

# Governor's FY 2015 Budget: Article 20 – Board of Education

Staff Presentation to the House Finance  
Committee  
February 11, 2014

## Background

- 2012 Assembly enacted legislation to abolish Board of Governors for Higher Education and Board of Regents effective January 1, 2013
- Created a new 11 member Board of Education
- Abolished Office of Higher Education effective July 1, 2014

## Background

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- Enacted to address concerns:
  - College readiness
  - Remedial education needs
  - Overall connection between lower and higher education
    - RIC graduates 50% of state's teachers

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## Background

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- Legislation created executive committee
  - Presidents of higher ed institutions
  - Commissioner of higher education
  - Commissioner of elem. & secondary ed.
- Board required to submit plan for permanent administrative structure

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## Background

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- January 8 and 10, 2013
  - Governor announced appointments
- February 12, 2013
  - Senate confirmed four members
- March 5, 2013
  - Senate confirmed final seven members
- March 11, 2013 – Board started meeting

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## Background

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- April 23, 2013 - Chair testified before House Finance
  - Indicated she hired a consultant to help with restructuring efforts
  - No specific plan was identified
- July 30, 2013 - Clark Greene, Chief of Staff for ELSEC temporarily loaned to the Office of Higher Education during search for a commissioner

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## Background

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- Ray DiPasquale was commissioner and CCRI president from January 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013
- October 2013 - Board discussed an initial draft proposal
- October /November 2013 - stakeholder meetings and public hearings
- December 9, 2013 meeting -Board approved plan

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## Background

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Issues that arose that would need to be resolved:

- Size of the board
- Role of the commissioners and presidents
  - They answer to Board, responsible for implementing Board policy but should have voice
- State's role
- Effectiveness of board meetings
  - Institution specific approvals clog agenda

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## Background

	Lower Ed	Higher Ed
Contract negotiations	School Committees (ELSEC for 155 FTEs)	State/Board
Regulations/Policy	State/Board	State/Board
Facilities	School Committees	State/Board
School budget	School Committees	State/Board

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## Board Approved Proposal

- One Board of Education
- Two councils with full statutory authority for governance and regulation
  - Pre-K through 12
  - Higher education
- Coordinating Committee
  - Board Chair, Council Chairs, 2 Commissioners
  - Set meeting agendas
  - Monitor implementation and operation of priority system-wide initiatives

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## Board Approved Proposal

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- Governor appoints Chair with advice and consent of Senate
- Chair would appoint members to each council and appoint council chairs after discussion with all members
- Board plan is “starting point” for discussion

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## Article 20

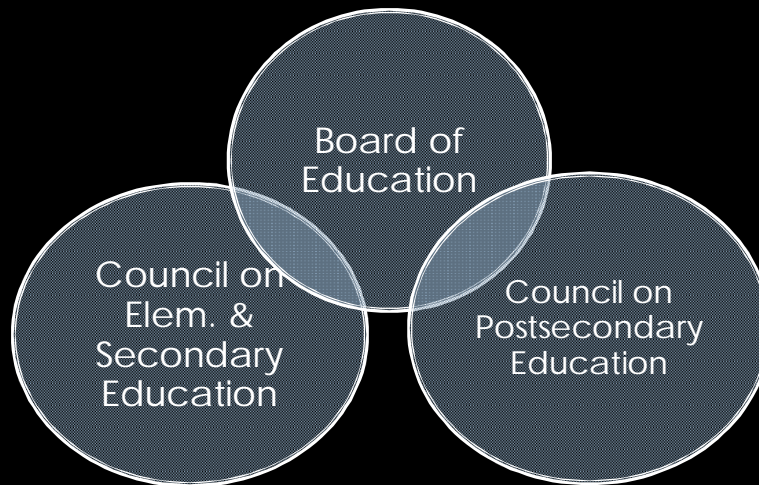
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- Includes legislation to restructure the Board of Education
- 15 members
  - Appointed by the Governor
  - With advice and consent of the Senate
- Members also serve on one of two councils

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## Article 20

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## Article 20

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- Full board will focus on leading broad policy initiatives, long-range goals and accountability
  - College and career readiness
  - Teacher preparation, assessment, evaluations
  - Adult education and certificate programs

