



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

201 East Colfax Avenue • Denver, Colorado 80203-1799
303.866.6600 • www.cde.state.co.us

Dwight D. Jones
Commissioner of Education

Robert K. Hammond
Deputy Commissioner

Kenneth R. Turner
Deputy Commissioner

January 8, 2009

The Honorable Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor of Colorado

Representative Michael Merrifield
Chairman of the House Education Committee

Senator Robert Bacon
Chairman of the Senate Education Committee

Senator Peter Groff
Senate President

Representative Terrance Carroll
Speaker of the House

Senator Josh Penry
Senate Minority Leader

Dear Sirs:

Senate Bill 08-212 calls for the legislature to receive periodic written updates documenting the progress on this project. The following constitutes the first such update.

We have also received a request from Senator Josh Penry seeking a written update of the steps CDE and DHE have taken to comply with the SB 08-212 timeline.

I am pleased to report that the attached materials support the claim that the Colorado Department of Education is on track for on-time completion of the goals specified in the bill.

Enclosed please find a brief narrative that documents accomplishments to date with respect to key deliverables. Also enclosed are supporting appendices, including a SB 08-212 action plan (see Appendix A) and 90 day calendar (see Appendix B).

We appreciate the opportunity to work with you on these initiatives to further the success of preschool through postsecondary students across Colorado.

Most sincerely,

Dwight D. Jones
Commissioner

SB 08-212 Legislative Update Report
Colorado Department of Education
January 8, 2009

SB 08-212 Goals and Accomplishments

- I. Develop descriptions of school readiness, postsecondary and workforce readiness and 21st century skills.

Overall: CDE engaged more than 3,600 Coloradans in conversations to describe school readiness, postsecondary and workforce readiness and 21st century skills. Via a month-long online survey and 13 regional forums, we received valuable input from every region of the state and from a wide variety of sectors (P-20 education, business, parents, students, policymakers, community members, etc.). The status of each of these descriptions is below.

Goal A: Develop School Readiness description.

Status: Adopted by State Board of Education (SBE) in December 2008 (see Appendix C: School Readiness Description).

Future: Collaboration with the P-3 Subcommittee of the Governor's P-20 Council is underway to identify indicators that support this description. On Jan. 16, CDE staff will meet with P-3 Subcommittee members to develop a plan for this work.

Goal B: Develop Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness description.

Status: Twelve jointly sponsored DHE and CDE regional meetings have been planned for the purpose of engaging community members in a discussion about what it means to be postsecondary and workforce ready in Colorado (see Appendix D: SB 212 Regional Meeting Schedule. *Note, regional meetings in Limon and Steamboat Springs have been added to this schedule, however dates are to be determined*). These meetings convene student, parent, early childhood, K-12, higher education, business, local government and other community representatives in meaningful conversations about what skills and competencies students need to succeed in today's 21st century world (see Appendix E: SB 212 Regional Meeting PPT).

Additionally, we have completed a draft description of postsecondary and workforce readiness based on the survey of Coloradans described above. This draft was made public in Nov. 2008 and resides on the CDE web site (see Appendix F: Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness and 21st Century Skills DRAFT descriptions).

Finally, we have conducted national research on other state/organization's descriptions of postsecondary and workforce readiness that is available for public consumption on the CDE web site (see Appendix G: National Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness descriptions). We will continue to build this research bank over the next six months.

Future: The goal is for all of this work to culminate in a working postsecondary and workforce readiness description by June 2009. While the law requires SBE and the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) adoption of this description by Dec. 2009, we are moving forward on a more ambitious timeline in order to also complete the standards revision by Dec. 2009 (see section II. Standards Revision). Currently underway, this revision process involves taking the school readiness and postsecondary and workforce readiness descriptions and mapping between them. The following activities work toward meeting the June goal:

- To help prepare the SBE and CCHE to reach agreement on a working description by June, a co-sponsored SBE/CCHE public hearing or a June event is under consideration.
- Three joint meetings are planned for the SBE and CCHE to discuss SB 08-212 progress:
 - o Feb. 6
 - o June 23
 - o Oct. 15
- Finally, we are meeting quarterly with the 5Cs (CASE, CASB, CEA, CDHE, CDE) to discuss progress and strategic planning around SB 08-212 activities. The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 9.

Goal C: Develop 21st Century Skills description.

Status: A draft of this description was developed in Nov. 2008 based on the survey of Coloradoans described above and made public on CDE web site (see Appendix F: Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness and 21st Century Skills DRAFT descriptions).

