



Deborah A. Gist
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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255 Westminster Street
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Enclosure 8b
February 9, 2015

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TO: Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner 

RE: Secondary School Regulations

On September 8, 2014, I recommended that the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approve the draft of the amended Secondary Regulations for public review and comment. The public comment period was held between September 25, 2014 and November 21, 2014 and included five hearings (October 16, October 20, October 22, November 12, and November 18).

The proposed amended Secondary School Regulations represent the input from public comment. They now articulate the change in the date from 2014 to 2020 for inclusion of the state assessment as one of the graduation requirements for all students. In response to public comment, the amended regulations also clarify that school districts may choose to use the state assessment or other standardized assessment as one of the graduation requirements starting with the graduating class of 2017 as set forth in R.I.G.L. 16-97-8. Additional revisions include changing all references from R.I. Board of Regents to Council on Elementary and Secondary Education.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves the proposed amendments to the Secondary School Regulations, as presented.