCDOE)

Parker Booth
Student
LaFayette Junior-Senior High
School

Dr. David Brown
Director of Graduate Studies
LeMoyne College

Samantha Bruno*
Student (Recent Graduate)
Eastport South Manor
Junior/Senior High School and the
Bixhorn Technical Center at the
Eastern Long Island Academy for
Applied Technology (Eastern
Suffolk BOCES)

Dr. Dia Bryant
Executive Director
Education Trust – New York

Kerri Bullock
Assistant Superintendent for
Instructional Support Services &
Leadership
Broome-Tioga BOCES

Dr. Eric Byrne
Superintendent
Rye City School District

Dr. Joyce Carr
Supervisor of Special Education
and Support Services
Elmira City School District

Amanda Centor
Special Education Teacher
PS 182 (NYCDOE)

Pagee Cheung
Co-Executive Director and
Founding Principal
Math, Engineering, and Science
Academy (MESA) Charter High
School

Dr. Alexandria Connally
Assistant Director
Southern Westchester BOCES

Timothy Cox
Assistant Superintendent,
Instructional Support Services
Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES

Dr. Gladys Cruz
District Superintendent
Questar III BOCES

Juliet Eisenstein
Assistant Director, Postsecondary
Readiness Project
Advocates for Children of New
York

Dr. Howard Everson
Senior Research Scientist, Center
for Education Research &
Innovation
SRI International

Kristie Farr
Theater Educator
Indian River Central School
District

Kim Fontana
Superintendent
Pawling Central School District

Sherée Gibson
Former Chair of the Chancellor's
Parent Advisory Council and
Member of the Title 1 Committee
of Practitioners

Dr. Jordan Gonzalez
Lead Resource Specialist
Long Island RBERN

Tricia González
Instructional Coach (Social
Studies)
Rochester City School District

Dr. Stanley Harper
Superintendent
Salmon River Central School
District

Dr. Tolga Hayali
Superintendent
Science Academies of New York
Charter Schools

Dr. Catherine Huber
District Superintendent
Otsego Northern Catskills BOCES

Dr. David Hursh
Professor, Warner Graduate
School of Education
University of Rochester

Jo James
Special Education Teacher
WSWHE BOCES

Dr. Brian Jones
Director of Center for Educations
and Schools
New York Public Library

Cynthia Jones
Principal on Special Assignment
Niagara Falls City School District

Dr. Lorna Lewis*
Superintendent
Malverne Union Free School
District

Blue Ribbon Commission Members (continued)

Daniel Kobina Lindsay
Mathematics Teacher, Peer
Collaborative Team Teacher Lead
Stephen Decatur M.S. 035, District
16, NYCDOE

Susan Lipman
Board Trustee
Eastern Suffolk BOCES

Dr. Timothy Lisante*
Superintendent (Retired)
New York City Department of
Education

Donna Lobato
Principal
New Dawn Charter High School

Tamara Mariotti*
Coordinator of Accessibility
Resources
Mohawk Valley Community
College

Stephen Marositz
Associate Superintendent for
Teaching and Learning (Former
Position) Archdiocese of New York

Dr. Jeffrey Matteson
District Superintendent
Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES

Winonah McCoy
Instructional Coach
LaFayette Central School District

Alprentice McCutchen*
Social Studies Teacher
New Rochelle High School

Melissa Melkonian
Founder and Executive Director
American Dream Charter School

Frankie Miranda
President
Hispanic Federation

Dr. Fatima Morrell
Associate Superintendent, Office
of Culturally & Linguistically
Responsive Initiatives
Buffalo Public Schools

David Mumper
Resource Specialist
Southern Westchester
BOCES/Hudson Valley RBERN

Dr. Edward Placke
Executive Director (Retired)
Green Chimneys

Michael Prayor
Superintendent
Brooklyn South HS NYC Public
Schools

Dr. Edwin Quezada
Superintendent
Yonkers Public Schools

Carolyn Quintana
Deputy Chancellor of Teaching
and Learning Opportunities
New York City Department of
Education

Amber Rangel Mooney
Vice President and Director of
Workforce Development
Empire State Development

Roberto Rijos
NYS PTA; Vice President and
Chief Information Officer
Konica Minolta Healthcare
Americas, Inc.

