



THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A high-quality education system that prepares all students for college, career, and life.

Title: Required Action Districts Update

- As Related To:**
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goal One: Develop and support policies to close the achievement and opportunity gaps. | <input type="checkbox"/> Goal Three: Ensure that every student has the opportunity to meet career and college ready standards. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goal Two: Develop comprehensive accountability, recognition, and supports for students, schools, and districts. | <input type="checkbox"/> Goal Four: Provide effective oversight of the K-12 system. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

- Relevant To Board Roles:**
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Communication |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> System Oversight | <input type="checkbox"/> Convening and Facilitating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy | |

Policy Considerations / Key Questions: As of the date of this memo, school data from 2014-2015 is still being validated so the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has not finalized recommendations for required action. At this meeting, the State Board of Education (SBE) will:

- Consider releasing districts from required action status or designate new required action districts, based on recommendations from OSPI once they have been made.
- Approve a letter to the Education Accountability System Oversight Committee.
- Approve a CR-102 to modify rules on the timeline for designating Required Action Districts (RADs).

- Possible Board Action:**
- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review | <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

- Materials Included in Packet:**
- Memo
 - Graphs / Graphics
 - Third-Party Materials
 - PowerPoint

Synopsis: It is anticipated that OSPI staff will present recommendations concerning required action to the Board. Based on OSPI recommendations, the Board may consider releasing districts from required action, recommend districts remain in required action Level I or be designated to Level II required action. If districts are not released, the SBE must communicate its findings to the Education Accountability and System Oversight Committee.

The Board will consider modifying rules to change the timeline for designating RADs, since the data necessary for designation recommendations are not available to meet the timeline currently in rule.



REQUIRED ACTION DISTRICTS UPDATE

Policy Considerations

At this meeting, the State Board of Education (SBE) will:

- Consider releasing districts from required action status or designate new required action districts, based on Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) recommendations.
- Approve a letter to the Education Accountability System Oversight Committee.
- Approve a CR-102 to modify rules on the deadline for designating Required Action Districts (RADs).

The first cohort of required action districts have completed three years of their required action plans. As of the date of this memo, complete data from 2013-2014 is still being validated and OSPI has not yet determined their recommendation for required action. If OSPI recommends release from required action status, the SBE will release districts upon confirmation that the district has met the requirements for a release (RCW 28A.657.100).

If OSPI does not recommend release for a district, the SBE will:

- Consider recommending a district will remain in Level I required action, or
- Consider designating a district for Level II required action.

Before designating a district remain in Level I required action or for Level II required action, the SBE must submit their findings to the Education Accountability System Oversight Committee.

Background

Cohort 1 Required Action Districts and Possible Release from Required Action

At the January 2011 Board meeting, the Board designated four districts for required action (RAD Cohort 1):

- Lakeridge Elementary School, Renton School District
- Morton Junior-Senior High School, Morton School District
- Onalaska Middle School, Onalaska School District
- Soap Lake Middle and High School, Soap Lake School District

These districts have now implemented a required action plan for three years (2011-2012, 2012-2013, and 2013-2014), and are in their fourth year since being designated RADs. Data from the last year (2013-2014) of plan implementation, are recently available.

OSPI will determine if a district may be released from RAD status based on three criteria (RCW 28A.657.100, WAC 392-501-740, WAC 291-501-720):

1. The district no longer has a school that is persistently lowest achieving
2. The district has shown progress in closing the achievement gap
3. The school (or schools) that were on the persistently lowest-achieving list have had a positive improvement trend in reading and math on state assessments in the “all students” category for the past three years.

RCW 28A.657.100 calls for the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to recommend to the State Board of Education (SBE) that districts be released from required action. If the SPI does not recommend release, the SBE is responsible for designating that a district remain in Level I required action or be designated to Level II. Statute requires that prior to making these designations the SBE’s finding be submitted to the Education Accountability System Oversight Committee, and provide the committee an opportunity to review and comment on the findings.

