

Wenatchee School District No. 246
Wenatchee, Washington
Minutes of April 12th, 2010
RTTT Videoconference
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
WSD District Office

Board

Walter Newman, President
 Laura Jaecks
 Gary Callison

Staff

Brian Flones, Superintendent
 WSD Cabinet

The meeting opened at 6 p.m. Those in attendance were as follows:

GAYLE NORTHCUTT	WenEA PRESIDENT
PAT STRAND	WenEA EXEC. COUNCIL
CHRIS CLOKE	WenEA EXEC. COUNCIL
KATHY MILANUK	WenEA EXEC. COUNCIL
BRIAN FLONES	SUPERINTENDENT
GARY CALLISON	SCHOOL BOARD DIRECTOR
LISA TURNER	DIRECTOR OF HR- CABINET
LES VANDERVORT	WSD CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER - CABINET
LAURAJAECKS	SCHOOL BOARD DIRECTOR
JODI SMITH	ASSIST. SUPERINTENDENT TEACHING & LEARNING –CABINET
JON DEJONG	ASSIST. SUPERINTENDENT- ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT - CABINET
WALTER NEWMAN	PRESIDENT OF SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
KATHY ANDERSON	WenEA EXEC. BOARD
CHET HARUM	EXEC. DIRECTOR STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES - CABINET
LINDEE AKERS	ADMINISTRATION/ EXEC. SECRETARY /RECORDER

RTTT Website reported:

April 12, 2010, OSPI held meetings on the proposed Race to the Top Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that, when locally approved, will allow individual districts to join Washington state in the submission of a Phase 2 Race to the Top grant.

About Race to the Top On March 29, 2010, Governor Gregoire signed into law [E2SSB 6696](#). This new legislation, which represents a comprehensive approach to educational reform, will form the backbone of Washington’s Race to the Top Phase II application. On April 7, the Governor [kicked off the application process](#) for a share of the \$3.4 billion in RTTT funding.

The Race to the Top Fund is the largest ever federal competitive investment in school reform. It will reward states for past accomplishments and create incentives for future improvements. The funding criteria that the U.S. Department of Education proposes to use will challenge states to create comprehensive strategies for addressing the four central areas of reform that will drive school improvement. <http://www.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/factsheet.html>

The [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#) provides for competitive grants both to states and to schools and LEAs. Race to the Top money is divided into two sections. The State Incentive Fund is for competitive grants to fund experimental school improvement programs. The Innovation Fund is for competitive grants for a local education agency OR one or more schools in partnership with a non-profit organization.

More information about Race to the Top grant opportunity:

- Recovery.wa.gov/RTTT
The Governor's Office RTTT Web site provides the most current information on the state application process.
- [U.S. Department of Education Race to the Top](#)
For Federal Register information for CFDA 84.395A, open the link to "Notice of Proposed Priorities."

The following powerpoint was presented to the viewers after a brief address from Gov. Christine Gregoire.

Washington's
Race to the Top

Overview
April 2010

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AGENDA

- Why is Washington applying for a Race to the Top grant?
- How does this build on Washington's current education reform efforts?
 - Washington's Education Reform Plan and relationship to Race to the Top application
- Approaches to innovation and participation
 - Budget model
 - Commitments
 - State capacity
- Steps in the application process
 - Partnership Agreement
 - Consideration of required and optional/competitive components
 - Timeline and transmittal information

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Why is Washington Applying?

- ▶ Priority number one: This will help our students
- ▶ Race to the Top competition criteria and four federal assurances reflect direction of future federal funding (ARRA & ESEA)
- ▶ Opportunity to receive \$250M
 - Advances systemic Washington State and district education reform
 - Competitive monies will allow state to further support priority areas such as STEM and achievement gap closure

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Key Areas In Grant

- ▶ Address four federal assurances:
 1. Develop and Adopt Common Standards
 2. Data Systems for Increased Access and Use of Data
 3. Support of Effective Teachers and School Leaders
 4. Turning around Struggling Schools

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Washington State Education Reform Plan

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How Does This Build on Washington's Education Reform?

The Race to the Top proposal is just one additional effort and fund source to support the reform plan and continuing efforts of the Governor's Office, state law, OSPI, SBE, PESB, and OEC.

