The New York State Chapter of NAECTE is busy orienting its new President, Sherry Cleary to the work. At her request the Board will be meeting every other month to firm up the strategic direction of the organization and to determine how best to meet the needs of the members and to identify best ways to advocate for early childhood teacher education throughout the state. Immediate areas of concern include building membership, planning the Spring Higher Education Conference Day (in collaboration with NYS ACCESS and NYSAEYC), advocating to retain kindergarten as part of the Early Childhood Special Education certification as well as strengthening support for the Early Childhood Certification, and generating new member benefits.

The State of New York has a new Commissioner of Education and President of the University of the State of New York, and he, in turn, has identified new staff. We will work diligently to partner with him in his efforts to improve education for the state’s children which will undoubtedly involve improving teacher education, induction, and performance.