

# Memo

**To:** Public Library Standards Task Force Members

**From:** Tracy Cook , Lead Consulting & Learning Librarian

**Date:** November 2, 2020

**Re:** Preparation for upcoming meeting

In your meeting packet you will find the following documents

- A new draft of essential public library standards – this document is based on your suggestion that we keep the essential standards simple. These are the standards that libraries will need to meet to receive state funding.
- Copy of the essential standards that shows the changes from the previous draft.
- A report that analyzes which current public library standards receive the most deferral requests – in case this would be useful to you in analyzing the essential standards.
- A road map of excellent and collaborative standards that builds on the suggestion that the standards be a library development tool, emphasize collaboration, and envision what it might look like if we built standards where libraries worked together to achieve goals.
- A description of what a maturity model is and how it used. The road map used that model.

Questions we would like you to consider as you review this material:

- Do the essential standards reflect core services? Is anything missing? Should anything be removed?
- Do the essential standards show enough improvement? One request of the task force was the standards push for improvement.

- The stretch standard is no longer included in the essential standards. Do you wish to keep this standard or try something different to encourage libraries to pursue excellent and collaborative levels?
- For the road map and the excellent and collaborative standards
  - What do you think of this model and format?
  - Should we keep excellent and collaborative or rename them?
  - Are we missing elements or do we need to add more to this set of standards?
  - Do we need to remove anything?
  - Is the investment we make in statewide projects and collaborative efforts enough of a carrot?

Overall timeline of the standards. If the task force wishes to move forward and present drafts to the Commission, we will be on a very similar timeline to our original work. The difference will be that the standards would not be implemented until July 1, 2022 or FY23. Here is a potential timeline for these standards.

- December – present draft to the Commission for review
- Winter 2021 – if Commission decides to begin process, seek public comment on the proposed standards
- Spring 2021 – Public comment process/administrative rules process begins
- Summer 2021 – begin transition to new standards - if Commission adopts changes in a formal administrative rules adoption meeting