State Plans Race to the Top Federal Plans

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WA Education Vision... from the Washington Learns Report

"All Washington students will be prepared to succeed in the 21st century world of work, learning, and global citizenship"

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Ed Reform Plan Goals & Outcome Measures

Goals	Outcome Measures
Washington students will...	a) Annual reduction in achievement gaps, including Kindergarten entrance →
1) Enter Kindergarten prepared for success	b) Annual increase in math and science performance
2) Be competitive in math and science nationally and internationally	c) Annual increase in low-achieving schools turned around and that sustain improvements →
3) Attain high academic standards regardless of race, ethnicity, income, or gender	d) Annual increase in student annual growth rates and absolute student performance
4) Graduate college and career ready	e) Annual increase in teacher and leader effectiveness
	f) Annual increase in 4 and 5 year graduation rates
	g) Annual increase in college-going, college persistence, and degree attainment →

Education Reform Roadmap

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Ed Reform Plan Roadmap

Education Reform Roadmap

- Raise academic standards, increase expectations, and provide rigorous opportunities and curriculum for students to attain the standards
- Develop highly-qualified teachers and leaders, particularly in science and mathematics
- Increase the rigor of, and student participation in, mathematics and science offerings
- Create assessments that are consistent with our goals and standards and provide early, ongoing support for students to master the standards
- Provide higher, more equitable levels of public funding
- Catalyze and reward innovation
- Partner with stakeholders and reformers
- Build capacity at the state, regional, district, school, and classroom levels to implement and support these reforms.
 - Instructional Leadership
 - Alignment between high school, college, and careers
 - School improvement
 - Accountability for student performance
 - Systemic improvements in data systems

Race to the Top Four Assurances & Washington State Education Reform Initiatives

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Approaches to Innovation and Participation: Budget Model and Commitments

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Explanation: Federal Budget Rules

- 50% is reserved for school districts participating in the Required Sections of a State's plan
 - District allocations are based on the Title I Formula
 - Title I rules do not apply to district use of these grant funds, including "supplement, not supplant" provisions
- 50% is reserved for state-level implementation of the Race to the Top plan and optional/competitive components

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State Budget Model

Increase district allocations so that each district receives at least \$22 per student per year and no (small) district receives less than \$50 per student per year up to \$4,000 per year

- Moves \$12.3M from State side to LEAs Title I formula side
- Reduces state side from \$125M to \$112.7M
- Motivates additional districts to participate in "required" components
- Results in less money for state capacity building and innovation cluster

<p>50% Distributed via Title Formula</p> <p>\$125 M</p> <p>+ \$12.3 M</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p>\$137.3 M</p>	<p>50% Reserved for State Capacity, Implementation, & Innovation Clusters</p> <p>\$125 M</p> <p>- \$12.3 M</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p>\$112.7 M</p>
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State Provided "Required" Components

State will support districts with implementation of:

- Common Core Standards
- Aligned Formative & Summative Assessments
- Instructional Improvement Data System & Technical Assistance
- Improved Math and Science Instruction and Comprehensive STEM Models
- Model Teacher & Leader Evaluation Systems
- New, District-based Teacher Preparation Models
- Regional Professional Development Delivery Network & New PD Center
- Math & Science Specialty Endorsements (elementary) & Credentialing (middle & high)

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District "Required" Components

To receive formula monies, districts agree to:

- Implement Common Core Standards and Washington standards in other content areas
- Implement aligned formative and summative assessments
- Increase student participation in courses earning college credit
- Implement an Instructional Improvement Data System
- Implement the new evaluation system and use it to inform professional development and assignment (includes student growth)
- Develop and implement a required action plan (if designated and not funded in first School Improvement Grant round)
- Improve math and science instruction and increase math and science exposure in elementary grades
- Partner with STEM experts and organizations to prepare teachers and provide student opportunities

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Optional/Competitive Components

- State provides grants & technical assistance for bold, innovation clusters:
 - 1 Teacher & Leader Development and Effectiveness (est. \$20 M)
 - 2 Persistently Lowest-Achieving (PLA) Schools (est. \$10 M)
 - 3 Improving College and Career Readiness, and Closing Achievement Gap (est. \$10 M)
 - 4 STEM (est. \$15 M)
- Districts agree to apply for grants and participate in innovation clusters

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Optional/Competitive Components

What does it mean to be in an innovation cluster?"