Future: Present to SBE for adoption in Dec. 2009.

II. Standards Revision

Goal: By Dec. 2009, the SBE will adopt content standards for 13 subjects (Reading/Writing, Math, Science, History, Geography, Civics, Economics, World Languages, Music, Visual Art, Theatre, Dance, and Physical Education). Standards will be created for one other subject (Financial Literacy) but these standards will be embedded in Math and Economics.

Status: The Review of the Colorado Model Content Standards is under-way and on schedule (see Appendix I: Schedule of Updates & Outreach for Colorado Model Content Standard Review). More than 700 Coloradoans applied to participate in the review of standards in Math, Reading & Writing, Science, Civics, Geography, History, Economics, Financial Literacy, Music, Theatre, Dance, Visual Art, Physical Education, and World Language. The Standards Review Stakeholders Committee, appointed by the Commissioner in the Spring of 2008, meets bi-monthly to provide guidance to the review process. The Stakeholders have made recommendations on the design of the revised standards, including the articulation of the standards grade-by-grade at the K-8 level, and the incorporation of 21st century and postsecondary/workforce readiness skills.

The SBE will be discussing this concept at the next board meeting on Jan. 14. CDE will be proposing that for each subject, content will be bundled typically. High school will be articulated. Specific bundling of subject specific content will be drafted by CDE content specialists and discussed by subcommittee members and stakeholders. This group of Stakeholders selected 253 individuals from the Business Sector, Military, Early Childhood, K-12 Sector (teachers and district personnel), Higher Education, and Parents. These individuals also represent all regions of the State, demonstrate expertise in ELL, Gifted and Talented, and Students with Disabilities.

CDE has also received support from WestEd, a Federal education research laboratory, who has provided an extensive review and gap analysis of our current standards to be used by the review subcommittees as a resource during their review process. The report evaluated our standards based on depth, breadth, rigor, and coherence, and provides research-based recommendations to our review process.

Future: The review is taking place in three phases: Phase I - Music, Math, Reading & Writing, and Science: January 10 - March 28, 2009; Phase II - Civics, Geography, History, Economics and Financial Literacy: March 28 - May 16, 2009; and Phase III - Physical Education, Dance, Theatre, Visual Art and World Language: June 20 - August 22, 2009.

III. Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Assessment Pilot

Goal: Implement a Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Pilot program to evaluate the use of postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments in the Colorado assessment system.

Status: We conducted a survey in Oct. 2008 to understand the current use of postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments in Colorado schools and districts. The results of this survey were developed into a report and made public in Dec. 2008. Additionally, a request for information (RFI) was released in Nov. 2008 for vendors of postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments; specifically, assessments for postsecondary planning, preparation and readiness to be administered to students in grades 8-11. CDE staff reviewed and pre-qualified a list of vendors for eligibility in the pilot program. This list was provided to all schools with an application for pilot participation in Dec. 2008. Completed school applications are due to CDE on Jan. 15, 2009.

Future: High schools and assessment providers will be finalized for pilot participation by the end of Jan. 2009. Administration of assessments will take place in the spring and fall and will be evaluated for recommendations to the assessment revision planning scheduled for 2010.

IV. Additional SB 08-212 Communication and Outreach

Goal: Engage Colorado stakeholders in transparent and open two-way communication about SB 08-212 and implications for public education systems in Colorado.

Status: Beyond legal requirements of SB 08-212, CDE staff are committed to both serving and engaging the field by making presentations, building public awareness and collecting stakeholder input on activities related to SB 08-212. Examples of these efforts include:

- P-20 Council presentations
- CASE presentations
- CASB presentations
- Other public engagement (i.e. PPSAC meeting and West Slope Superintendents meeting)
- Teacher tour: collaboration between CEA and CDE
 - o Jan. – Mar. timeline
 - o 8-10 regions, TBD
 - o Purpose to engage teachers in a conversation about SB08-212 and the impact of the next generation of standards-based teaching and learning on classrooms; include Growth Model tools and other examples of impact at classroom level
- Workforce engagement: collaboration with Dept. of Labor
 - o Alignment with Gov. endorsed workforce readiness certificate
- DHE/CDE web sites

Attachments

- Appendix A: SB 08-212 Action Plan, p. 6
- Appendix B: SB 08-212 90 Day Calendar (Jan. 2009), p. 10
- Appendix C: School Readiness Description, p. 12
- Appendix D: SB 08-212 Regional Meeting Schedule, p. 13
- Appendix E: SB 08-212 Regional Meeting PPT, p. 14
- Appendix F: Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness and 21st Century Skills DRAFT descriptions, p. 21
- Appendix G: National Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness descriptions, p. 22
- Appendix H: Schedule of Updates & Outreach for Colorado Model Content Standard Review, p. 25

Appendix A: Senate Bill 08-212 Action Plan

Goal: Implement legislative requirements of SB 08-212 or "CAP4K" designed to improve the ability of students to progress successfully from P12 into work or the next level of schooling by creating better alignment between expectations for P12 students and expectations of college/workplace.

