THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Commissioner of Education
President of the University of the State of New York
89 Washington Avenue, Room 111
Albany, New York 12234

E-mail: commissioner@nysed.gov
Twitter:@NYSEDNews
Tel: (518) 474-5844

June 12, 2024

Revised

Lance Lohman, Superintendent
Longwood Central School District
35 Yaphank Middle Island Road
Middle Island, NY 11953

Dear Superintendent Lohman:

Congratulations. I am pleased to inform you that your educator evaluation plan ("plan") meets the criteria outlined in Education Law §3012-d and Subpart 30-3 of the Commissioner's Regulations and has been approved. Your plan is approved for implementation beginning in the **2024-2025 School Year**. As a reminder, we are relying on the information you provided on your educator evaluation form, including the certifications and assurances that are part of your approved plan. If any material changes are made to your approved plan, your district/BOCES must submit such material changes to us for approval. Please see the attached notes for further information.

Please be advised that, pursuant to Education Law §3012-d, the Department will be analyzing 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 teachers' or principals' 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: April Poprilo

LEA CERTIFICATION FORM: Please download, sign, and upload this form to complete the submission of your LEA's Educator Evaluation plan.

By signing this document, the LEA and its collective bargaining agent(s) certify that the Educator Evaluation plan submitted to the Commissioner for approval constitutes the school LEA's complete Educator Evaluation plan, that all provisions of the plan that are subject to collective negotiations have been resolved pursuant to the provisions of Article 14 of the Civil Service Law, and that such plan complies with the requirements of Education Law §3012-d as amended by the Laws of 2019 and Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, and has been adopted by the governing body of the LEA.

The LEA and its collective bargaining agent(s), where applicable, also certify, upon information and belief, that all statements made herein are true and accurate and that any applicable collective bargaining agreements for teachers and principals are consistent with and/or have been amended and/or modified or otherwise resolved to the extent required by Article 14 of the Civil Service Law, as necessary to require that all classroom teachers and building principals will be evaluated using the Educator Evaluation plan submitted to the Commissioner for approval.

The LEA and its collective bargaining agent(s), where applicable, also certify that this Educator Evaluation plan is the LEA's complete Educator Evaluation plan and that such plan will be fully implemented by the LEA; that there are no collective bargaining agreements, memoranda of understanding, or any other agreements in any form that prevent, conflict, or interfere with full implementation of the Educator Evaluation plan; and that no material changes will be made to the Plan through collective bargaining or otherwise except with the approval of the Commissioner in accordance with Subpart 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents.

The school district and its collective bargaining agent(s), where applicable, also acknowledge that if approval of this Educator Evaluation plan is rejected or rescinded for any reason, any State aid increases received as a result of the Commissioner's approval of this Educator Evaluation plan may be withheld or forfeited by the State pursuant to Education Law §3012-d(11).

The LEA and its collective bargaining agent(s), where applicable, also make the following specific certifications with respect to their Educator Evaluation plan:

- Assure that the overall Educator Evaluation rating will be used as a significant factor in employment decisions, including but not limited to: tenure determinations and teacher and principal improvement plans;
- Assure that the entire Educator Evaluation will be completed for each teacher or principal as soon as practicable but in no case later than September 1 of the school year following the year in which the classroom teacher or building principal's performance is being measured;
- Assure that the LEA shall compute and provide to the teacher/principal their score and rating on the Student Performance category, if available, and for the Teacher Observation category or Principal School Visit Category of a teacher's or principal's APPR, in writing, no later than the last day of the school year for which the teacher or principal is being measured, but in no case later than September 1 of the school year following the year in which the teacher's or principal's performance is measured;
- Assure that the Educator Evaluation plan will be filed in the LEA's office and made available to the public 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 later occur;
- Assure that complete and accurate teacher and student data will be provided to the Commissioner in a format and timeline prescribed by the Commissioner;
- Assure that the LEA will continue to report to the State individual subcomponent scores and the overall rating for each classroom teacher and building principal in a manner prescribed by the Commissioner;
- Assure that the LEA provides an opportunity for every classroom teacher and building principal to verify the subjects and/or student rosters assigned to them;
- Assure that teachers and principals will receive timely and constructive feedback as part of the evaluation process;
- Assure that any training course for lead evaluator certification addresses each of the requirements in the regulations, including specific considerations in evaluating teachers and principals of English language learners and students with disabilities;
- Assure that any teacher or principal who receives an Overall Rating of Developing or Ineffective in any school year will receive a Teacher Improvement Plan or Principal Improvement Plan, in accordance with all applicable statues and regulations, by October 1 of the school year following the year in which such teacher's or principal's performance was measured or as soon as practicable thereafter.
- Assure that such improvement plan shall be developed by the superintendent or their designee in the exercise of their pedagogical judgment, and shall be subject to collective bargaining to the extent required under Article 14 of the Civil Service Law;
- Assure that all evaluators and lead evaluators, including independent evaluators and peer evaluators, as applicable, will be properly trained and that lead evaluators will be certified and recertified as necessary in accordance with all applicable statutes and regulations;
- Assure that LEA has collectively bargained appeal procedures that are consistent with the statute and regulations and provide for the timely and expeditious resolution of an appeal to the LEA;
- Assure that, for teachers, all observable NYS Teaching Standards/Domains of the selected practice rubric are assessed at least once a year across the total number of annual observations and, for principals, all observable ISLLC 2008 Leadership Standards/Domains of the selected practice rubric are assessed at least once a year across the total number of annual school

visits;

- Assure that it is possible for a teacher or principal to obtain each point in the scoring ranges, including 0, for each subcomponent and that the LEA shall ensure that the process by which weights and scoring ranges are assigned to subcomponents and categories is transparent and available to those being rated before the beginning of each school year;
- Assure that if a second measure for the Student Performance category is locally selected, then the same locally selected measures of student growth or achievement will be used across all classrooms in the same grade/subject, for teachers, or similar building configurations/programs, for principals, in the LEA will be used in a consistent manner to the extent practicable;
- Assure that all growth targets represent a minimum of one year of expected growth;
- Assure that any material changes to this Educator Evaluation plan will be submitted to the Commissioner for approval by March 1 of each school year;
- Assure that the LEA will provide the Department with any information necessary to conduct annual monitoring pursuant to Subpart 30-3 of the regulations;
- 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 of the grade does not exceed, in the aggregate, one percent of the minimum in required annual instructional hours for such classroom or program of the grade; and
- Assure that the amount of time devoted to test preparation under standardized testing conditions for each grade does not exceed, in the aggregate, two percent of the minimum required annual instructional hours for such grade. Time devoted to teacher administered classroom quizzes or exams, portfolio reviews, or performance assessments shall not be counted towards the limits established by this subdivision. In addition, formative and diagnostic assessments shall not be counted towards the limits established by this subdivision and nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to supersede the requirements of a section 504 plan of a qualified student with a disability or Federal law relating to English language learners or the individualized education program of a student with a disability.

Signatures, dates

Superintendent Signature: Date: 6/7/24

Superintendent Name (print): Lance Lohman, Ed.D.

Teachers Union President Signature: Date: 6/6/24

Teachers Union President Name (print): Josephine Lubassi 6/6/24

Administrative Union President Signature: Date: 6/6/24

Administrative Union President Name (print): Scott Schuster

Board of Education President Signature: Date: June 6, 2024

Board of Education President Name (print): Victoria Molloy June 6, 2024