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December 8, 2014

To: Deans and Directors of Institutions Offering Teacher Preparation Programs in New York State

From: [redacted]
Office of Higher Education

Angelica Inschools, particularly those who speak languages other than English. O

ver the past 10 years, New York State English Language Learner (ELL) student enrollment has increased by 20 percent. This trend is not unique to New York; according to the U.S. Department of Education, ELL student enrollment has increased by 18 percent nationally. Currently in New York State, nearly a quarter of a million ELLs mak(9sLLs)24(ma5(e)-p)-223(a)-2lmcen(rk)43(u)-413(ELLs1)-4023(a

First, as successful initiatives begin with a clear plan, the Department developed the Blueprint for English Language Learner Success (available at: http://usny.nysed.gov/docs/blueprint-for-ell-success.pdf). The Blueprint consists of carefully developed principles to be utilized as a statewide framework to clarify expectations and create guidance, resources and support for administrators, policymakers, districts, schools and practitioners to prepare ELLs for college and career success. The Blueprint stands in sharp contrast to the status quo, and the principles articulated in the Blueprint will fundamentally influence how ELLs are educated in New York State public schools. These eight principles include:

(i) establishing an understanding that all teachers are teachers of ELLs, and must be prepared accordingly;

scaffolds and supports. (For more information, visit