

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Title of Rule: Regulations Governing the Intervention and Support for Failing Schools

Rule Identifier: 200-RICR-20-05-6

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Adoption

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: November 3, 2023

Hearing Dates: November 15, 2023

November 20, 2023

November 29, 2023

November 30, 2023

December 6, 2023

End of Public Comment: December 18, 2023

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-7.1-5.1

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) has undertaken the creation of regulations to provide criteria and a procedure for determining the end of turnaround status for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) subject to intervention and support pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-7.1-5, and to return control over the operation of such LEAs from the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education (Council) back to the local school board or committee. The Rhode Island General Assembly in 2022 mandated that RIDE create these regulations pursuant to R.I. Gen. Law § 16-7.1-5.1.

RIDE has developed these proposed regulations with input from public education stakeholders and experts and by examining education policy best practices. Additionally, these proposed regulations were created by looking at similar regulatory language from Massachusetts and adjusting language to tailor the regulations to meet Rhode Island's specific requirements.

These proposed regulations stipulate that the Commissioner include within an LEA's (Local Education Agency) turnaround plan progress measures that the LEA must meet to exit turnaround status. This includes progress metrics to be included in any turnaround plan.

These regulations subsequently require the Commissioner to craft a report to be delivered to the Council prior to the end of any order under R.I. Gen. Law § 16-7.1-5. This report shall include to what degree an LEA has made significant progress towards achieving its goals formulated in the Turnaround Plan, as well as a review of the local governance capacity to sustain said progress. The Commissioner in this report will recommend whether to renew the turnaround plan, draft a new turnaround plan, or exit the LEA from turnaround status. Should the LEA be ready to return to local governance, then the proposed regulations include a provision to release a LEA from state control upon determination by the Council, and the potential to condition the return to local governance subject to a transitional period.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed adoption until December 18, 2023 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Christine Kechejian
Board of Education
255 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903
christine.kechejian@ride.ri.gov

Public Hearing:

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.5, to consider the proposed adoption shall be held at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. This hearing is subject to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46, Open Meetings.

Public Hearing Information:

Date: November 15, 2023

Time: 5:00 P.M.

Location: Rogers Free Library
525 Hope Street
Bristol, RI, 02809

Public Hearing Information:

Date: November 20, 2023

Time: 5:00 P.M.

Location: Newport Public Library
300 Spring Street
Newport, RI, 02840

Public Hearing Information:

Date: November 29, 2023

Time: 5:00 P.M.

Location: CCRI Knight Campus
400 East Avenue
Warwick, RI, 02886

Public Hearing Information:

Date: November 30, 2023

Time: 5:00 P.M.

Location: Shepard Building - Paff Auditorium
80 Washington Street
Providence , RI, 02903

Public Hearing Information:

Date: December 6, 2023

Time: 5:00 P.M.

Location: Kingston Free Library
2605 Kingstown Road
Kingston, RI, 02881

The seating capacity of the room will be enforced and, therefore, the number of persons participating in the hearing may be limited at any given time by the hearing officer in order to comply with safety and fire codes.

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 401-222-8700 X-8705 or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting. For questions regarding available parking, please contact the agency staffperson listed above.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

~~REGULATORY ANALYSIS SUMMARY AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION~~

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.