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STATEMENT ON THE NATION'S REPORT CARD
*Mega-States: An Analysis of Student Performance in the Five
Most Heavily Populated States in the Nation*

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The results presented in the *Mega-States* report are disappointing but not surprising. New York—and the nation—need change.

In New York, the Board of Regents has adopted a comprehensive reform agenda centered on college- and career-ready standards. The Common Core Standards are the foundation for rigorous, grade-by-grade curricula and, this spring, students will take new Common Core assessments in grades 3 through 8 in English language arts and mathematics. We're also moving forward on a comprehensive educator effectiveness system, a statewide data platform, and innovative approaches to turning around low-performing schools.

The scores on this NAEP report underscore a tough but necessary truth: Our students are not where they should be. The reforms we're implementing will help get them there. Our children deserve schools that get them college and career ready. Their future—and our nation's future—depend on it.