



Goal: Equitable funding across the state to ensure that all students have the funding and opportunities they need regardless of their geographical location or other needs.

Required Action Districts

PREPARED FOR THE MARCH 2020 BOARD MEETING

Information and action

Materials included in packet:

- OSPI Required Action Memo
- **Certain Board Meeting documents are not ADA-compliant and therefore cannot be posted to this website. If you are looking for a document or information about a specific topic, please contact the Communications Manager, as documents may be available by request.**

Synopsis:

From July 2018 to May 2019, SBE and OSPI collaborated on amending rules describing Required Action Districts (RAD). The revised RAD rules were finalized after a public hearing and fully adopted in May 2019. A summary of the changes to how OSPI identifies and recommends districts for RAD status and release from RAD is in the OSPI document included in the meeting packet.

The Board will hear a presentation from the OSPI staff on the school improvement planning efforts of seven schools identified for the Required Introductory Cohort (RIC) for the 2019-20 school year. The purpose of RIC is to build resources and supports for districts to engage in the effective, thoughtful, data-informed, and actionable planning for school improvement activities that the RAD statute requires.

OSPI is expected to recommend the six school districts that are home to the seven schools currently in RIC for Required Action.

Business Items:

- The Board will consider whether to approve the OSPI recommendation to designate the Mabton, Marysville, Mount Adams, Taholah, Toppenish, and Wellpinit school districts for Required Action.

Required Action District Progress Update

February 2020

Required Action Districts Rule Changes July 2018–May 2019

SBE and OSPI staff collaborated through the summer and fall of 2018 to draft amendments to both agencies' Required Action District (RAD) rules. OSPI's rules focus on the statutory authority to identify persistently lowest achieving schools, recommending those schools' districts to SBE for required action, and recommending to SBE when districts should be released from RAD status. SBE's rules focus on statutory authority to designate districts as RAD, approve required action plans, release districts from RAD, and move districts to Level Two status. The revised RAD rules were fully adopted in May 2019.

Required Introductory Cohorts for 2019–20 School Year

In the summer of 2019, OSPI used the identification process outlined in rule to identify a Required Introductory Cohort (RIC) made up of 6 districts and 7 schools. As required under RCW 28A.657.030, OSPI will be recommending these districts to the State Board of Education to be designated "Required Action Districts." This will occur at the March 2020 State Board meeting. Those districts, and the school(s) driving identification, are:

- Mabton School District (Artz-Fox Elementary)
- Taholah School District (Taholah Elementary and Middle School)
- Marysville School District (Quil Ceda Tulalip Elementary)
- Mount Adams School District (Harrah Elementary)
- Toppenish School District (Kirkwood and Lincoln Elementary School)
- Wellpinit School District (Wellpinit Elementary School)

The purpose of RIC is to build resources and supports for districts to engage in the effective, thoughtful, data-informed, and actionable planning for school turnaround activities, as required, and has allowed identified districts to begin to pursue the following goals:

- allow OSPI to more precisely fund the district when they become designated as RAD in March of 2020;
- expand a highly compressed audit and planning timeline so that districts and schools can develop a more effective and actionable required action plan (RAP);
- set the district up to begin full implementation of the RAP when their full RAD funding is made available

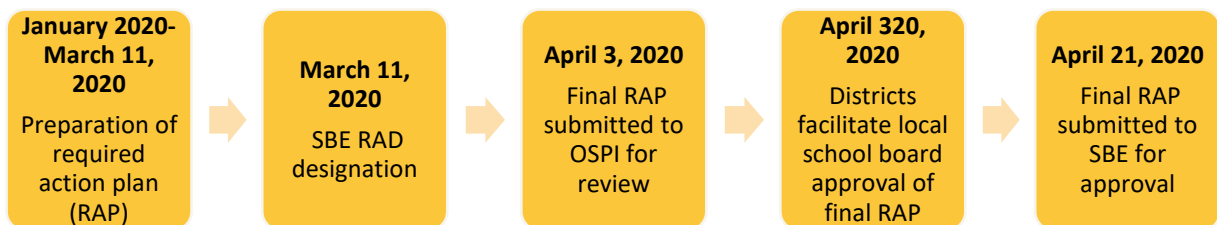


Required Introductory Cohort Activities

OSPI has centered RIC planning support on the preparation of robust required action plans. This includes an in-depth academic performance audit process (RCW 28A.657.040) to inform required action plan goals that would not be possible within the 40-day window provided for in rule.

RIC Activity	Status
Release of RIC grant funds	Completed
Assemble academic performance audit teams (RCW 28A.657.040)	Completed
Administer building-level data collection survey in support of academic performance audit requirements	Completed
Develop additional audit tools to meet remaining academic performance audit requirements	Completed
Conduct on-site interviews with district and school leadership and broader school community.	Ongoing
Support development of required action plans; ensure compliance with RCW 28A.657.050 and with evidence-based school improvement models and best practices.	Ongoing
Maintain high-level of support RIC district	Ongoing
Establish timeline to ensure OSPI-approved required action plan will be developed and submitted to SBE by April 21, 2020	Scheduled

RIC Planning Year Timeline Leading to RAD Designation



Learnings, Recommendations, and Next Steps

- District and building leadership, as well as Continuous Improvement Partners, like the newly developed needs assessment template. The template (used for the required academic performance audit) focuses on in-depth data inquiry and is aligned with developing focused school improvement goals.
- District leadership want more time to learn from the needs assessment as they work to develop a required action plan that will have an impact on student outcomes. The data and information resulting from the needs assessment is rich; more time to fully digest the findings, collaborate with district and building leadership, as well as the broader school improvement infrastructure will likely result in a more meaningful and effective plan.
- Leveraging existing investments in school improvement professionals (Continuous Improvement Partners) appears to be an effective approach in supporting RIC districts. Partners are working with district and building leadership to develop updated school improvement plans—as part of the Required Action Plan—that align with the findings from the needs assessment conducted during RIC. OSPI expects to continue the use of Partners for support to district and building personnel throughout the RAD timeline.
- By design, RIC districts are serving a greater than state average of students who are historically underserved in our school systems. This includes a large number of Native American students. While providing supports, it has become clear that continued and increased collaboration with OSPI's Office of Native Education to expand the tribal consultation process with required action districts and schools will further improvement goals.

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