RIASP Board Meeting – 8/5/19

Notes from Education Accountability Act

<http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/billtext19/senatetext19/s0865a.pdf>

**Goal:** “…provide for greater school-based management at the school level, would expand the duties of principals and school improvement teams, and would also establish a new chapter on education accountability which would provide for evaluations, assessments, and education review reports on the performance of both school districts and individual schools”.

**Takes Effect on 1/1/20**

**Shifts**:

School Committee –

* No longer required to “give advice & consent” on the appointment of school personnel (pg. 4, line 7).

Superintendent –

* No longer has duty to appoint employees of the district (p. 6, lines 4-5). Appoints principals (assigned to each school building) and administrators & other personnel not assigned to individual schools with compensation determined by school committee & collective bargaining agreements (p. 6, 17-20).
* No longer oversee care, control, & management of school facilities & equipment. Appoints principals for each school to do this - see below (p. 6, 14-16).
* Oversee vs. responsible for discipline in schools (p. 6, 32)
* Approve SIP (after consultation with the school committee)

Principals – “*Principals employed under this section shall be the educational administrators and managers of their schools and shall supervise the operation and management of their schools and school property, subject to the supervision and direction of the superintendent” (p. 7, 17-19)*

*Nothing below can limit or interfere with the rights of school employees to collectively bargain or break any agreement reached by collective bargaining.*

* Termination of all staff assigned to the school in accordance with district policies, collective bargaining, budget, & subject to review and approval from superintendent (p. 7, 29-32).
* Oversee care, control & management of school facilities & equipment (p. 7, 33).
* Evaluate school personnel consistent with school committee standards (p. 8, 2-3)
* Initiate performance review plan for the school & individual teachers in cooperation with district’s leadership (p. 8, 5-6)
* Promote participatory decision making among all professional staff to develop educational policy (p. 8, 5-7)

*In consultation with SIT:*

* Hiring all staff assigned to the school in accordance with district policies, collective bargaining, budget, & subject to approval from superintendent (p. 7, 2-28).
* Prepare a school budget for superintendent consideration (p. 7-8, 34-35).
* Create SIP
* The principal must adopt student performance schools consistent with the school performance goals established by RIDE pursuant to state & federal law and regs (p. 15, 29-31)

SIT – *Act includes detailed description of who shall be on the team (p. 8).*

* MS & HS department heads will be included on SIT. Minimum is one from humanities and one from STEM (p. 8, 29-34)
* Significantly more detailed responsibilities including the following (p. 9):
* Assist in identifying needs of students
* Make recommendation to principal for the development, implementation, & assessment of a curriculum accommodation plan
* Assist in review of annual budget
* Assist in formation of the SIP (with principal) to be submitted to superintendent. If not approved, must revise & resubmit plan.

Other:

* SIP must be prepared in a manner & form prescribed by the department of elementary & secondary education (p. 9, 29-31) –
* Must include an analysis of student and subgroup achievement gaps in core subjects, identification of specific improvement objectives, a description of the strategic initiative the district/school will undertake to achieve the improvement objectives, performance benchmarks and process for evaluating effect of initiatives, & PD that will support each improvement initiative and teacher induction/mentoring.
* Due to superintendent to review and approve, after consultation with the SC, no later than July 1 of the year in which it is to be implemented.
* Each district in which more than 20% of students do not meet grade level expectations of at least proficient shall submit a RICAS success plan to RIDE. Plan must describe the district’s strategies to help each student master the skills, competencies, & knowledge required for proficiency (p. 16, 17-33).

\*\*Additionally: New legislation requires all LEAs to adopt high quality curriculum by 2023 (mathematics and ELA). This curriculum will need to be RIDE approved.