



November 13-14, 2014 Board Meeting Highlights

The following is a review of topics discussed and actions taken during the meeting of the State Board of Education (SBE) held November 13-14, 2014, at Educational Service District 112 in Vancouver, Washington. You can find the materials associated with each topic by clicking on the title, or all of the meeting materials at: <http://www.sbe.wa.gov/materials.php>

1. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS

The SBE approved/adopted the following:

- 2017-2018 Board Meeting Dates and Locations.
- Position statement on funding of educator professional learning.
- 2014 school district Basic Education Act Compliance Report.
- Waivers of career and college ready-graduation requirements for Longview and Snohomish School Districts.
- Legislative priority statement concerning ending the Biology End-of-Course graduation requirement.
- Score of 16 for meeting standard on the science portion of the ACT as an alternative to the Biology End-of-Course assessment, as recommended by OSPI.
- Filing of a CR-101, Preproposal Statement of Inquiry, for WACs listed in the rules review presented at the meeting.

The Board directed staff to complete work on the following items:

- Timelines and measures associated with the Strategic Plan vision, mission, goals, strategies and action steps for full consideration at the January 2015 meeting.
- Educational System Health Indicators report reflecting board input and guidance.

2. STRATEGIC PLAN

Members reviewed the Strategic Plan vision and mission statements, goals, strategies and action steps. Members provided input and guidance on the Strategic Plan. The board directed staff to develop timelines and measures for consideration of approval of the entire plan at the January 2015 meeting.

3. REQUIRED ACTION DISTRICTS

The Board received an update from Assistant Superintendent Andrew Kelly on districts that were designated for required action in January 2011 (RAD Cohort 1) and districts that designated for required action in March 2014 (RAD Cohort 2). SBE and OSPI staff summarized possible next steps for RAD Cohort 1, once the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction has analyzed the data in 2015. Likely next steps include release from RAD or assignment to remain in RAD 1. Also possible is assignment to RAD II. The Board will consider these next steps following OSPI recommendations at the March 2015 meeting.

4. INDICATORS OF EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM HEALTH DRAFT REPORT

Ms. Linda Drake summarized recommended evidence-based reforms to improve performance on the Indicators of Educational System Health. The Board discussed

aligning efforts with partner agencies. The Board directed staff to update and complete the report based on the input received in the meeting.

The four reforms recommended are:

- Expand access to high-quality early childhood education
- Expand and fully fund high-quality professional learning
- Increase access to high-quality expanded learning opportunities
- Expand supports and services that prepare students for postsecondary opportunities.

Representatives of the following agencies presented on how their agencies' efforts align with the recommended reforms in the draft report:

- Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Professional Educators Standards Board
- Washington Student Achievement Council
- Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
- Department of Early Learning
- State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

5. FORMER ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND THE INDEX

Dr. Andrew Parr presented on the performance of Former English Language Learner (ELL) students as described in the Former ELL report that was developed with contractor Greg Lobdell of the Center for Educational Effectiveness. In 2013 the Board approved the inclusion of the Former ELL student group in the Targeted Subgroup Index calculations. Before publishing the 2012-13 Index, there was little systematic information available regarding the academic performance of Former ELL students.

Dr. Andrew Parr's presentation included data supporting the following conclusions:

1. The academic performance of the Former ELL subgroup exceeds the performance for the All Students group overall, but the performance differs considerably by school level and by grade level.
2. The impact of the addition of the Former ELL subgroup in the school Achievement Index calculations was a positive one for most schools.
3. The schools with reportable Former ELL subgroups are substantially different demographically from schools without reportable Former ELL groups.

Dr. Jason Greenberg Motamedi, Senior Advisor at Education Northwest, presented on the research that the Roadmap ELL Work Group is conducting to examine the academic performance of ELL students and seek ways to create more equitable outcomes for ELL students. Through the ELL Task Force, work from analyses such as these are being used to identify measures of Transitional Bilingual Instructional Program (TBIP) effectiveness that might be more appropriate for accountability purposes.

6. REVIEW OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAWS

The Board is required to review its bylaws every two years. Potential amendments were discussed for action in January.

7. REVIEW OF WASHINGTON ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

WAC 180-08-015 provides that the SBE "shall review all board rules not less than three years." SBE staff presented on the following:

- A memo discussing WAC 180-105-020, Performance Improvement Goals. Reading and mathematics.
- A memo in table form listing, summarizing, and commenting on SBE rules for possible inclusion in a CR-101. Members approved the filing of a CR-101, Proposal Statement of Inquiry, on the WACs listed in the table shown in Exhibit F. Exhibit F can be found at www.sbe.wa.gov/materials.php

8. STUDENT PRESENTATION

Student Board Member Mara Childs provided a student update on her education and extracurricular activities, and then presented on life skills as part of a High School and Beyond Plan.

9. UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

SBE staff presented on 2015 legislative priorities of peer agencies. Staff briefed the Board on the following topics:

- Similarities and differences between the legislative priorities of the SBE and those of peer agencies.
- Issues on which the SBE can collaborate with peer agencies in the pursuit of common goals for the 2015 legislative session.
- The extent to which the strategic plans of education agencies, as reflected in legislative priorities, are in alignment as required by ESHB 5491.

Dr. Doug Kernutt, consultant to the SBE, presented on streamlining alternative assessments for high school graduation.

The Board discussed the SBE Legislative Priority, "Modify Career- & College-Ready Exam Requirements," as originally proposed for the September 2014 Board meeting.

10. PRESENTATION OF BUDGET OUTLOOK FOR 2015-17 BIENNIUM

Mr. David Schumacher, Director of the Office of Financial Management, presented to the Board on the four-year outlook for the state's operating budget, discussed the impacts of the *McCleary* mandates and Initiative Measure No. 1351 on the budget outlook, and took questions from Board members. Mr. Schumacher said that considerably more revenue is needed if the state is to meet the funding requirements of *McCleary* mandates and I-1351 while also fulfilling other budget obligations.

11. CONSIDERATIONS IN ESTABLISHING A GRADUATION ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL ON THE HIGH SCHOOL SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT

Research Director Linda Drake and OSPI Assistant Superintendent Robin Munson presented on establishing a graduation achievement level on the High School Smarter Balanced Assessment. Assistant Superintendent Munson also presented a recommended cut score for the science portion of the ACT as an alternative to meeting standard on the Biology End-of-Course assessment.

Members discussed the following:

- What is the relationship between minimum proficiency and career and college ready?
- How should a graduation cut score on the high school SBAC relate to the Washington state High School Proficiency Exams (HSPE) and Math End-of-Course (EOC) exams?

- Should the Board consider building in a timetable for revisiting the graduation cut score?

Members discussed a position statement on establishing a graduation achievement level on the High School Smarter Balanced assessment. The Board chose to table the position statement to the January 2015 board meeting.

Members approved a legislative priority for eliminating the Biology EOC as an assessment required for graduation. Students would still take the assessment for federal accountability, but it would not be a graduation requirement and therefore not require alternative assessments.

The Board approved a cut score of 16 on the science portion of the ACT as equivalent to the Biology EOC.

12. NEXT BOARD MEETING

Board Meeting – January 7-8, 2015, at ESD 113 in Tumwater, Washington.