



# THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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<b>Title: Update on Soap Lake District Required Action</b>	
<b>As related to:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Goal One:</b> Develop and support policies to close the achievement and opportunity gaps. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Goal Two:</b> Develop comprehensive accountability, recognition, and supports for students, schools, and districts. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Goal Three:</b> Ensure that every student has the opportunity to meet career and college ready standards. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Goal Four:</b> Provide effective oversight of the K-12 system. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>
<b>Relevant to Board roles:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy leadership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> System oversight <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy <input type="checkbox"/> Communication <input type="checkbox"/> Convening and facilitating
<b>Policy considerations / Key questions:</b>	What progress has Soap Lake District made as a continuing required action district?
<b>Relevant to business item:</b>	No business item is related to this agenda segment
<b>Materials included in packet:</b>	The materials included in this section of the packet are a memo. A presentation by OSPI staff is in additional materials.
<b>Synopsis:</b>	At the May meeting, OSPI staff and Soap Lake staff will report on the progress of Soap Lake District. Soap Lake Middle High School was the school originally identified for required action. Soap Lake Elementary School's identification as a Priority school kept the district from being released from required action status in 2015. OSPI and SBE staff concur that significant progress has been made at both schools

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## UPDATE ON SOAP LAKE DISTRICT REQUIRED ACTION

### Summary

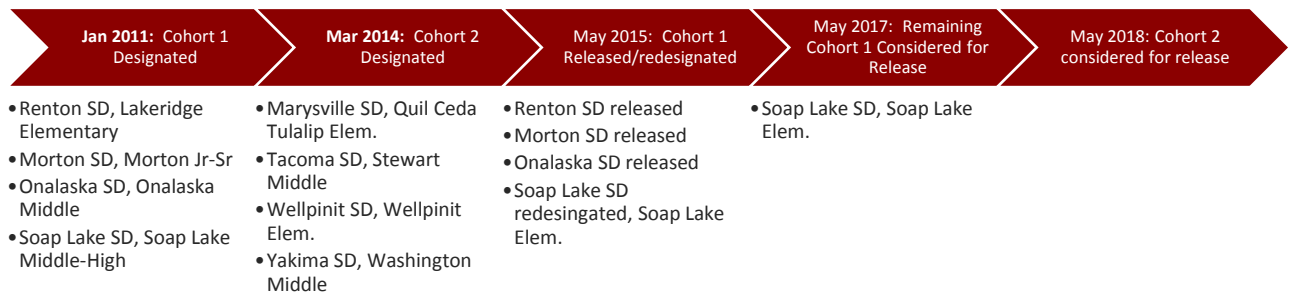
At the May 2017, OSPI staff and Soap Lake educators will report on the progress of Soap Lake District. The progress of the district has been significant, and OSPI may recommend to SBE releasing the district from required action within the next year. This memo includes background information and an evaluation by Dr. Andrew Parr of the district’s progress and requirements for release.

### Background

In May 2015, three districts from cohort 1 were released from required action because they met the criteria. Soap Lake District was not released because it had a persistently lowest achieving school. The school that originated the designation of required action, Soap Lake Middle-High School, had improved, but Soap Lake Elementary was a Priority school, and [WAC 392-501-720](#) identifies Priority schools as persistently lowest achieving schools, and therefore, the district could not be released from RAD status.

Figure 1 shows a timeline of the designation and release of required action districts.

