# **SSoS Assistance - Important Dates, January through June**

Good morning, District Leaders,

I hope this message finds you well! I want to express my gratitude for your generous hospitality as I have visited your learning communities. I have visited more than half of our 22 districts and have found the time impactful; I have gained invaluable knowledge of both the student experience, and your various, complex needs, and how our office can effectively partner with you to address them. As we head into our mid-year progress monitoring work together, this process will provide us additional opportunities to continue learning together and making strides toward accomplishing the student outcomes tied to your instructional priorities!

You have received a few emails over the past week regarding important dates related to our Center’s and Office’s support of your work.  As follow-up to these communications, I thought it would be helpful to synthesize these important dates with other timelines communicated by the Statewide System of Support (SSoS). The message below provides a summary of important dates from January-June for districts receiving prioritized assistance from SSoS.

**Mid-Year Progress Monitoring on District Priorities**

* **In January and February** SSoS regional team members will connect with districts to support mid-year progress monitoring of your [district prioritization plans](https://www.doe.mass.edu/turnaround/level4/district-priorities-submission-guidance.docx), based on the monitoring actions you outlined in your district submission. The intent of this process is for the work to be an embedded, organic part of your district work.
* **In May and June** SSoS will support districts with an end-of-year progress monitoring reflection.

**School Improvement Plan Renewal – *schools designated as ‘Underperforming’ only***

* Districts will submit the final renewal plan for schools designated as underperforming schools to Michael Seymour at [michael.j.seymour@mass.gov](mailto:michael.j.seymour@mass.gov) by **January 31, 2023**. *Extensions can be granted based on need.*

**Prioritization Institute – *all SSoS districts attend and receive priority enrollment. Registration information will be available in January.***

*In collaboration with TNTP, Prioritization Institute is designed to address districts’ ability to:*

* Identify an equity-centered, data-informed instructional priority for the upcoming school year
* Create a plan that is aligned to research-based practices for improving student outcomes
* Develop a coherent improvement strategy with role clarity to drive continuous improvement

*Below are the dates for Prioritization Institute in Spring 2023:*

* **March 21, 2023-March 22, 2023 (2 Half Days, Virtual)**
* **May 10, 2023-May 11, 2023 (2 Half Days, In-Person, location TBD)**

**District Prioritization Submission**

* Given feedback from last year’s submission process, we will aim to release guidance for the district submission process by **March 1.** *This will allow districts to connect this guidance to the aims of Prioritization Institute.*

**Site Visit Process**

* **Schools designated as underperforming** will receive two site visits:
  + One with Komal Bhasin, Chief Schools Officer, on behalf of the Commissioner. Komal has communicated to leaders at these schools to schedule annual visits between January and June 2023.
  + Another with an external vendor (TBD), in spring 2023. Erica Champagne, in the Office of Effective Practices, has communicated to impacted districts to schedule.
* This year **site visits are optional for all other identified schools** supported through Targeted Assistance Grant (TAG) in FY23 and will involve an opportunity to pilot new tools and protocols. These site visits will be aligned to DESE’s priorities and vision, with an increased focus on equity and culturally and linguistically sustaining grade-appropriate instruction. Schools will be selected for the pilot from among all those that are currently supported by TAG funding. *To share input and inform our design of a future process, please complete this survey* [*here*](https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7137568/2022-23-Progress-Monitoring-Pilot)*.*

**Student Opportunity Act**

* Progress reports updating districts’ [3-year gap-closing plans](https://www.doe.mass.edu/soa/plans.html) are due on **April 3, 2023**, as required by the [Student Opportunity Act legisl](https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2019/Chapter132)ation. The report window will open in early February.

For ease of reference, I am including a one-pager with all these dates. Thank you advance for your attention to all these details. I hope that you and your loved ones enjoy a blessed holiday season and experience a fruitful entry into 2023.

Best regards,

Charmie