

## July 13-14, 2010 Meeting Highlights

On July 13-14, the [State Board of Education \(SBE\)](#) met in Anacortes, Washington, at [Educational Service District 189](#), to:

- Consider approval of a draft rule on the [Required Action district process](#).
- Consider additional recognition criteria for the [2010 Washington Achievement Awards](#).
- Consider [revisions to the third math credit rule](#) for high school graduation.
- Review multiple revision proposals to Washington State [high school graduation credit requirements](#).
- Consider a resolution supporting [world language competency credits](#).
- Receive an update on the [Common Core Standards](#).
- Receive an update on [Washington's Race to the Top application process](#) and [Washington State's Education Reform plan](#).

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS

The Board approved the following:

- Minutes from the [May 13-14, 2010, Meeting](#).
- Minutes from the [June 15, 2010, Special Meeting](#).
- State Board of Education fiscal year 2011 Budget.
- Resolution to further support districts in their implementation of [world language credit competencies](#).
- Draft amendments of the [third math credit rule](#).
- 180-day waiver requests for [eight school districts](#): [Auburn](#), [Battle Ground](#), [Columbia](#), [Nespelem](#), [Orondo](#), [Pomeroy](#), [Tacoma](#), and [Thorp](#).
- Five revisions to the [2010 Washington Achievement Award categories](#).
- Multiple [private schools' applications for approval](#).

### REQUIRED ACTION PROCESS - UPDATE

The [provisional Required Action implementation rule](#) outlines the actions and dates for districts selected for the [Required Action process](#), one designed to intervene in Washington's persistently lowest-achieving schools. This process includes:

- Designation of Required Action district[s].
- Process for submittal and approval of Required Action plan.
- Process for submittal and approval of Required Action plan when mediation or Superior Court review is involved.
- Failure to submit or receive approval of a Required Action plan.
- Release of a school district from designation as a Required Action district.

OSPI is developing the criteria for which districts would be recommended to the State Board of Education for Required Action in January 2011 and annually thereafter.

## THE 2010 WASHINGTON ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS UPDATE

In May of 2010, SBE joined the [Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction \(OSPI\)](#) in celebrating [174 school recipients](#) of the [Washington Achievement Awards](#).

In 2011, there will be [awards identifying schools that close the achievement gap](#) by race/ethnicity as well as by income. Additional awards will be provided to schools that meet improvement criteria over a two-year period.

## REVISIONS TO THE THIRD MATH RULE

The Board adopted a new math rule ([WAC 180-51-066](#)) in July 2008, effective for students in the graduating class of 2013. As practitioners have begun to work with the rule, questions have arisen that have required rule changes or guidance. The Board discussed three implementation issues and proposed rule revisions to address:

1. Provisions for taking classes simultaneously.
2. What constitutes an appropriate mathematics course sequence.
3. Provisions for placing out of required courses.

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

During the July 14 meeting, the Board considered [possible revisions to the high school graduation credit requirement framework](#). The Board's discussion revolved around several credit framework options and included an exploration of issues related to implementation, funding, and adoption. The Board is examining a 20 credit, state-required diploma plus four additional credits that would not be specified. This discussion will continue during the Board's scheduled September meeting.

## WORLD LANGUAGE CREDIT COMPETENCIES

SBE's competency-based credit rule allows high school credit to be awarded upon satisfactory demonstration by a student of clearly identified competencies. SBE helped support the development of a [sample policy and procedure](#) for awarding competency-based credit in world languages. The [Washington State School Directors' Association](#) (WSSDA), OSPI, and SBE will distribute the materials to encourage districts to provide opportunities for students to earn credit in world languages ([WAC 180-51-050](#)).

## COMMON CORE STANDARDS

The [Common Core State Standards Initiative](#) is being led by the [Council of Chief State School Officers \(CCSSO\)](#) and the [National Governors' Association \(NGA\)](#) to promote state adoptions of Common Core standards in mathematics and English/language arts. To date, [25 states](#) have formally adopted the common core English/language arts and mathematics standards.

Washington's Superintendent of Public Instruction will provisionally adopt the common core standards the week of July 19. OSPI is also required to deliver a detailed report on the Common Core Standards in January 2011 to the state Legislature. The report will include a comparison of Common Core and state learning standards, an estimated timeline, and predicted costs to the state and districts for implementation.

## WASHINGTON'S RACE TO THE TOP APPLICATION AND EDUCATION REFORM PLAN

Under the state/local partnership agreement, 265 local districts representing 97 percent of the state's students signed onto the grant application. The Race to the Top Steering Committee (the Governor, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and State Board of Education Chair) signed the grant application, which was delivered to the [U.S. Department of Education](#) on June 1. A total of 35 states and the District of Columbia [applied for Round Two of the Race to the Top Education Reform Grant](#). The U.S. Department of Education will notify applicants if they are in the final pool for interviews by the end of July. Finalist will be selected by Labor Day.

The Race to the Top Steering and Coordinating Committees agreed that the feedback and development of the Washington Education Reform Plan should continue this fall and then be presented to the Legislature in 2011.

**The next State Board of Education meeting will be in Renton, Washington, on September 15-16, 2010.**

For additional information and Board meeting materials, go to: [www.sbe.wa.gov](http://www.sbe.wa.gov)  
or call the Board office at: 360-725-6025.