

Introduction to Recommended Evidence-Based Reforms



ACHIEVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY WORKGROUP

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- If the educational system is not on target...or
- If not in the top 10 percent nationally...or
- If not comparable to Peer States...the SBE must

- **Recommend evidence-based reforms intended to improve student achievement in that area.**



ESSB 5491:



NOT the intent of the legislature:

- to curtail efforts of any group, but to help focus these efforts

IS the intent of the legislature:

- to understand whether reform efforts and investments are making positive progress in the overall education of students and whether adjustments are necessary.
- to align the education reform efforts of each state education agency in order to hold each part of the system – statewide leaders, school personnel, and students –accountable to the same definitions of success.



Recommended Reforms



- Expand access to high quality early childhood education
 - ✦ Kindergarten readiness and 3rd grade literacy
- Expand and fully fund high quality professional learning.
 - ✦ Kindergarten readiness, 3rd grade literacy, 8th grade high school readiness, and high school graduation
- Increase access to high quality expanded learning opportunities.
 - ✦ 3rd grade literacy, 8th grade high school readiness, and high school graduation.
- Expand postsecondary readiness and planning
 - ✦ High school graduation and post-secondary readiness and attainment.



Reforms are NOT:



- Meant to reduce or strip away local control of staffing decisions, budgeting, curriculum, and other district/school management responsibilities.
- A mandate to require early childhood education at a licensed facility.
- A directive to implement any specific program.
- Meant to add unfunded mandates or tasks to district and school staff.
- A requirement to replace any successful program currently in operation.
- Meant to be an endorsement or critique of current programs.



Reforms ARE:



- Meant to guide and align statewide educational reform.
- Meant to focus the efforts of agencies as they develop strategic plans.
- Meant to inform state policy-makers about areas of reform that could yield significant benefit to the state's children.

