

Rhode Island's Race to the Top

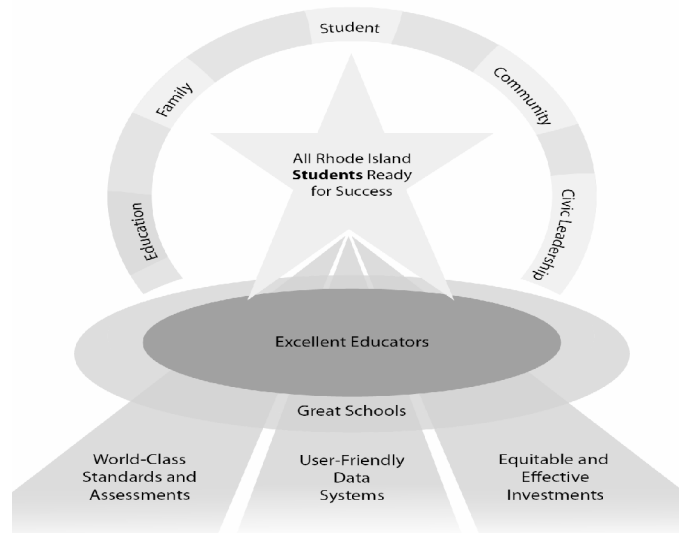
Proposed LEA Initiatives DRAFT

12/14/09



Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Transforming Education in Rhode Island



Rhode Island Department of Education
Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner
www.ride.ri.gov

Transforming RI Education: Our Five Priorities

All Rhode Island Students Ready for Success in College, Careers, and Life

- ★ **Ensure Educator Excellence**
Every student must have highly effective teachers.
Every school must have a highly effective leader.
We must support educators throughout their careers.
- ★ **Accelerate All Schools Toward Greatness***
Rhode Island must not allow failing schools to exist.
Leadership must be responsible for quality improvement.
Communities must commit to supporting high-quality schools.
- ★ **Establish World-Class Standards and Assessments**
Standards must be clear, high, and internationally benchmarked.
We must hold all educators and students to high expectations.
We must hold schools accountable for student achievement.
- ★ **Develop User-Friendly Data Systems**
Everyone must have access to usable data.
Data must be relevant, timely, and practical.
Data systems must drive continuous improvement.
- ★ **Invest Our Resources Wisely**
Financing must be adequate, effective, and equitable.
We must use incentives to promote efficiencies and effectiveness.
We must be capable stewards of the taxpayers' investment.

*Schools include all learning environments.



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How LEAs may receive R2TT funds

PARTICIPATING

- A "participating LEA" means that you choose to work with the state to implement all or significant portions of the state's RTTT plan.
- If you are a "participating LEA" and receive Title I funding, you will receive a share of the 50 percent of a state's RTTT grant award that the state must distribute to "participating LEAs", based on each participating LEA's relative share of Title I, Part A allocations in FY 2009.
- LEAs that choose to participate will receive their share of the funding structured around two types of expenditures:
 - prescriptive funds to address implementation of key aspects of the state's RTTT proposal
 - flexible funds to allow LEAs options in implementation based on individual district needs
- LEAs that choose not to participate will forfeit their percentage of the LEA allocation and those funds will be distributed among participating LEAs.

INVOLVED

- You can also be part of RTTT by becoming an "involved LEA." An "involved LEA" chooses to work with the state to implement some portions of the state's plan including those that necessitate full or nearly-full statewide implementation, such as transitioning to common standards and developing a longitudinal data system.
- An "involved LEA" does not receive a share of the 50 percent of a state's RTTT grant award that must be distributed to participating districts, but states may provide funding from the remaining 50 percent or from other sources to "involved LEAs"



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R2TT Statewide Initiatives (All LEAs will benefit)

Assurance Area	Initiative
Great Teachers and Leaders	1. Build pipeline of high quality educators through recruiting and selection and training partnerships including non-traditional educational preparation pathways
	2. Link certification with student achievement
	3. Track educator preparation program completion with student achievement to improve quality of prep programs
	4. Develop model for measuring student achievement/growth with individual educators
	5. Provide high quality observation rubric that all LEAs can implement while they are in the process of adopting their own robust evaluation system that meets state standards.
Data Systems	6. Develop user dashboards with point and click access to the state longitudinal data system – to allow for reporting on student achievement/growth data, teacher effectiveness, and overall school performance data – for teachers, principals, parents/students.
Standards and Assessments	7. Enhance NE regional standards and potentially expand group of states participating (work on common core w/ NE states, participate in NGA common core work, develop aligned summative assessment, ensure alignment of items to standards)
	8. Support transition to new standards once adopted by publishing standards, holding public forums and information sessions tailored to constituencies, and rolling out adaptations over a defined
	9. Capture model curriculum through Dana Center work and other existing efforts (math, science, ELA, social studies) and make available to any district

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Priority Initiatives for LEAs (Required for Participating LEAs, Opt-In for Involved LEAs)

Initiative	LEA Benefits	Conditions
1. Implement "Gold Standard" Performance Management System that incorporates cycle of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observation • Student achievement data (including growth) • Feedback loop • Aligned coaching/PD from carefully selected/rigorously trained Master Teachers to build capacity of school faculty • Evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •State funding support for program infrastructure, support for principals, rigorous training of Master Teachers •Participating LEA - opportunity to participate in program design process •For participating LEAs – may target just struggling schools or whole district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Create flexibility to allow for PD time needed •Commit to principal and master teacher training
2. New teacher induction program in partnership with highly regarded national organizations such as the New Teacher Center for teachers in years 1 and 2. Components include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master Teacher coach • Bi-weekly observation/feedback • Aligned cohort PD • Training on data driven instruction, classroom management, lesson planning, effective classroom execution, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •State funding support for program infrastructure, rigorous selection and training of Master Teachers •For participating LEAs – target struggling schools or whole district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Create flexibility to allow for PD time needed •Commit to principal and master teacher training

