



# THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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*A high-quality education system that prepares all students for college, career, and life.*

## STATE VISIT SUPPORTED BY THE DEEPER LEARNING STIPEND

### Summary and Key Questions

In April 2016 the State Board of Education (SBE) was awarded a two-year National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Deeper Learning Stipend. The stipend includes support for a visit to another state by up to five board member representatives to connect with state-level administrators, state board members, and educators to learn what another state is doing to promote career readiness. Planning for the trip should begin this spring for a trip in the fall, possible late September or October. At the March 2017 meeting the SBE will discuss which state they would like to consider visiting and what members would like to accomplish through such a visit.

This memo suggests possible states to consider visiting.

### Background

The NASBE Deeper Learning work started March 10, 2016 and will end December 31, 2017. The stipend is based on the research-supported premise that success in today's world requires students to not only master academic content, but also master essential competencies such as critical thinking, problem solving, effective communication, collaboration, and self-awareness and regulation. The stipend is intended to increase state capacity to consider and act on policies that enable deeper learning for students across the state.

In its stipend application, the SBE described the proposed trip as a means for the Board to learn about and gain a perspective on work of another state in developing a shared understanding of career readiness leading to policies that promote opportunities for all students to become career ready. Five members of the Board and staff will travel to a state that is leading the way on competency-based crediting and career readiness.

A useful link for what states are doing to address career and college readiness is created by the College and Career Readiness and Success Center (CCRS) at the American Institute for Research (AIR), the CCRS Interactive State Map: <http://www.ccrscenter.org/ccrs-landscape/state-profile>

### Possible States to Visit

There are many approaches to career readiness, and states may be very similar in some ways while very different in others. SBE staff is in the process of working with NASBE staff, as well as in communication with the Dana Institute in Texas, for ideas and contacts for a potential state visit.

- **Illinois**—A leader promoting key career-readiness dispositions through social and emotional learning. Illinois Social Emotional Learning Standards: <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Social-Emotional-Learning-Standards.aspx>
- **Maine**—Has developed a proficiency-based (competency-based) system, and has worked to integrate it state-wide. Maine Planning for Proficiency-Based Learning: <http://www.maine.gov/doe/proficiency/standards/sample-graduation2014/Implementation.pdf>

- **New Hampshire**—has also implemented a competency-based system is based on their defined knowledge skills and dispositions. Maine’s Story of Transformation: <http://www.maine.gov/doe/proficiency/standards/sample-graduation2014/Implementation.pdf>
- **Iowa**—has incorporated 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills into the Iowa Core Learning Standards. Iowa Core Learning Standards: <https://iowacore.gov/iowa-core/grade>

### **Action**

No business item is associated with this agenda item at the March Board meeting. The Board may consider taking action on student transitions at a later Board meeting.

If you have questions regarding this memo, please contact Linda Drake at [Linda.Drake@k12.wa.us](mailto:Linda.Drake@k12.wa.us).