

**REVISED SCHEDULE FOR MIDDLE LEVEL
TESTS BEGINNING IN 2003**

A major change reflected in the revised schedule, which is consistent with the Summit recommendations, is to make the technology education test a local option. SED encourages the continued use of this test in technology classes as a program evaluation tool.

Please note that while we are printing this revised schedule, we remind you that nonpublic schools are not required to administer these tests; SED, however, encourages us to do so.

SUBJECT	ADMINISTRATION DATES
English Language Arts	Late January immediately preceding Regents examination days.
Mathematics	Late April or Early May.
Science Performance Test	Any time in January.
Social Studies	Any time in June before the first Regents examination (tests to remain secure during this period). Scores will be reported on school report card.
Science Written Test	Any time in June before the first Regents examination (tests to remain secure during this period). Scores will be reported on school report card.
Technology Education	Any time in June. Voluntary assessment for program evaluation.
Second Language Proficiency	During Regents week. Not required, but may be used to gain the credit required for graduation.

NEW SCHOOLS OPENING UP

The De LaSalle Christian Brothers this fall will open a new middle school at Our Holy Redeemer Church in Freeport, LI for low-income students.

The De LaSalle School will open with about 15 students in fifth grade and will add sixth, seventh, and eighth grades over the following three years. De LaSalle Christian Brother Thomas Casey is the new school's director.

Also, St. Dominic Savio Middle School is getting set to operate next to Niagara Catholic Jr/Sr High School for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders according to the *Western New York Catholic*. Patricia Muscatello was selected to be the principal at St. Dominic's. The opening of the school completes a five-year journey for the Niagara Falls Catholic Schools Network, a coalition of parishes, parents, teachers, and administrators who have planned out the creation of the school.

**ELIOT SPITZER'S REPORT ON
NON-PUBLIC EDUCATION**

NYS Attorney General Eliot Spitzer published a report that proposes four changes in legislation, and the starting point is the Regents statement of higher standards. The Attorney General proposes these changes:

1. Provide additional state funding to school districts to allow them to provide Academic Intervention Services to students in non-public schools.
2. Provide additional state funding for computer hardware to be loaned to non-public school students.
3. Reimburse non-public schools and their teachers for two days of training each year on state test administration.
4. Permit special education services to be provided to non-public school students by public schools, with the services to be provided in the non-public school or some other location.

The report states that the State Education Department feels that schools have a legal obligation to provide these services. The Attorney General's view is that recent Supreme Court decisions have expanded the boundaries of what is constitutionally permitted in this area.

GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTRATION OF MEDS

Only health care practitioners licensed or certified in New York State (physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, registered professional nurses, midwives, and licensed practical nurses) may administer medication under Title Eight of Education Law.

Students with asthma may carry and use a prescribed inhaler during the school day with the written permission of a duly authorized health care provider and parental consent, based on Section 916 of Education Law.

Any prescribed medication which requires administration through a subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenous or rectal route; or prescribed medications being administered through pumps, tubes or nebulizers; or oral, topical or inhalant medication needed by non-self-directed students must be given by school nursing personnel or licensed practical nurses under the direction of school nursing personnel. Administration of such prescribed medications may not be performed by school staff, designated staff in the school or from non self-directed students.

Designated staff in the school setting, following assignment and in conjunction with approval by school nursing personnel, may assist self-directed students with the taking of their own oral, topical and inhalant medication. School nursing personnel as well as the school administration should assure that the staff person receives the training and supervision needed to perform these tasks in a safe and effective manner.

Requests for use of herbal remedies, dietary supplements and natural products do not need to be honored by a school district or school nurse, as they are not sanctioned by the FDA.

Back-to-School 