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Priority Initiatives for LEAs (Required for Participating LEAs, Opt-In for Involved LEAs)

Initiative	LEA Benefits	Conditions
3. Cultivate excellent school leaders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School turnaround principal corps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢Level 1 schools (recruit/select/train 2010/2011, launch school 2011/2012) ➢Level 2 schools (recruit/select/train 2011/2012, launch school 2012/2013) ➢Level 1 and Level 2 school leadership team (summer + 4 two day training intensives for Level 1 SY 2011/2012, Level 2 SY2012/2013) • Statewide training to principals on observation and evaluation of teachers (SY 2010/2011) • Statewide training to principals on standards and standards based instruction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •State funding support for program design/ infrastructure, initial or all training of principals •Priority for selection from principal corps <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Participating LEA with Level 1 school* 2.Participating LEA with Level 2 school* 3.Involved LEA with Level 1 or Level 2 schools * Depending on available funds and # of participating LEAs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •LEA selection of turnaround principal must meet state criteria (if not from state principal corps pool) •Possible commitment of other funds for principal residency
4. Implement statewide instructional management system that allows educators to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer and access data from local assessment systems • Tie data to state standards/accountability metrics • Provide educators with real-time tools for monitoring student progress, adjusting curriculum, interventions to improve student outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •State funds system/initial training •State provides content support for item banks, standards mapping •TA for building regular data review/inquiry into daily instructional practices •Participating LEA - opportunity to participate in design process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Must identify/ fund personnel for managing LEA implementation •Possible future support of maintenance costs

Priority Initiatives for LEAs (Required for Participating LEAs, Opt-In for Involved LEAs)

Initiative	LEA Benefits	Conditions
5. Implement multiple and high quality measures of assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •State develops/provides statewide or regional benchmark assessments tightly aligned to curriculum and state standards, and training around high quality formative assessments 	
6. Align curriculum and local assessment systems to state standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •State support is available to both participating and involved LEAs 	
7. Universal professional development to teachers on study of standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •State support is available to both participating and involved LEAs 	

Interventions/Supports to Struggling Schools
 (Required for all LEAs with Level 1 schools, subsequent prioritization to Participating LEAs w/Level 2 schools, then Involved LEAs w/Level 2 schools)

Initiative	LEA Benefits	Conditions
8. Co-planning between state/LEA to determine best fit option for each struggling school (close, CMO/SMO, turnaround, transformation) and plan/launch schools, involving:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Selection of principal from turnaround principal corps if wanted (winter 2010/spring 2011) •Master Teacher support to principal for teacher evaluation (spring 2011) •Performance management system with Master Teacher for school-wide PD, teacher induction and coaching, and evaluation •RIDE office of transformation support (project management, school design specialists, turnaround coaches) works with LEA to develop comprehensive school plan and implementation •Bundle and embed human capital, including pipeline of high quality teachers specializing in turnaround schools, training for school leadership team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Selection of option by late winter/early spring (2010) •Turnaround plan must meet state conditions •Commitment of additional funding for turnaround (SIG, Title I, etc.)

Interventions/Supports to Struggling Schools
 (Required for all LEAs with Level 1 schools, subsequent prioritization to Participating LEAs w/Level 2 schools, then Involved LEAs w/Level 2 schools)

Struggling Schools – Supporting initiatives
8a. Recruit or expand high performing charter management organizations (CMOs) or non-profit School Management Organizations (SMOs) to RI (Achievement First, KIPP, School Revolution, Mastery, Democracy Prep, Learning Communities, MATCH) for districts selecting the Close/Re-open Option
8b. Launch team of school design specialists (in the State Transformation Office)
8c. Launch team of Project Managers/Specialists (blended team of MBA plus instructional turnaround experts) – to work with the LEA turnaround team, and specific struggling schools, through the implementation phase (in the State Transformation Office)
8d. Deploy Master Teacher core to observe and help support/provide feedback teachers in struggling schools and categorize them into Tiers. Support principals to perform effective and fair evaluations. Make access to teacher performance data public. (Out of effective educators office)
8f. Recruit/vet/approve/provide access to qualified partner support organizations (eg New Visions, America's Choice) to provide deep intensive support districts or subcomponent parts, technical assistance, coaching/experts, to support to districts choosing Turnaround or Transformation models for struggling schools. (in State Transformation Office)
8e. Recruit nonprofit human capital organizations for LEAs to be able to bundle effective educators and infuse into schools (principals, leadership teams, cadre of teachers – ie TNTP/TFA groups)

R2TT Competitive Priorities

- Both participating and involved LEAs are eligible to submit proposals that demonstrate innovation around the four assurance areas or other Rhode Island priorities.
 - Innovative applied local assessments
 - STEM initiatives
 - Extended learning opportunities
 - Human capital strategies
 - Enhance Early Learning opportunities
 - 21st Century/Global Initiatives



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Next Steps for Districts

- Review and refine strategies that the District is interested in participating in
- Draft MOU by 12/18/09
- Finalize MOUs/Letters of Interest 1/8/10
- MOUs must demonstrate collaboration between RIDE, District Leadership, and Union leadership
- Submit R2TT Application 1/19/09



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