

Removing Bureaucratic Barriers to Academic Success

Presentation to the Red Tape Review and Removal Task Force
July 31, 2012

Governor Malloy's Charge

- Removing red tape is one the core principles of Governor Malloy's education reform proposals
- Phases of process to reduce bureaucratic barriers:
 - February – May 2012: Identification of data collections and State Department of Education forms that could be streamlined or eliminated
 - June 2012: Governor announces membership of new Red Tape Review and Removal Task Force
 - July – ongoing: Task Force works to prepare and present recommendations

Data Collections and Forms

- CCM report: districts spend hundreds of staff hours to comply with SDE data requirements
- Most data collections and SDE forms are required by either federal or state statute
- In January, SDE pledged to eliminate a dozen forms and data collection requirements
- SDE did a comprehensive survey of its non-statutory forms and data collections
- Fifteen forms and data collections were identified for streamlining and or elimination

Forms and Data Collections Identified for Elimination/Consolidation

<u>FORM</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>CONSOLIDATE/ ELIMINATE</u>
ED001	End of Year Financial Report	Eliminate in two years
ED001C	End of Year Financial Report-Charter Schools	Merge with ED 001 Potentially Eliminate in two years
ED001R	End of Year Financial Report	Eliminate in two years
ED 017	Grants Nonpublic Health	Merge with ED 513
ED 162	Non Certified Staff	Merge with ED 163
ED 241	Adult Education Summary	Eliminate
ED 241A	Adult Education Summary-Cooperating entity like RESC	Eliminate
ED 400	Career and Technical Education Report	Eliminate
ED 513	Health Service Plan	Merge with ED 513
ED 539	Reducing Racial, Ethnic and Economic Isolation	Eliminate
EDDIR	Education Directory	Eliminate
NCLB	Public School Choice Participation	Eliminate
NCLB	Correction Action Plans	Eliminate
NCLB	Restructuring Plans	Eliminate
NCLB	District Improvement Plans	Eliminate
NCLB	Information from Districts about Parental Notification About Schools in Need of Improvement	Eliminate

Charge to the Task Force

- The Task Force will work to unleash innovation and enable districts and educators to focus on their core mission of improving student achievement
- In the longer term, the Task Force will explore the creation of a differentiated system of state oversight for districts

Charge to the Task Force

- Work with key stakeholders to identify problems and potential solutions
- Partner with CSDE to:
 - Examine key areas of regulated activity
 - Determine specific areas for comprehensive or surgical improvements
- Report to the Governor and Commissioner of Education with initial recommendations by December 15, 2012 – with additional recommendations to follow in the subsequent year

CSDE Superintendent Survey

- When asked to identify burdensome regulations and requirements, the top 2 answers were:
 - School Climate and Bullying Law (33%)
 - Data reporting requirements (20%)
- 67 % of superintendents indicated the SDE issues regulations too much
- Superintendents disliked the “one size fits all” approach with the same requirements for all districts

What have other states done?

- Virginia
 - 2011 legislation created a 5-member Task Force for Local Government Mandate Review; 1 member was the Chair of the Virginia School Boards Association
 - The Task Force looked at red tape across a variety of areas; 1 subcommittee of 2 members focused on education burdens
 - This subcommittee worked with the Virginia School Boards Association and Virginia Association of School Superintendents to survey members
 - In their interim report, the subcommittee submitted 20 recommendations to the Governor for relief to municipalities, and suggested 2 areas for further study
 - This work will continue as part of a multi-year process

What have other states done?

- New Jersey
 - Convened the Education Transformation Task Force to review their state's accountability system, and to conduct a review of education-related statutes and regulations
 - 8 members with a variety of education-related experiences served on the task force, and with the assistance of a legal team and Department of Education staff members, suggested significant changes to the accountability system and over 40 specific changes for regulatory reform in their interim report
 - The Task Force held 2 public meetings, 2 focus group meetings with educators, and received input from various other stakeholders throughout the process

What have other states done?

- In both states, the task force recommendations fell into 2 areas
 - Changes to Department of Education of State Board of Education policy that could be changed by the Department or Board
 - Changes to statutes that would require legislative action

Proposed Workflow Concept

- Task Force solicits information and recommendations from key stakeholders
- Task Force partners with CSDE to consider specific measures
- Task Force adopts recommendations for potential consideration by the Connecticut General Assembly, State Board of Education, and CSDE

Timeline

- Short and long term topics
 - Initial items and recommendations by December
 - Additional items to be considered in 2013