**Figure 1: RAD Designation and Release Timeline**

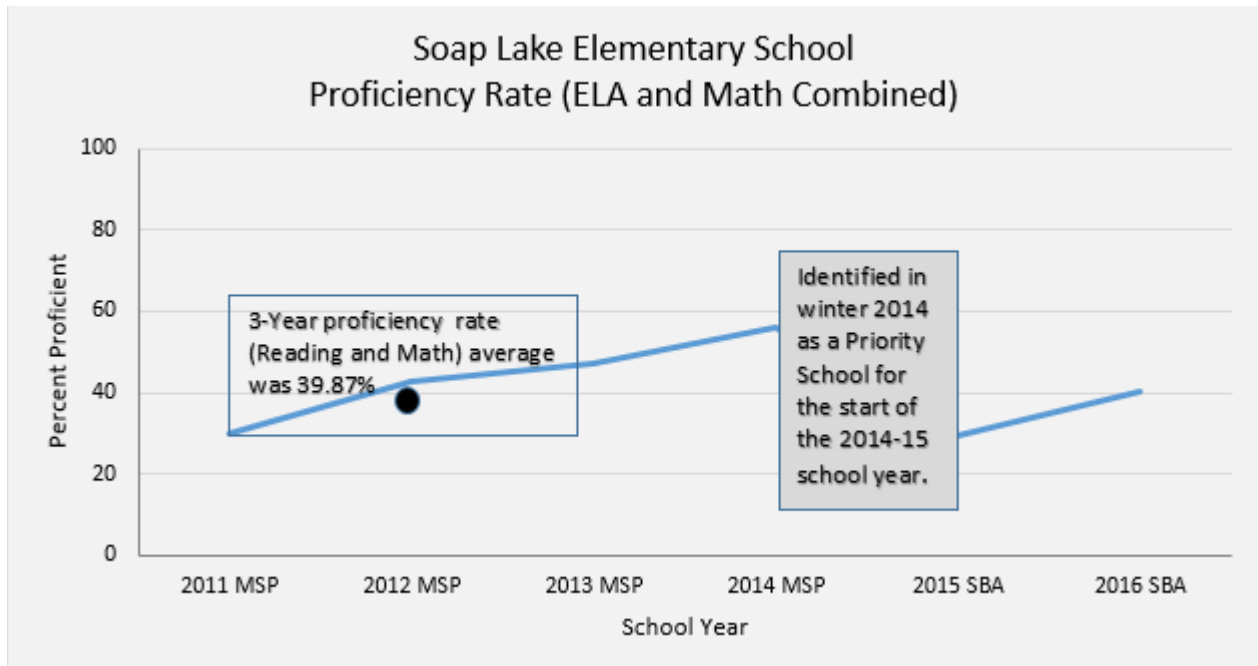


### Progress and Evaluation of the Requirements for Release

In the winter of 2014, the OSPI identified Soap Lake Elementary School (ES) as a Priority School for the start of the 2014-15 school year based on assessment results over three years (2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13). The school’s average proficiency rate for reading and math (combined) over the three-year period was 39.87 percent. At the time, all Title I schools with a three-year average proficiency rate below 40 percent were identified as Priority Schools. Soap Lake ES was identified as a Priority School during a period of continuously improving outcomes extending through the 2013-14 statewide assessments, at which point the school’s average reading and math proficiency rate was 56.1 percent.

Beginning in the 2014-15 school year, Washington shifted from the Measures of Student Progress (MSPs) and began administering the Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBAs) as the statewide assessment program. The SBAs differ considerably from the MSPs, making the display of the two assessment systems on a single trend chart impossible without including a break in the trend line. The shift in assessment systems makes it more difficult to assess the school's progress over time, but Figure 1 shows that the continuous improvement demonstrated through the MSPs is also evident through the SBAs.

Figure 1: Annual proficiency rates (reading/ELA and math combined) from 2011 to 2016.



To further quantify the progress made by Soap Lake ES, the annual and three-year average proficiency rates (reading/ELA and math combined) were examined through the use of percentile ranks. In a general sense, the Priority School identification methodology would identify schools at or below the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile based on the three-year average proficiency rate. Figure 2 shows that Soap Lake ES was correctly identified as a Priority School in the winter of 2014 based on a three-year average proficiency rate of 39.9 percent, which corresponded to the 3.6<sup>th</sup> percentile. The following comments are noteworthy regarding the relative performance of Soap Lake ES.

- The school's annual percentile rank increased each year under the MSP assessment system to the approximate 22<sup>nd</sup> percentile in 2014 when the MSPs were last administered.
- In the second administration of the SBA, the school's rank increased to the approximate 20<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2016.
- Using the rolling three-year average as the metric, the school's percentile rank increased each year for which the measure can be calculated.

Figure 2: Average reading/ELA and math performance over time for Soap Lake ES from 2011 to 2016.

	2011 MSP	2012 MSP	2013 MSP	2014 MSP	2015 SBA	2016 SBA
Annual	29.9	42.5	47.2	56.1	29.7	40.2
	2.3*	6.3*	9.6*	21.9*	8.0*	19.6*
Winter 2014	39.9 (3.6*)					
Winter 2015	48.6 (10.1*)					
Winter 2016	44.3 (10.6*)					
Winter 2017	42.0 (14.3*)					
*Note: values identified with an asterisk * is the percentile rank for the school. The percentile ranks for the 2015 and 2016 SBA reflect only the schools meeting the participation requirements in ELA and math.						

The release from RAD is codified in [RCW 28A.657.100](#) Section (2) and specifies the three requirements to be met prior to release from RAD.

**Required action districts—Progress reports—Release from designation—Assignment to level two of the required action process.**

- (1) The superintendent of public instruction must provide a report twice per year to the state board of education regarding the progress made by all school districts designated as required action districts.
- (2) 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.

To be released from RAD, the Soap Lake School District must meet three requirements.

- (1) *Has the district implemented a required action plan for a period of three years?* **Yes, Soap Lake implemented a required action plan for five full years and the current year is the sixth.**
- (2) *Has the district made progress as defined in RCW 28A.657.020?* **Yes, Soap Lake ES and the middle school/high school combination (not shown here) have both made substantial progress.**
- (3) *Does the district no longer have a school within the district identified as persistently lowest-achieving?* **No, Soap Lake ES is currently identified as a Priority School, which by definition (WAC 392-501-720 (1)), is a persistently lowest-achieving school. Soap Lake ES is on a trajectory to likely exit the Priority list within a year.**

If you have questions regarding this memo, please contact Linda Drake at [Linda.drake@k12.wa.us](mailto:Linda.drake@k12.wa.us), or Andrew Parr at [Andrew.parr@k12.wa.us](mailto:Andrew.parr@k12.wa.us).