

## March 17-18 2010 Meeting Highlights

On March 17-18, the [State Board of Education \(SBE\)](#) met in Des Moines, Washington, at [Highline Community College](#), to:

- Share insights from the [National Association of State Boards of Education](#) meetings.
- Learn about the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI) plans for reviewing the national [common core standards](#) in [math](#) and [English](#).
- Receive an update on the OSPI initiatives around [math and science](#) instruction, curriculum, and assessment designed to prepare students to meet the new standards.
- Learn about the findings of the Core 24 [Implementation Task Force](#).
- Discuss proposed [SBE rule revisions](#).
- Receive an update on the school [system accountability framework](#) and the [2009 Washington Achievement Awards](#) OSPI and SBE will give in May to schools.
- Review the Required Action component for low-achieving schools and their districts, part of the recently passed [Race to the Top legislation \(E2SSB 6696\)](#)
- Review the [2010 School Improvement Grant process](#).
- Receive an update on [Washington's Race to the Top application](#).
- Discuss the private school application of the [Christa McAuliffe Academy](#).
- [Elect new members to the SBE Executive Committee](#).
- Begin the [strategic planning process](#) to guide SBE's work in 2010.
- Receive an update on Washington's K-12 [math assessment and standards setting plans](#).

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS

SBE approved the following:

- [Revisions in the policy and procedure for districts to obtain waivers](#) (WAC [180-18-40](#) and [180-18-50](#)).
- Election of the [new SBE Executive Committee](#).
- The [arts education month resolution](#).

SBE did not approve the following:

- The [private school application](#) of the Christa McAuliffe Academy.

### COMMON CORE STANDARDS

The [Common Core State Standards Initiative](#) is being led by the [Council of Chief State School Officers](#) and the [National Governors' Association](#) to promote state adoptions of [common core standards](#) in [mathematics](#) and [English / language arts](#). SBE reviewed the current work on the [common core standards](#) and discussed the potential timeline and implications for adoption. OSPI will review how the common core standards compare to our math standards and English Language Arts standards and plans to provide comments on the initial drafts by April 1.

## MATH AND SCIENCE

Representatives from OSPI updated SBE on the work of [improving student achievement in math and science](#). OSPI is moving toward math end-of-course (EOC) assessments in 2011. SBE then received an update on the work of OSPI in its [five key recommendations](#) for [improving math and science achievement](#). SBE discussed a need for a stronger overall math and science plan with specific benchmarks and dates to determine how to get students ready to meet the new standards. Students in the Class of 2013 are the first to be required to meet the standards on the reading, math, and science assessments for graduation.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

SBE continued its discussion on creating a [meaningful high school diploma](#), acknowledging the feedback received by the [Core 24 Implementation Task Force](#), education practitioners and stakeholders, and legislators. In the May and July meetings, SBE will further explore possible amendments to the proposed framework, reviewing the [Core 24 graduation requirements](#).

## SBE RULES REVISIONS

In 2009, SBE began a periodic review of its rules, as stipulated by [WAC 180.08.015](#). The review process is designed to fix outdated text and to align the rules with the current work of SBE. During this meeting, SBE eliminated the general description of SBE ([WAC 180.08.002](#)), revised the guidelines for community college and technical colleges to give high school diplomas ([WAC 180.51.053](#)), and revised the 180-day waiver program to include a pilot process for up to three days waived to improve student achievement through innovative practices ([WAC 180-18-050](#)).

## ACCOUNTABILITY

SBE reviewed the progress of the [Systems Performance Accountability Framework](#), including the [next steps](#) for the lowest 5 percent of persistently low-achieving schools identified to be eligible for this year's federal school improvement grants and [the necessary components of academic performance goals](#).

## WASHINGTON ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

[174 schools](#) were selected to receive the [2009 Washington Achievement Award](#). The award is given to top performing schools on statewide assessments (and extended graduation rates for high schools). The Board reviewed the list of [recipients](#) and [methodology](#) of the [2009 Washington Achievement Award Program](#) in anticipation of the May 5, 2010, ceremony (held at each ESD across the state).

## RACE TO THE TOP UPDATE

Washington is preparing a round two application for [Race to the Top](#), which is due June 1, 2010, to the [U.S. Department of Education](#). Winners for round two will be announced on September 30, 2010. [Race to the Top grants](#) will reward past accomplishments and incentivize future improvements. A successful grant to Washington could help us build upon the work in [E2SSB 6696](#), [SHB 2776](#), and [ESHB 2261](#), the education reform bills passed in the 2010 and 2009 legislative sessions, respectively.

## CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE CHRISTA MCAULIFFE ACADEMY PRIVATE SCHOOL STATUS

[Christa McAuliffe Academy](#) (CMA) has been considered for approval as a private school in the past as a bricks and mortar school. CMA is now a fully online school. This change in status presents a unique situation for SBE; to date, SBE has never considered approval for a private online school. After review of CMA's materials, OSPI has recommended to SBE that CMA not be approved as a private school because it has not met the criteria in [RCW 28A.195.010](#). Specifically, OSPI determined that CMA had not provided information demonstrating compliance with the instructional hour offering requirement.

## CALL FOR ELECTION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SBE held nominations and elections for the executive committee on SBE, including Chair, Vice Chair, and the two members-at-large requirement. Jeff Vincent (chair), Steve Dal Porto (vice chair), Sheila Fox and Jack Schuster (members-at-large) were elected. Mary Jean Ryan will serve as the past chair.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR 2010

[The Office of Financial Management](#) requires each state agency to submit a strategic plan by mid June, prior to their budget submittal to the Governor, for the following biennium. [Berk and Associates](#) will assist SBE with a strategic plan for the 2011-13 biennium. This [strategic planning process](#) will help guide SBE's priorities for the next two to six years.

## STATE ASSESSMENT UPDATE

[SB 5414](#) requires the state to provide instructionally supportive formative assessments, a state-administered summative achievement assessment, and classroom-based formative or summative assessments or both. SBE reviewed the [implications of these requirements on the current statewide system](#), including the recently administered [High School Proficiency Exam](#) and the [Measure of Student Progress](#). SBE will be asked in May to consider approval of the standards setting plan for math grades 3-8.

**The next State Board of Education meeting will be at the Educational Service District 101 in Spokane, Washington, on May 13-14, 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.