Starting assumptions for this work include:

- Status quo is not good enough (change is needed)
- 21st century skills are essential
- Competency matters more than seat time
- Relevancy matters most
- Fewer, clearer, higher standards
- Porous boundary between high school and college
- Multiple pathways important for student success
- Funding structure may need to be adapted accordingly

CDE Team ("CDE" below): Deputy Commissioner Ken Turner, Assistant Commissioner Jo O'Brien, Assistant Commissioner Jeanette Cornier, SB 212 Project Manager Samantha Long

	Objectives	Responsibility	Deadline	Status
SB 08-212 Organization, Communication and Evaluation				
1.0	Assemble a team of knowledgeable representatives from affected areas and a process for operating 1.1 Complete hiring (SB 212 project manager, high school pilot manager) 1.2 Complete responsibility matrix showing who does what w/respect to action plan development 1.3 Identify suggested revisions to plans by incorporating feedback from the Executive Team 1.4 Make timetable in mission critical to show what happens when (monthly 90 day calendar)	Ken Turner Ken Turner (CDJ approves) Ken Turner Samantha Long	Oct 13 08 Monthly	Complete Ongoing
2.0	Design process to coordinate 212 with other projects (P20, DHE, Gov's office, accountability, etc.) 2.1 Create public relations strategy that specifies publics and pattern/frequency 2.2 Identify events/activities where internal and external publics learn about 212 and its progress 2.3 Identify "pitfalls" from other P20 efforts that derailed other efforts to inform CDE process 2.4 Build relationship with CO workforce and identify overlapping initiatives/plan for collaboration 2.5 Develop web site on CDE home page 2.6 Compile report that identifies national P20 efforts and initiatives	Samantha Long Samantha Long Samantha Long Samantha Long Samantha Long Samantha Long	Ongoing Sept 1 08 Jan 30 09 Dec 19 08 Weekly	In prgrss In prgrss Complete In prgrss Complete In prgrss
3.0	Deliver annual progress report to House and Senate Education Committees 3.1 Report progress made in implementing alignment of preschool through postsecondary education systems	CDE and DHE	Starting Feb 15 09	
4.0	Conduct a cost study designed to estimate the total cost of ownership for this system 4.1 Complete DQ 4.2 Post DQ 4.3 Collect and review proposals	Samantha Long w/Robert Hammond approval Samantha Long w/purchasing Ken Turner and Samantha Long		

