



Rulemaking & Policy Ideas Under Consideration

June 30, 2020

DISCLAIMER: This slide deck includes a variety of ideas under consideration and development. These ideas have not been adopted by the Board.



Ideas under consideration

Rulemaking concepts

- Instructional hours and days for the 2020-21 school year
- Mastery-based crediting
- Clarification on meeting subject area graduation requirements
- Flexibility for WA State History requirement

Potential legislative requests

- Graduation pathways flexibility
- Credit graduation requirements flexibility

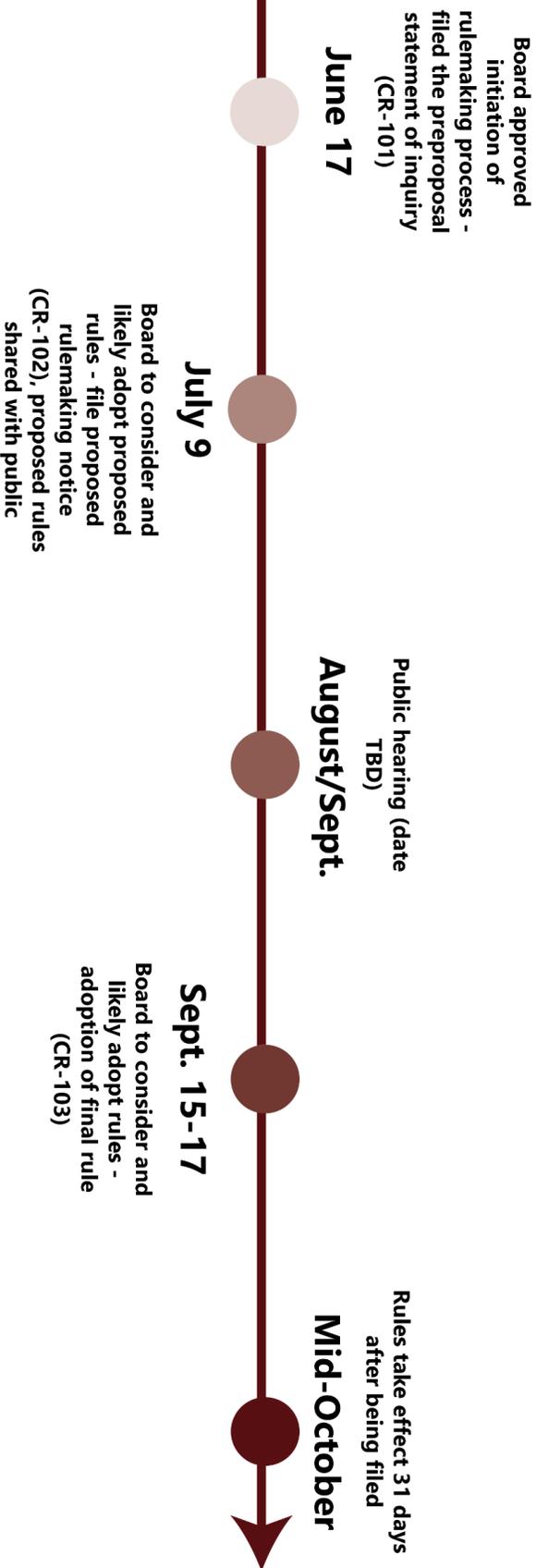


The Washington State BOARD OF EDUCATION



RULEMAKING TIMELINE

Policy supports for private school minimum requirements, public school basic education access requirements, and graduation requirement flexibilities.





Instructional hours and days

Rulemaking concept

- SBE has statutory authority on access, compliance, and implementation of the Program of Basic Education
- Social distancing, school closures, and distance learning may impact basic education delivery and access in SY 2020-21
- Rule concept:
 - Counting time outside of the traditional classroom for instructional hours and school days
 - Rules applicable for SY 2020-21 only
 - SBE review of rules in Spring 2021 to anticipate needs for SY 2021-22
- SBE will collect additional info in minimum basic education compliance reporting



Mastery-based crediting

Rulemaking concept

- Permissive rules would articulate districts' existing authority in an explicit way to clarify what is allowed and to support districts in offering these opportunities more widely
- Put E2SHB 1599 definition of MBL into rule and change "competency" to "mastery" in SBE WAC to align with law and work groups' work
- Broad categories for student demonstration of proficiency:
 - State assessments
 - Local assessments
 - Success in a higher level course
 - Other MBL work group recommendations
- Districts would still need to adopt a written policy



Meeting subject-area graduation requirements

Rulemaking concept

- Rules would clarify that a single course may meet more than one subject area graduation requirement
 - Already common practice with CTE course equivalencies, rule would clarify that this practice may be applied to other core subject area requirements
- Potential benefits
 - Provide flexibility in students' schedules to make up courses or take other elective credits
 - Encourage exploration of multidisciplinary approaches to teaching and learning that would complement project-based and mastery-based learning



Flexibility for WA State History requirement

Rulemaking concept

- Current rules allow principal to waive the WSH requirement for individual students under certain circumstances
- Proposed rules would expand waiver option to students who did not complete a WSH course because of an emergency school closure
- Many students will be able to make up the course, but it may become a barrier to some given fewer options and tighter schedule
- Districts must still provide the opportunity for students to take WSH and must still meet statutory requirements regarding teaching and learning of civics, the WA constitution, and the Since Time Immemorial curriculum



Graduation pathways flexibility

Potential legislative request

- Access to pathways has been limited due to school closures and cancellation of testing, and some existing flexibilities are expiring
- Options to provide needed flexibility
 - Extend Expedited Assessment Appeal waiver (*staff recommend*)
 - Local waiver option for individual students
 - District waiver to innovate with pathways
 - Statewide suspension of pathways for one or two years
- Longer term
 - Need for ongoing emergency authority
 - Wholistic approach
 - Pathways report recommendations



Credit graduation requirements flexibility

Potential legislative request

- The impact of school closures, modified schedules, and hybrid learning models will continue to jeopardize some students' ability to complete credit graduation requirements on time
- Statute allows districts to waive up to two flexible credits based on individual student circumstances, but more flexibility may be warranted in some cases
- Extend emergency waiver of credit graduation requirements
 - Local determination on individual student basis
 - To be used as last resort after demonstrating good faith effort
 - More restrictive parameters for number and type of credits

Next steps

- Board meeting on July 8 and 9
Materials, including draft of proposed rules, will be posted online:
<https://sbe.wa.gov/meetings#meeting-2431>
- Submit feedback to sbe@k12.wa.us