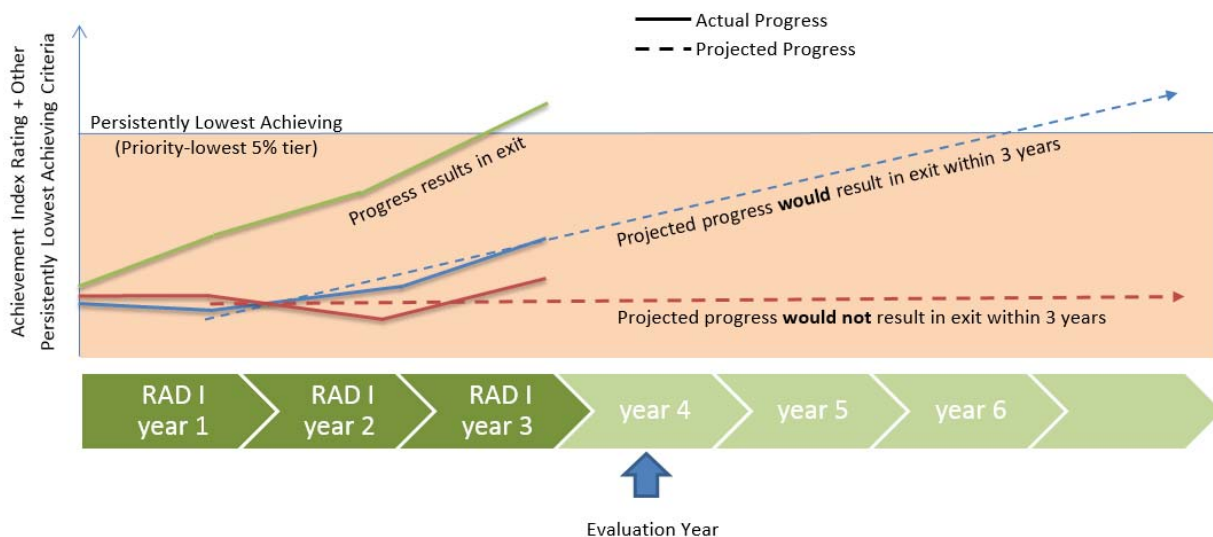
Table 1 summarizes the responsibilities by the SPI, the SBE and the Education Accountability System Oversight Committee (EASOC) in implementing RCW 28A.657.100.

Table 1: Responsibilities of RCW 28A.657.100.

OSPI	SBE	EASOC
Recommends districts exit from RAD status.	Releases districts from RAD status if recommended by OSPI upon confirmation that requirements for release have been met.	
	If districts do not exit RAD status, recommends districts remain in RAD I or move to RAD II. Submit finding to EASOC.	Reviews and provides comment on SBE findings on districts remaining in RAD I or moving to RAD II.
	Considers EASOC comments and designates districts remain in RAD I or designates them RAD II.	

Designating a district remain in RAD 1 or be designated to RAD II is dependent on whether the district has made “recent and significant progress toward release under RCW 28A.657.100,” defined in WAC 180-17-060. Figure 1 graphically summarizes the criteria for recent and significant progress.

Figure 1: Recent and Significant Progress: Assignment to Level II Required Action



School Improvement Grant Cohort II and Possible New Required Action Districts

In addition to recommending releasing districts from required action status, OSPI may recommend new required action districts. The candidate pool for new RADs includes the second cohort of School Improvement Grant (SIG) recipients that are not also RAD schools. RAD cohort 1 and SIG cohort 2 schools went through the school improvement process at the same time.

The criteria that OSPI will use for recommending a district for required action, if any are recommended, is described in WAC 392-501-730 and includes having at least one school that is Persistently Lowest Achieving based on the Washington Achievement Index and a priority rating that includes the lowest levels of achievement and lowest rates of improvement. The number of districts recommended by OSPI may depend on available resources.

Statute requires the SBE to designate districts to required action Level I if a district is recommended by OSPI: "The state board of education shall annually designate those districts recommended by the superintendent in subsection (1) of this section for required action districts." (RCW 18A.657.030.)

Modification of Rules Concerning the Timeline for Designating Required Action

Modifying rules on the timeline for designating RADs is needed because current rules (WAC 180-17-010) call for the SBE to designate required action districts recommended by OSPI in January of each year. However, data necessary for making a recommendation are routinely unavailable until February. Staff recommend modifying rules so that designation of required action districts happens by the end of March of each year.

Action

At the March 2015 meeting the SBE may:

- Release RAD cohort 1 from required action, based on recommendations of OSPI, upon confirmation that the requirements for release have been met.
- Consider RAD I status or RAD II status for any RAD cohort 1 district not recommended by OSPI for release.
- Designate RAD 1 status for any district recommended by OSPI from SIG cohort 2.
- Approval of a letter to the Education Accountability System Oversight Committee.
- Approval of moving forward with a CR-102 to modify rules on the timeline for designating RADs.

If you have questions regarding this memo, please contact Linda Drake at linda.drake@k12.wa.us.

DRAFT

WAC 180-17-010

Designation of required action districts.

| ~~In January~~ By March 31st of each year, the state board of education shall designate as a required action district a school district recommended by the superintendent of public instruction for such designation.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.657.120. WSR 10-23-083, § 180-17-010, filed 11/16/10, effective 12/17/10.]