	<p>4.4 Award bid</p> <p>4.5 Complete study</p> <p>4.5.1 Report 1</p> <p>4.5.2 Report 2</p> <p>4.5.3 Report 3</p>	Ken Turner and Samantha Long Vendor	<p>Sept 09</p> <p>Mar 2010</p> <p>Oct 2010</p> <p>Oct 2011</p>	
5.0	<p>Define how CDE and CCHE will share accountability for student success</p> <p>5.1 Identify a metric that bridges P12 and higher education and gauges system success</p>	Rich Wenning	TBD	
6.0	<p>Conduct research and evaluation that gauges project success</p> <p>6.1 Identify criteria that will be used to gauge project success, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improves upon the current system (that is, students are more successful) - Create health interdependency between higher education and P12 - Educationally sound - Feasible - Research based - Easy to implement - Well understood by public - Legal - Provides students with better indication of chance for postsecondary/workforce success - Tighter alignment between system elements (curriculum, assessment, instruction) 	CDE/TBD	TBD	
7.0	<p>Implement needed revisions to policy and systems</p> <p>7.1. Submit amended state plan for federal peer review and approval</p>	CDE	2013	
Step 1: Create descriptions for "school readiness," "postsecondary and workforce readiness" and "21st century skills"				
8.0	<p>Develop a description for "school readiness" (SR)</p> <p>8.1. Constitute team of knowledgeable and willing participants who represent key constituencies ("Standards Stakeholders Committee")</p> <p>8.2. Complete review of literature that reveals best thinking nationally and internationally on topic</p> <p>8.3. Gather local P3 agency and constituency opinion, including recommendations from P3 Subcommittee</p> <p>8.4. Adopt description (after circulating for reaction)</p>	<p>Jo O'Brien w/CDJ input and approval</p> <p>WestEd</p> <p>Jo O'Brien w/CDE team</p> <p>SBE</p>	<p>Sep 15 08</p> <p>Nov 08</p> <p>Dec 15 08</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p>
9.0	<p>Develop a description for "postsecondary and workforce readiness" (PWR)</p> <p>9.1 Complete review of literature that reveals best thinking nationally and internationally on topic</p> <p>9.2 Gather constituency opinion (P20, higher ed) via surveys, focus groups, conferences, etc.</p> <p>9.3 Hold regional town hall meetings to collect input (P12, higher ed, business, community)</p> <p>9.4 Develop working description</p> <p>9.5 Convene SBE and CO Commission on Higher Education to discuss consensus (3 times)</p> <p>9.6 Adopt description (after circulating for reaction)</p>	<p>WestEd</p> <p>Jo O'Brien and CDHE</p> <p>Ken Turner and Samantha Long w/DHE</p> <p>CDE and CDHE</p> <p>CDE and CDHE</p> <p>SBE and CCHE</p>	<p>Oct 1 08</p> <p>Jun 1 09</p> <p>Jun 30 09</p> <p>Nov 1 09</p> <p>Dec 15 09</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>In prgrss</p> <p>In prgrss</p>
10.0	Develop a description for "21 st century skills"			

	<p>10.1 Complete review of literature that reveals best thinking nationally and internationally on topic</p> <p>10.2 Gather constituency input (P20, higher ed) via surveys, focus groups, interview, etc.</p> <p>10.3 Identify higher ed understandings (Guaranteed Transfer, 090 courses) that can form basis</p> <p>10.4 Develop working description</p> <p>10.5 Adopt description (after circulating for reaction)</p>	<p>WestEd</p> <p>Jo O'Brien Samantha Long CDE SBE</p>	<p>Oct 1 08</p> <p>Jun 30 09 Dec 15 09</p>	<p>Complete</p>
Step 2: Expand and revise model content standards from preschool through high school				
11.0	<p>Adopt revised standards that incorporate readiness descriptions</p> <p>11.1 Assemble Standards Stakeholder Committee (see 8.1)</p> <p>11.2 Complete gap analysis comparing "what is" to best available in US/int'l "what should be"</p> <p>11.3 Complete gap analysis comparing "what is" to "what could be" (blue sky thinking)</p> <p>11.4 Establish template for revised standards (e.g., incl 21st century skills, exemplar assessment)</p> <p>11.5 Recruit content experts for content area subcommittees (incl business, higher ed, etc.)</p> <p>11.6 Develop strategy for ensuring coherence even while 13 different subject area teams work</p> <p>11.7 Complete draft of revised standards</p> <p>11.8 Undergo third party review</p> <p>11.9 Incorporate improvements based on feedback from the public and outside experts</p> <p>11.10 Incorporate revisions proposed by Commissioner and Deputy</p> <p>11.11 Adopt aligned standards</p>	<p>Jo O'Brien w/CDJ input and approval WestEd Standards Stakeholders Standards Stakeholders</p> <p>Jo O'Brien Jo O'Brien and Standards Stakeholders Standards Subcommittees CRESST Jo O'Brien and Stakeholder Committee Jo O'Brien and Stakeholder Committee State Board</p>	<p>Dec 08</p> <p>12/15/09</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p>
Step 3: Realign assessments with standards				
12.0	<p>Implement high school assessment pilot of postsecondary/workforce readiness and allow districts to voluntarily join (results inform later decisions)</p> <p>12.1 Survey districts about current use of PWR assessments</p> <p>12.2 Issue report based on survey findings</p> <p>12.3 Complete RFI for PWR assessment providers</p> <p>12.4 Post RFI</p> <p>12.5 Collect and review proposals</p> <p>12.6 Pre-qualify list of providers for pilot eligibility (to include in high school application)</p> <p>12.7 Complete high school application</p> <p>12.8 Distribute application to high schools</p> <p>12.9 Collect and review proposals</p> <p>12.10 Approve schools for participation</p> <p>12.11 Collect spring and fall assessment information</p> <p>12.12 Undergo third party evaluation of pilot</p> <p>12.13 Develop recommendation for assessment system revision (see 13.0)</p>	<p>Holly Baker Holly Baker Holly Baker w/Robert Hammond approval Holly Baker w/purchasing Holly Baker and CDE team Holly Baker and PWRA Stakeholders Holly Baker Holly Baker Holly Baker w/CDE team Holly Baker w/CDE team Holly Baker TBD Holly Baker w/CDE team</p>	<p>Oct 08 Dec 08 Nov 08 Nov 08 Dec 08 Dec 08 Dec 08 Dec 08 Jan 15 09 Jan 31 09</p>	<p>Complete Complete Complete Complete Complete Complete Complete Complete Complete Complete</p>
13.0	<p>Adopt revised assessments that follow P20 aligned standards</p> <p>13.1 See sequence of 11.1 to 11.10 above</p> <p>13.2 Adopt SR assessment</p> <p>13.3 Adopt preschool through elementary and secondary education (PESE) assessment system and scoring criteria</p> <p>13.4 Adopt postsecondary and workforce planning, preparedness and readiness assessments</p> <p>13.5 Enact new statutes for PESE assessment system</p>	<p>SBE SBE</p> <p>SBE and CCHE SBE</p>	<p>12/15/10 12/15/10</p> <p>12/15/10 6/1/11</p>	

