



By Carl Campanile
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A statewide coalition has been formed to launch a campaign to suspend New York's "high stakes" high school Regents exams.

Members of the group - Time Out from Testing - yesterday urged state lawmakers to repeal the requirement that students pass five Regents exams in order to earn a diploma.

Students have become "victims of a testing system that has run amok," said Chuck Fowler, superintendent of the Hewlett-Woodmere School District on Long Island.

Fowler said he's seen good students - particularly immigrants - who failed to get a diploma because they couldn't pass one exam.

The critics cited the flawed math Regents exam - which Albany tossed out after admitting it was too hard and confusing - as one reason that high-stakes exams should not be the sole criteria for graduation