- Competitive and non-required components of the state plan
- Rewarding excellence in innovation
- Groups of school district innovators share interests, research and new strategies for improving student achievement and outcomes or closing achievement gaps and serve as models for other schools or districts
- Support, reward, catalyze and scale the innovative strategies to the larger state or national level
- Receive state financial support or special technical assistance over and above the initial Race to the Top allocation to the district

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State Capacity Components

- › Equity Adjustment
- › Indirect percentage
- › Models & Best Practices
 - Consortia
 - Experts
- › Delivery
 - Technical Assistance
 - Professional Development
 - Innovation Clusters
- › Infrastructure
 - Systems
 - Organizational capacity
 - Grant Management

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Steps in the Application Process

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How Does a District Apply?

- › Consider how much of “required” components are State law
- › Consider how much of “required” components are already underway and funded from various other sources
- › Consider whether any of the optional/competitive components align with district priorities

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How Does a District Apply? (continued)

- › Review all sections of Partnership Agreement
 - Contains required and optional participation components
- › Superintendent signature is required
- › All other signatures from a district are strongly encouraged and will signal strong support at the local level
- › Sign a Partnership Agreement
- › Transmit to State

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Transmittal Information

- › Forward signed Partnership Agreement by May 17, 2010 to:

1 [Email PDF to: RaceToTheTop@gov.wa.gov](mailto:RaceToTheTop@gov.wa.gov)

OR

Send Fax to: 360-586-8380

AND

- 2 Send Original Signed Document to:

Randi Schaff, Executive Policy Advisor
Race to the Top Program
Governor's Executive Policy Office
P.O. Box 43113
Olympia, Washington 98504-3113

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Timeline

DATE	ACTION
Late March to Early-April	Key outreach events to ESDs, state-wide educational organizations, advocacy organizations, & WA leadership, to secure feedback on required & optional elements
April 7	Official transmittal of Partnership Agreement
April 8 & 12	Transmittal meetings with ESDs & LEAs
Mid April to Mid-May	Signatures to partnership agreements and letters of support secured
Late April	1 st draft of application and 1 st draft of WA Education Reform Plan
May 17 DEADLINE	All signed Partnership Agreements due to Governor's Office
May 3 – 26	WA State application revisions
June 1	WA State application submission
Late August – Early September	Federal notification WA State's Race to the Top application status & grant award level
August – September	State-level development of RFP, 90-day plan guidelines, optional eligibility and participation criteria, state-level capacity structure
September – November	90-Day District Plan Development
December	District grants awarded

Statewide Information Sessions: April Outreach Events & Webinars

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Contact

- › Find basic Race to the Top information, links, and Q&A at:

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop/index/html>

www.waracetothetop.org

- › Pose additional questions by contacting:

RaceToTheTop@gov.wa.gov

360-725-6070

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Organizations and presentations were conducted by:

Judy Hartmann

K-12 Education Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor

Edie Harding

Executive Director
State Board of Education

Alan Burke, Ed.D.

Deputy Superintendent for K-12 Education
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

The panel cover each document included in the packet and explained the application. The following items were covered:

- SUBMITTAL PROCESS*
- PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS*
- Washington State Partnership Agreement between Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and a District (Local Education Agency) Defining Race to the Top Program Participation*
- Goals, Roadmap and Measures for Reporting (WA Education Reform Plan)*
- PARTICIPATING LEA RESPONSIBILITIES*
- JOINT RESPONSIBILITIES*
- STATE RECOURSE FOR LEA NON-PERFORMANCE*
- ASSURANCES*
- MODIFICATIONS*
- COLLECTIVE BARGAINING*
- DURATION/TERMINATION*
- NULL AND VOID*
- Areas of Agreement (Required & Optional/Competitive)*
- REQUIRED & OPTIONAL/COMPETITIVE COMPONENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN WASHINGTON'S RACE TO THE TOP APPLICATION*
- SIGNATURE PAGE*
- WA Estimated RTTT Allocations*

WASHINGTON'S RACE TO THE TOP

Background Information

- General Questions and Answers
- School District Questions and Answers
- Washington State Legislation References/Descriptions
- Definitions and Acronyms for Use by Local School Districts
- Select Definitions and Description of Models from Federal Race to the Top Program Guidance

After a roll call question and answer period to all participating state districts they signed off. Those present had a brief discussion about how much WSD is already doing some of the things that are required for this process and the timeline, May 17th is the deadline for the application process.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Board President

Superintendent