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## Article 20

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### Full Board

- Long-range planning and goals
- Promote collaboration between and among education agencies
- Establish budget and finance recommendations
- Develop and adopt a strategic plan

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## Article 20

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### Full Board

- Advice and consent on hiring commissioners
  - Elementary and Secondary Education
  - Postsecondary Education
- Budget review and consent
- Develop a performance funding formula for public higher education

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## Article 20

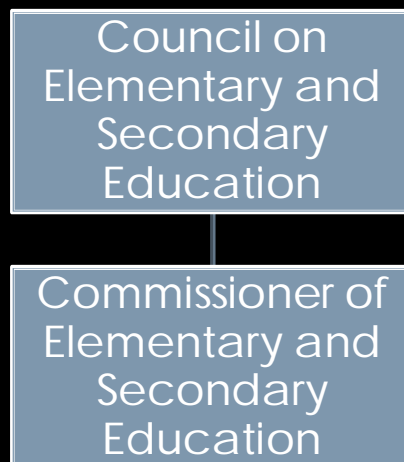
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- Councils have most of the statutory authority and responsibility currently held by Board of Education
- Seven members on each council appointed by the Governor
- Governor also appoints council chairs

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## Article 20

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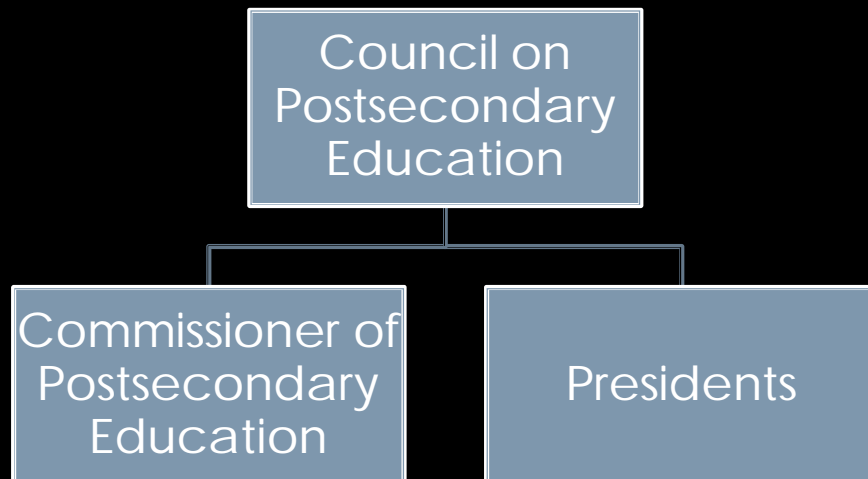
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## Article 20

- Statutory authority for elementary and secondary education governance and regulation
  - Adopting standards
  - Implementing and enforcing regulations
  - Developing budgets
  - Appointing commissioner

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## Article 20



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## Article 20

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Statutory authority for higher education governance and coordination

- Granting tenure
- Overseeing tuition, budget, capital
- Assuring credit portability and recovery
- Appointing commissioner and presidents

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## Article 20

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- Council is “employer of record”
  - Labor agreements
  - Appeal authority
  - Fulfills NEASC accreditation requirements
    - (New England Association of Schools and Colleges)
- Maintain office of postsecondary commissioner
  - Budget, coordination, etc.

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## Article 20

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### Additional Powers of Presidents

- Creating/consolidating departments, programs, courses of study
- Submit budget to Council
- Property management
- Tables or organization\*
- Reporting on faculty and student race, gender, etc.\*

\*Formerly responsibility of OHE

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## Article 20

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### Office of Postsecondary Commissioner

- Replaces OHE
- All of the same functions and responsibilities with the exception of reporting responsibilities and recommending tables of organizations
  - These transfer to presidents

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## Article 20

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### Office of Postsecondary Commissioner

- Governor recommends 12.8 positions and \$1.1 million
  - Level of support in the FY 2014 enacted budget
  - Office currently has 10 filled positions
  - Legislation does not address which positions would stay or go

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## Article 20

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### Issues to consider:

- How will councils interact with each other?
- How will disagreements between the councils be resolved?
- How will Board enforce agenda?
  - Could 2 or 3 members exert control?
- Role of new Postsecondary Commissioner office?
- Article 20 is silent on idea of coordinating committee

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