

**Remarks by MaryEllen Elia  
NYS Education Commissioner**

**ELA & Math Standards for Public Review  
Video Transcript**

***Substantive Changes***

With the English language arts standards more than 60 percent of those standards had changes, and with the mathematics, more than 55 percent. So it isn't just tinkering around the edges and doing small little things. We had a very dedicated committee that met multiple times and then met for a week together to really put all of those ideas together and make sure that while they were still rigorous standards, that they were more clearly defined for our teachers across the state.

***Rigorous Standards***

I think the standards are rigorous, as it was very clear in our AIMHighNY survey that individuals across the state were focused on making sure that our rigor stayed with the standards but that we reviewed those standards, and I think it's a critical thing that

we had teachers, administrators, parents, and our partners in higher ed be part of that review.

***Developmentally Appropriate***

One of the comments that came out of our AIMHighNY survey was that we needed to make sure that the standards were developmentally appropriate, particularly for our K



done in English language arts to bring those two together and not keep fiction separated from nonfiction, but talk about it in terms of the goals for both types of reading.

### ***Math Changes***

Well, I think one of the things that was very important is while you're maintaining the rigor, to make connections across gr