



May 7-8, 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 May 7-8 2014, at the Kennewick School District Office in Kennewick, Wash.

1. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS

SBE approved/adopted the following:

- Location Change for the July 8-9, 2015 Board Meeting
- Emergency Rules on Required Action Plan Approval
- Action Plan Evaluation Process
- Draft Rules for Publication to Implement E2SSB 6552
- Member Appointment to the Expanded Learning Opportunities Council
- Member Appointments to the School Facilities Citizen Advisory Panel
- Basic Education Waiver Requests from Bainbridge Island, Lopez Island, Orient, Shoreline, Sunnyside, Federal Way, and Napavine School Districts
- Letter to the Washington Student Achievement Council Concerning High School Graduation Requirements in Science and College Admission Standards

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF E2SSB 6552

E2SSB 6552 requires the SBE to adopt rules to implement the Career and College-Ready Graduation requirements adopted under board resolution in November 2010 and January 2014, to take effect, with certain modifications, with the graduating class of 2019. SB 6552 also changed instructional hour requirements for basic education and established new provisions on career and technical education course equivalencies. Staff presented a summary of the graduation requirements, the draft rules to implement E2SSB 6552, and an overview of the impact on the High School and Beyond Plan.

3. RAD PERFORMANCE AUDIT FINDINGS

Andy Kelly, Assistant Superintendent; Travis Campbell, K-12 Turnaround Director; Chriss Burgess, K-8 Turnaround Director; and Maria Flores, Program Manger: Accountability Policy and Research; all from OSPI, reviewed the findings of the academic performance audits conducted for each of the four required action districts: Marysville, Tacoma, Yakima and Wellpinit, and answered questions from board members.

4. REQUIRED ACTION PLAN APPROVAL PROCESS

The Board reviewed the requirements for required action plans, and staff presented a proposed process for evaluation and consideration of plans. The Board considered adoption of emergency accountability system rules, WAC 180-17-020. A revised timeline is necessary for this year only because the identification of required action schools was late due to the development of the revised Achievement Index and submission of identified Priority and Focus Schools to the federal Department of Education for approval of Washington's ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) waiver application.

5. RAD PLAN GUIDELINES AND CURRENT RADS

Maria Flores, Program Manager: Accountability Policy and Research, OSPI, briefly reviewed the Level One Plan Guidance document, and gave an update on progress of current Required Action Districts: Morton, Onalaska, Renton, and Soap Lake. The Board reviewed the assessment of progress reports for each of the four RADs designated in 2011.

Dan McDonald, Superintendent of Soap Lake School District; Rick Winters, Principal of Soap Lake Middle/High School; Mary Anne Nielsen, Math Teacher, Soap Lake Middle/High School; Matt Brewer, Science Teacher, Soap Lake Middle/High School; and Dan Andrews, Principal of Soap Lake Elementary; presented on their district's journey. Soap Lake Middle/High School has shown steadily increasing proficiency rates on statewide tests, and a higher three-year average median student growth percentile than most schools in the state.

6. HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND PLAN

Staff presented a summary of findings from interviews and research on successful practices for HSBP implementation in Washington districts, and a brief summary of findings from interviews with Colorado, Georgia, North Carolina, and Michigan on their career and college planning efforts.

Mike Hubert, Guidance and Counseling Director, and Danise Ackelson, Career and College Readiness Program Supervisor, both from OSPI, presented the resources provided by OSPI for career and college planning. They have developed the Career Guidance WA curriculum and resources, based on the previous Navigation 101 program, and work closely with districts to implement career and college planning processes.

Kevin Chase, Superintendent of Grandview School District; Matt Mallery, Executive Director of State and Federal Programs; Carol Bardwell, Guidance Counselor at Grandview High School; Steve Long, Assistant Principal at Grandview High School; and Lyn Desserault, English Teacher/Department Chair at Grandview High School; also presented on career and college planning in their district, where they utilize the Career Guidance WA resources.

7. BEA WAIVERS

The Board considered requests from eight school districts for Option One waivers from the basic education requirement of a minimum 180-day school year. Requests from Bainbridge Island, Federal Way, Lopez Island, Napavine, Orient, Shoreline, and Sunnyside school districts were approved, and the request from Wahkiakum School District was denied.

8. ESEA UPDATE

Washington has become the first state to have its ESEA flexibility waiver revoked. Staff updated the Board on recent developments regarding the waiver, and its impact on achievement awards and school identification procedures for the current school year.

9. STUDENT PRESENTATION

Student board member Eli Ulmer spoke about his past, present and future education, explaining where he started, where he is now, and where he is going. This was Eli's last board meeting. He will graduate from high school next month and is headed to Big Ben Community College next year.

10. SCHOOL SITE VISITS

Kennewick Superintendent Dave Bond provided a tour of several Kennewick schools, programs and classrooms. The itinerary included stops at Park Middle School, Phoenix High School and Southgate Elementary. Members had the opportunity to engage with educators and students, observing firsthand the programs Kennewick employs to improve student achievement.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

New board member Jeff Estes was sworn in on May 7. Student board member Eli Ulmer was recognized for his contributions to the Board over his two years of service. The Board honored Morgan Haberlack, a student at Kamiakin High School, for her artwork "Rainbow Fish".

The Board received public comment from a former teacher, and representatives of the Association of Career and Technical Education, Napavine School District, and Sunnyside School District. Written public comment was received from Academic Link Outreach and The School Alliance.

12. NEXT BOARD MEETING

July 9-10, 2014, at ESD 101 in Spokane, Wash.

Visit our website (www.sbe.wa.gov/materials.php) for additional information or call the board office at: 360-725-6025.