Rhode Island ESSA State Plan Process

Every Student, Every Voice
Welcome

Today’s Objectives:
• Understand our role in providing input to the RI ESSA state plan
• Explore Rhode Island’s vision for teaching and learning
• Connect ESSA to the state’s vision for teaching and learning

Today’s Agenda:
1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Committee of Practitioners Role
3. Rhode Island’s Vision for Teaching & Learning
4. Connecting ESSA to the Vision
Foundations and Background: How did we get here?

David Abbott, Deputy Commissioner
What were the results?

Achievements:
• Adopted College and Career Ready Standards
• Developed educator preparation approval standards
• Implemented statewide educator evaluation system
• Revised Career and Technical Education standards
• Adopted dual-enrollment regulations
• Built and launched 5 data systems

Student Outcomes:
• HS graduation rate: 7.7% \(\uparrow\) to 83.2%
• Drop-out rate: 7.2% \(\downarrow\) to 6.7%
• Postsecondary enrollment: 3% \(\uparrow\) to 63%
• Remediation rate\(^*\): 6.8% \(\downarrow\) 66.2%
• 8th grade math proficiency\(^*\): 4% \(\uparrow\) to 32%
• 8th grade literacy proficiency\(^*\): 7% \(\uparrow\) to 35%

\(^*\)NAEP; \(^\uparrow\)Recent RI graduates attending CCRI
What are the challenges?

Not every student is being prepared for college and career
• 8% of students participate in dual enrollment program
• 71% of the jobs in Rhode Island in 2020 are projected to require postsecondary education, yet only 60% of Rhode Island’s current workforce has those prerequisites

There are significant achievement and equity gaps
• There is at least a 20 percentage point difference between White students’ proficiency in ELA and math and their Hispanic and Black peers
• Nearly half of all English learners and over a quarter of students receiving subsidized lunch attend the lowest performing 14% of schools in the state

Not every voice is being fully leveraged to strengthen our education system
• Students in high minority schools are twice as likely to have teachers and support professionals with 2 or less years of prior experience than are lowest minority schools
• Principals, leaders, and educators need additional support and development
What will we do now?

Every Student. Every Voice.

PRIORITIES
The six priority areas focus and organize Rhode Island’s strategic plan for public education over the next five years.

1. Teacher and Leader Support
2. Early Childhood Education
3. Personalized Learning Statewide
4. Globally Competent Graduates
5. Informed Instructional Decision Making
6. Student-Centered Resource Investment
What does RI want for graduates?

**Vision:** A Rhode Island graduate is one who is well-prepared for postsecondary education, work, and life. He or she can think critically and collaboratively and can act as a creative, self-motivated, culturally competent learner and citizen.

~ 2015-2020 Rhode Island Strategic Plan for PK-12 and Adult Education

**Every Rhode Island Graduate will be:**

- **Critical & Creative Thinker**
- **Collaborative & Self-Motivated Learner**
- **Culturally Competent Active Citizen**
Framework and Goals:
How will we get to the vision?

*Ken Wagner, Commissioner*
Career-Ready Graduates

• Proven and common sense approaches, if sustained over time, can foster cultures of excellence and continuous improvement in schools

• Course completion and graduation are not the same as advanced skill readiness

• We must get students ready through teaching and learning aligned to college and career readiness outcomes

• Innovation in how we do schooling (increased relevance and engagement) is a critical component of equity, opportunity, and outcomes

• We cannot implement an advanced-skill-readiness and innovation-in-schooling agenda unless we also empower schools and families

• School-based shared leadership capacity is our biggest risk

• We must re-imagine accountability to incentivize shared responsibility for advanced skill readiness, innovations in schooling, and school/family empowerment
Strategy and Opportunities:
What will we do from here?

Mary Ann Snider, Deputy Commissioner
Every RI Graduate will be able to think, learn, and act.
Where did ESSA come from?

Elementary & Secondary Education Act (1965)
- First federal education law
- Ensures that all students have access to equitable education

No Child Left Behind Act (2001)
- Calls for disaggregated data to address gaps
- Asserts federal oversight for transformation and accountability

Every Student Succeeds Act (2015)
- Gives power to states to decide strategies and allocations of federal resources

ESSA Topics for Consideration:
- Standards and Assessment
- Accountability, Support and Improvement for Schools
- Supporting Excellent Educators
- Supporting All Students
- Strategic Use of Federal Funds
- Consultation and Coordination