Linda Romano
CTE Health Science Education
Teacher
Newburgh Enlarged City School
District

Dr. Christopher Rosa
President and Chief Executive
Officer
The Viscardi Center and Henry
Viscardi School

Dr. Sagrario Rudecindo-O'Neill*
Assistant Superintendent of
Instruction and Student Support
Beacon City School District

Stephen Sireci, Ph.D.*
Distinguished Professor
University of Massachusetts
Amherst

Robert Snyder
President
NYS Loving Education at Home

Dr. Andrea Soonachan
Dean of K-16 Initiatives
The City University of New York

Dr. Marion Terenzio
President
State University of New York
College of Agriculture and
Technology at Cobleskill

Terjuana Teruel
Principal
Universal School

Andres Torres
Head of Guidance/College &
Career Counselor
Manhattan Bridges High School
(NYCDOE)

Luis Torres
Principal
The Henry M. Boehm School
(NYCDOE)

Sarah Truelsch
Assistant Dean for Policy
Research
City University of New York

Jachan Watkis
K-12 Director of Math, Science,
and Technology
Rocky Point Union Free School
District

Christopher White
Deputy Commissioner for
Workforce Development
New York State Department of
Labor

Kelly Whitney-Rivera*
Director of Counseling
Valley Stream Central High School

Bobson Wong
Math Teacher
Bayside High School

NYSED Staff Support Team



Tanya Amodio-Kovacs
*Supervisor
Education Programs*

Marybeth Casey
*Assistant Commissioner
(Retired), Office of Curriculum
& Instruction and Early
Learning*

Kimberly Charis
Past Project Manager

Keshia Clukey
*Assistant Commissioner
Office of Communications*

David Coffey
*Associate in Education
Improvement Services*

Catherine Coons
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

LoriAnn Curtin
*Chief of Staff,
P-12 Operational Support*

Emily DeSantis
*Former Assistant
Commissioner for Public
Affairs*

Mary Drzonsc
*Project Manager,
Blue Ribbon Commission on
Graduation Measures*

Andrea Faoro
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

Ashleigh Farley
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

Emily Goodenough
*Director of Digital Content and
Policy
Office of Communications*

Dawn Graham
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

Gina Handy
Examinations Editor

Liz Hurley
*Manager,
Information Technology
Services*

Dechelle Johnson
*Assistant to the Senior Deputy
Commissioner*

Angelique Johnson-Dingle
*Deputy Commissioner
P-12 Instructional Support*

Shibu Joseph
*Supervisor, Education
Programs*

Jason Harmon
*Deputy Commissioner
P-12 Operational Support*

Chris Kenneston
*Information Technology
Specialist 3*

Shannon Logan
*Director of Standards,
Instruction and Educational
Technology*

Nicole Marschilok
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

Jennifer Mickel
*Special Assistant, Regents'
Office*

Melissa Montague
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

J.P. O'Hare
*Assistant Director
Office of Communications*

Dr. Santosha Oliver
*Assistant Commissioner,
Office of Standards and
Instructional Programs*

Lisa Pingelski
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

Christine Radez
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

Matthew Ramnes
*Special Assistant, Operations
and Management Services*

Kelsey Roman
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

Christina Ryan
*Assistant in Instructional
Services*

Amalia Schiff
*Chief of Staff,
P-12 Instructional Support*

David W. Seligman
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

Brielyn Smith
*Assistant in Education
Improvement Services*

Erik Sweet
*Executive Director,
Office of Early Learning*

Andrea Vamvas
*Associate in Instructional
Services*

Laura Walker
Assistant to the Commissioner

Dr. Zachary Warner
*Assistant Commissioner,
Office of State Assessment*

Lynne Wells
Past Project Manager

Dr. Kimberly Young Wilkins
*Deputy Commissioner
(Retired),
P-12 Instructional Support*



Thank You!

A stylized graphic of a graduation cap (mortarboard) in the background. The cap is composed of several layers: a dark blue base, a gold band, and a blue top layer. The tassel is also blue and hangs down on the right side.

Questions?
