

## March 13-14, 2013 Board Meeting Highlights

On March 13-14, the State Board of Education (SBE) hosted a Board meeting in Tumwater, Washington, at the Educational Service District 113.

During the meeting, members discussed the following:

- Progress on the SBE's 2013-2014 Strategic Plan.
- P-20 data spotlight (State Funding of K-12 Education and an Analysis of Current District Graduation Requirements).
- The Achievement and Accountability Workgroup (AAW) and SBE staff recommendations for a revised Achievement Index.
- A school district request for a basic education waiver.
- Proposed rules to RCW 28A.710, Charter Schools, relating to the authorizer oversight fee, charter applications, and related provisions.
- A brief history of the SBE and the state accountability system, and an update of school improvement initiatives from OSPI

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS

SBE approved the following:

- Minutes from the January 9-10 Board meeting.
- Minutes from the February 26 Special Board meeting
- Letter to the AAW (Part 4)
- Approval of Charter Schools Rules, CR102 for public hearing.
- Revised Index Motion.
- 180-Day waivers for the following school district: Puyallup

### THE 2013-2014 STRATEGIC PLAN

Board members reviewed progress on the 2013-2014 strategic plan, which was revised during the September 2012 Board retreat.

### P-20 DATA SPOTLIGHT

A review of timely and topical P-20 continuum data is regularly presented to the Board. Staff gave two data presentations. The first, State Funding of K-12 Education, highlighted the programs with the greatest funding increases since 1993. The analysis found that basic education staffing levels have remained essentially flat since 1993.

The second provided an update on current district graduation requirements for the Class of 2013 based on results of a graduation requirement survey that districts responded to with their Basic Education compliance form.

### THE ACHIEVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY WORKGROUP (AAW) AND SBE STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A REVISED ACHIEVEMENT INDEX.

Board members reviewed the recommendations of the Achievement and Accountability Workgroup (AAW) in regards to the following questions. Note: The recommendations of the AAW are outlined in detail in the February 13 Feedback Report [which will be posted on our Achievement and Accountability web page](#).

- Given that the federal Elementary Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility waiver requires Washington to identify schools for recognition (Reward) as well as schools in need of improvement (Priority, Focus, and Emerging), what are the implications for the structure and function of the revised Index in order to establish a coherent system?
- How should the revised Index be used to establish Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) for schools, and would this be preferable to the current AMOs?
- What relative weight should be assigned to each performance indicator for elementary, middle, high, and district level calculations?

Board members discussed these recommendations, as well as SBE staff recommendations, before approving a motion that:

- Directs staff to build and test at least two options for performance indicator weighting, and provide options to ensure that Exemplary schools meet a high bar.
- Approves a high level phase-in plan for the Revised Index.
- Directs staff to simulate growth-based Annual Measurable Objectives.
- Approves the use of the Revised Index to determine awards for high performing schools and identification of lower performing schools for support and intervention.

## **FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER OPTIONS**

Gil Mendoza, Assistant Superintendent of the Migrant/Bilingual Title III Program, and Paul McCold, Administrative Program Specialist, presented suggested revisions to Annual Measurable Achievement Objective (AMAO) 1 – Making progress. The Board discussed an AMAO structure which would base annual targets for language acquisition on the rates of acquisition experienced by students who have successfully exited the TBIP program, and who entered the program in the same grade and proficiency level.

## **RULE-MAKING REGARDING CHARTER SCHOOLS**

The Board initiated rule-making on a second set of provisions of the state's charter school law. Staff presented on proposed rules to three sections:

- RCW 28A.710.110, concerning the authorizer oversight fee
- RCW 28A.710.140, concerning the timeline for charter applications
- RCW 28A.710.150, concerning compliance with provisions on the maximum number of charter schools.

The Board reviewed for consideration for public hearing a proposed oversight fee of 4 percent of state funding for a charter school, and of 3 percent after an authorizer has authorized ten schools. The Board also discussed two proposed timelines for charter applications, one for applications in 2013 only and a second for applications in 2014 and following years. Last, the Board reviewed proposed rules on the use of a lottery to select approved charter schools for implementation when the number of approvals would cause the annual limits on the number of charter to be exceeded.

## **ALTERNATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE, ONLINE LEARNING, AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR A COMPETENCY-BASED SYSTEM**

The Board reviewed legislation proposed by Superintendent Dorn to revise the different terms used to describe different types of Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) programs. The Board has supported the legislation, in part because it responds to concerns expressed by Board members that the current terminology for alternative schools is unclear and ultimately unhelpful to appropriate oversight of the different ALE programs. The Board also discussed the potential impact of the new charter school law on online providers, as well as ways in which ALE providers may be able to provide a wider array of competency-based crediting opportunities for high school students.

## **STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY – A BRIEF HISTORY AND CONTEXT**

Staff provided a brief history of the SBE and school accountability to provide a context for future work on a state accountability framework, and to provide a context for OSPI's school improvement initiatives.

## **OSPI SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES – MOVING TOWARD A UNIFIED SYSTEM OF SUPPORT FOR ALL STUDENTS**

OSPI staff presented an update of school improvement initiatives. The process of identification of Priority, Focus and Emerging schools was reviewed, as well as student and success indicators and Turnaround Principles. An overview of resources and accountability policies were presented. In addition, OSPI briefly described the Collaborative Schools for Innovation and Success program, and Innovation Schools and Zones.

## **ACHIEVEMENT INDEX DEVELOPMENT AND THE APRIL ACHIEVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY WORKGROUP (AAW) MEETING**

Members approved formal direction to the AAW to guide the discussion at the April 10 AAW meeting. The AAW, comprised of representatives from multiple stakeholder agencies, plays a vital role by informing SBE and OSPI in the development of a revised Achievement Index.

For the April meeting, AAW members will explore model Index data to ensure the performance indicators are appropriately weighted. They will provide input on considerations when rolling Achievement Index data up to a district and state level Index. They will also discuss implications for alternative schools and data that the SBE should consider including in future updates of the Index. A detailed letter to the AAW outlining these questions and more is available on the "meeting materials" page of our website.

Visit our website ([sbe.wa.gov/materials.php](http://sbe.wa.gov/materials.php)) for additional information or call the Board office at: 360-725-6025.

**The next State Board of Education meeting will be May 8-9  
at the district office of Federal Way Public Schools.**