Lake Shore Central Special Education Department

**Consideration of Alternative Assessment**

Participation in the NYSAA is a Committee on Special Education (CSE) decision. As a member of the CSE, parents are essential in that decision. In order for the CSE to determine whether or not a student is eligible to take NYSAA, the student must:

1. have a severe cognitive disability and severe deficits in communication/language and severe deficits in adaptive behavior; **and**
2. require a highly specialized educational program that facilitates the acquisition, application, and transfer of skills across natural environments (home, school, community, and/or workplace); **and**
3. require educational support systems, such as assistive technology, personal care services, health/medical services, or behavioral intervention.

Students with **severe cognitive delays** typically present with a profile of scores that is flat with all scores falling in the severely delayed range (standard scores less than 2 SD below mean).

Students with **severe communication/language delays** may be nonverbal and/or use alternate means for communicating wants and needs.

Students with **severe adaptive behavior delays** often need assistance in daily activities such as toileting, and eating.

In general, students who the CSE has determined eligible to be classified as Intellectually Deficient would qualify for NYSAA.