REQUIRED ACTION DISTRICTS IN COHORT I

TO: Education Accountability System Oversight Committee

FROM: Isabel Muñoz-Colón

DATE: Mar. 12, 2015

SUBJECT: Required Action Districts

This memo is being sent to the Education Accountability System Oversight Committee in compliance with RCW 28A.657.100(3).

Four Required Action Districts in Cohort One, designated in 2011, have completed three years' implementation of a Required Action Plan. The districts are Morton, Onalaska, Renton, and Soap Lake. Under RCW 28A.657.100:

The superintendent of public instruction must recommend to the state board of education that a school district be released from the designation as a required action district after the district implements a required action plan for a period of three years; has made progress, as defined by the superintendent of public instruction using the criteria adopted under RCW 28A.657.020 including progress in closing the educational opportunity gap; and no longer has a school within the district identified as persistently lowest-achieving. The state board shall release a school district from the designation as a required action district upon confirmation that the district has met the requirements for a release.

At the March 2015 SBE meeting, OSPI recommended the following three districts be released from Required Action:

- Morton School District
- Onalaska School District
- Renton School District

SBE confirmed these districts have met the requirements for release, and have released these districts from Required Action.

OSPI did not recommend Soap Lake School District for release from Required Action status. Pursuant to WAC 392-501-720, OSPI has identified Priority Schools for the 2015-2016 school year. The original school that caused the district to be designated for Required Action has exited the Priority Schools List, but another school within the district has been identified as a Priority School. As long as any school within the district is identified as a Priority School, under RCW 28A.657.100, Soap Lake School District cannot be released from Required Action.

RCW 28A.657.100(3) also requires that:

Before making a determination of whether to recommend that a school district that is not making progress remain in required action or be assigned to level two of the required action process, the state board of education must submit its findings to the education accountability system oversight committee under RCW <u>28A.657.130</u> and provide an opportunity for the oversight committee to review and comment.

The Board recommends that Soap Lake remain at Required Action Level I rather than progressing to Level II. The original school that caused the district to be designated for required action, Soap Lake Middle and High School, shows a positive trajectory of improvement.

The Board intends to designate Soap Lake District to remain in Required Action Level I at the May 2015 meeting.
If you have questions regarding this memo, please contact Ben Rarick.