

## Question Lot Responses

*The following questions were submitted by committee members during the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee of Practitioners. Answers provided by RIDE.*

- Does the RI State Constitution Education section live up to ESSA changes? (“gives power to states...”)
- Are we going to look at laws or regulations or policies on the books in RI that conflict with ESSA?

*ESSA provides states with unprecedented flexibility in how they use federal resources, hold schools accountable, and support students, educators, and school systems to succeed. While there is considerable opportunity to amend and improve our practices and policies, at this time we are not aware of any restrictions or contradictions between ESSA and RI law or regulations.*

- Have the final regulations for ESSA been “published” by the US DOE? If not, when are they expected?

*The final regulations for ESSA have not been published. Sections of the regulations have been released in draft form throughout the spring and summer and can be [found here](#). The draft regulations will be out for public comment through August 1<sup>st</sup>. Final regulations are expected out this fall.*

- I see CCRI here but where are URI, RIC, and other Higher Eds/NPOs who have Teacher prep programs?

*The Committee of Practitioners was formed to include a small number of representatives of a large diversity of interests within our state. The Committee will serve as a central advisory body throughout the ESSA state planning process. Additional engagement will take place to incorporate the input and opinion of a variety of critical stakeholder groups at key points throughout the state planning process, inclusive of other post-secondary institutions.*

- Page 6 [of the powerpoint] says High School Graduation rate was 7.7 %. Is that correct? Student outcome data from what year to what year?

*The student outcome data on the PowerPoint slide entitled “What were the results?” represent changes from 2008-2009 to the 2014-2015 school years. Specifically, HS graduation rate: 7.7%  to 83.2%, means that the high school graduate rate for the class of 2009 was 75.5%, and improved by 7.7% to a graduation rate of 83.2% for the class of 2015.*

- Page 7 of [the powerpoint] presentation- can you share the source of research that says 71% of jobs...

*The job data shared on slide 7 can be found on page 3 of a report by the Georgetown Public Policy Institute at this link: Center on Education & the Workforce;*  
[https://cew.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Recovery2020.SR\\_Web.pdf](https://cew.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Recovery2020.SR_Web.pdf)

- Is there an agenda/syllabus for our next 11 meetings so we know what to expect?

*We will be doing our best to forecast meeting topics as far in advance as possible, and should have more information soon about our upcoming meetings. At this time, we know that over the course of the next year, we will be asking for your input on the following topics: Standards and Assessment; Accountability, Support and Improvement for Schools; Supporting Excellent Educators; Supporting All Students; and the Strategic Use of Federal Funds.*

- Can we have a full group conversation rather than keep breaking up into smaller groups?

*Over the course of the next year, we will be utilizing a variety of facilitation techniques that help us most efficiently and effectively meet our meeting objectives, which will likely include small group discussion, full group discussions, writing exercises, and reflection activities. We will also continue to solicit feedback on our meetings to give everyone input on the best ways to get input from the group.*

- The following questions are highly valuable and will be tackled as a group in our conversations throughout the year.
  - How will we tackle ELL Assessment via ESSA?
  - The achievement gap in RI between Latino and White students is at least 20%. What is RIDE's strategy to address this situation?
  - Opportunity gap should expand beyond high academic rigor to include athletics, mentoring, after school and summer programming, and mental health treatment.
  - Incentives vs. consequences- Rather than incentives, can we talk about what resources we offer to schools and kids to allow them to be successful?