

The Washington State Board of Education

Governance | Achievement | High School and College Preparation | Math & Science | Effective Workforce

Old Capitol Building, Room 253
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November 9, 2012

TO: Members of the Achievement and Accountability Workgroup

FROM: State Board of Education

RE: Input on the Revision of the Achievement Index: December

The SBE appreciates your initial input on the revising of the Index and your willingness to continue to devote your time and expertise to the Achievement and Accountability Workgroup. Your feedback has been instrumental in moving toward a revised Achievement Index.

For the December meeting of the AAW, we ask that you provide input on the following list of specific questions. We've asked SBE staff to generate another report reflecting your input on these questions, which we intend to consider in next steps for Index revision.

Focusing questions for December AAW meeting:

1. College and Career Readiness:
 - What specific subindicators should be included in the revised Index to measure college and career readiness?
 - Which of these, if any, should be included only for the public reporting? Which should be reflected on the Index?
2. English Language Learners:
 - In measuring the achievement of English Language Learners, should the revised Index incorporate just measures of academic proficiency and growth or also include language proficiency and growth?
 - Should the Index include a subgroup of former ELLs?
3. Targets:
 - How should performance targets be set for each performance indicator?
 - Which subindicators should be norm-referenced (for example, a school has a higher graduation rate than the state average and therefore the school receives a score of 7) versus criterion-referenced (for example, 85 percent of students graduate and therefore the school receives a score of 7)? What are the relative advantages and disadvantages of each way of measuring?

Meeting materials will provide examples of these options from other states.