

The District of Columbia State Education Plan for Elementary & Secondary Education

September 22, 2012



Office of the State Superintendent of Education

- Sets statewide policies and is responsible for federal accountability for ALL public education in the District of Columbia;
- Determines what students should know and be able to do at each grade level in order to be college and career ready;
- Distributes federal grant funds to support efforts to close the achievement gap;
- Develops and administers the DC CAS assessment; and
- Provides State (District wide) level supports, intervention and resources according to priorities identified in the State Education Plan



Why do we need a new state education plan?

- All D.C. residents should have access to an excellent education that prepares them for college, career, and future life opportunities.
- We need to increase graduation rates and close achievement gaps between students of all races and backgrounds.
- We need everyone - students, parents, teachers, principals, and community leaders - to take part in making the implementation of this plan a success.



Our Commitment

- Within five years we are committed to:
 - Reducing the number of students who are not academically performing as expected by 50%
 - Reducing the number of students who do not graduate from high school by 10% each year



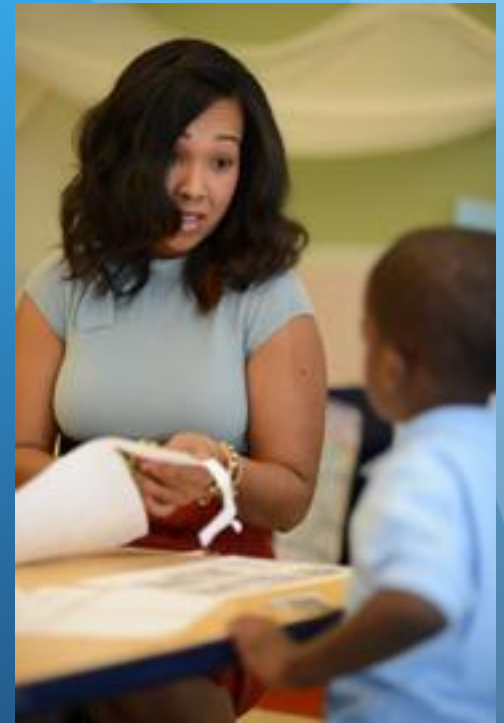
What is included in the new D.C. State Education Plan?

- The state education plan focuses on three key principles:
 - Ensuring teacher and school leader effectiveness.
 - Preparing students for college and careers.
 - Holding schools and educators accountable.



Ensuring Teacher and School Leader Effectiveness

- Research indicates that the best way to improve student achievement is to ensure that there are effective teachers in every classroom.
- Teacher and principal evaluation systems will measure the abilities of teachers and principals to educate our children beyond expectations.



Preparing Students for College and Careers

- We will prepare all students to graduate from high school ready for college and careers and to be successful in today's global economy.
- The Common Core State Standards, our new academic content standards, will help to increase achievement by raising expectations for what students should learn and be able to do in each grade.
- Over time, the DC CAS will change to align with the new standards.
- Interventions and supports such as competitive funding and professional development opportunities will support Local Education Agencies



Holding Schools and Educators Accountable

- We are creating a system that holds schools accountable for the academic development of each and every student at every achievement level.
- We will recognize the accomplishments of excellent schools.
- Schools will receive the support and resources needed to improve quality of education for all students.
- Annual school report cards will help parents select a school for their children.



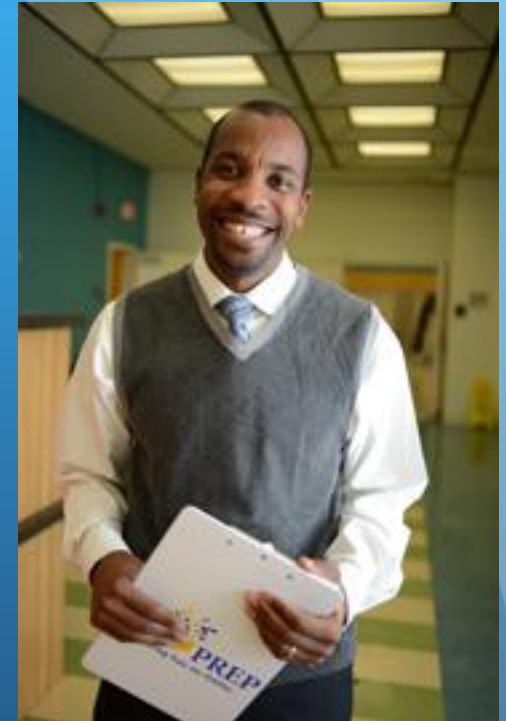
How was the state education plan developed?

- OSSE began the work of revising the State Education Plan in preparation for competing for the Race to the Top (RTT) grant
- OSSE was one of a few State Education Agencies that received an RTT grant.
- With new flexibilities offered under the Elementary and Secondary Education waiver option, that work continued.



How was the state education plan developed?

- In School Year 2011-12, more than 600 people reviewed the state education plan and provided feedback.
- We heard from:
 - Teachers
 - School administrators
 - Parents
 - Political and business leaders
 - Community-based organizations (CBOs)
 - Other community organizations



Who will lead this work?

- OSSE will work with schools, parents and other community members to implement the state education plan through:
 - Competitive priorities for high need students and schools
 - Intervention and supports for Local Education Agencies
 - Increased communication
- We are committed to working with parents to improve student achievement through:
 - Regularly scheduled events throughout the year
 - Opportunities for two way communication that allow parents to discuss successes, needs and concerns related to the implementation of the State Education Plan



How will this plan impact your child's education?

- Students will learn more critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Students will receive an education that prepares them for success in college and a career.
- Parents will have access to school report cards so they can make informed decisions about school choices.
- Teachers will establish high expectations for students and challenge them to learn.
- Teachers will work hard to teach to new standards and apply new instructional practices in the classroom.



How will this plan impact your child's education?

- Schools will use a new evaluation mode to:
 - evaluate the effectiveness of principals and teachers,
 - provide them with professional support,
 - promote excellence and
 - ensure all students have access to effective instruction and leadership.
- Schools that performed below expectations will receive intensive support from OSSE.
- Reward schools will be recognized for their excellent performance.



How can you can support your child, your school and your community?

- Talk with your child's teacher regularly.
- Set high expectations and support those expectations.
- Create an environment at home that encourages learning.
- Get involved.
- Help get the word out.
- Stay informed.
- Tell us what's working and what needs to be improved.





For more information on the D.C. State Education
Plan for Elementary & Secondary Education,
visit www.osse.dc.gov.

VIDEO PRESENTATION

WHY DO WE NEED TO RAISE STANDARDS?

