



THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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May 2, 2014

Randy Dorn
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
600 Washington Street SE
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Superintendent Dorn:

As I know you are aware, at its May meeting, the State Board of Education is reviewing the audit findings for the four recently designated Required Action Districts. At its June 6 special meeting, it will consider approval of the Required Action Plans submitted by these districts. The purpose of this letter is to request your input on the quality of these plans, and the suitability of these plans for approval by the State Board of Education at its special meeting on June 6.

We make this request because the law is somewhat unclear on the Superintendent's role in Required Action Plan review. Under RCW 28A.657.050 (1)(c), after the superintendent of public instruction has approved the plans as "consistent with federal and state guidelines," the plans are submitted to the state board of education for approval. However, it is our view that, given the considerable expertise of yourself and your staff in school improvement, the Board would be interested in your feedback on more than just consistency with state and federal regulatory guidelines. Indeed, we would be uncomfortable approving any plan that you believed would not produce the student achievement gains you envision for these schools.

We hope that you will be present at the June 6 special board meeting, and make known to us any reservations you may have about the Required Action Plans up for consideration at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kristina Mayer
State Board of Education

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