Step 4: Local implementation of state standards				
14.0	Local school boards assure that local standards meet or exceed state standards			
	14.1 Local education providers decide whether to adopt state endorsed diplomas	Local state boards	7/1/11	
	14.2 Local education providers review and revise their content standards to meet or exceed state PESE standards and adopt new curricula as necessary	Local state boards	12/15/11	
	14.3 Local education providers review high school curricula against PWR description and adopt PWR program	Local state boards	12/15/11	
	14.4 Local education providers ensure that preschool and kindergarten students have individualized readiness plans to progress toward SR	Local state boards	10/12	
	14.5 Local education providers implement new PESE standards and new PESE assessment system takes effect		12/15/12	
	14.6 Local education providers implement PWR program - high school students begin enrolling		12/15/12	
	14.7 Local education providers begin administering PWR assessments		12/15/12	
	14.8 Local education providers begin administering PWR assessments		12/13	
Step 5: Recognize endorsed diplomas				
15.0	Enable students to earn an endorsed postsecondary/workforce ready diploma guaranteeing them admission to state-funded universities			
	15.1 Adopt criteria for PWR endorsed diploma	SBE and CCHE	7/1/11	
	15.2 Adopt criteria for honors endorsed diploma	SBE and CCDE	7/1/11	

Note: Support will be provided throughout

On-going Review and Revision of Preschool to Postsecondary Alignment

Every 6 years beginning 7/1/15:

- State Board reviews/may revise SR description, SR assessments and PESE standards
- State Board and CCHE review/may revise PWR description

Every 6 years beginning 7/1/16:

- State Board reviews/may revise PESE assessments
- State Board and CCHE review/may revise PWR assessments

Every 6 years beginning 7/1/17:

- State Board reviews/may revise criteria for diploma endorsements
- Local education providers review their PESE standards and curricula and revise if necessary

Appendix B: CDE 90 Day Calendar, January 2009
SB 212 Preschool to Postsecondary Education Alignment Act
Colorado Achievement Plan for Kids

January	5	Standing weekly meeting, DHE and CDE
	8	DHE and CDE provide testimony to joint House and Senate Education Committees on SB 08-212 progress
	9	WestEd begins a Content Gap Analysis study of Phase III (World Language, Physical Education, Dance, Theatre, and Visual Arts) standards to determine rigor, clarity and to compare them to other states and nations. This will also identify the trends in the reports which exist among prominent groups (ACHIEVE, Fordham, IB, AP, ACT, College Board, Alignment Council).
	10	Phase I (Mathematics, Science, Reading and Writing, Financial Literacy and Music) Subcommittees begin standards review. To be completed by March 28.
	12	CDE update to Pikes Peak Student Achievement Coalition
	14	State Board update
	15	High school applications due for participation in assessment pilot
	19	Post documented quote (DQ) for SB08-212 cost study
	20	Standing weekly meeting, DHE and CDE
	22	CDE presentation to joint House and Senate Education Committees
	27	212 regional meeting #3: Denver
February	3	Standing weekly meeting, DHE and CDE
	11	State Board update
	12	212 regional meeting #4: Fort Collins
	15	First annual CDE/DHE 212 progress report to House and Senate Education Committees
	17	Standing weekly meeting, DHE and CDE
March	2	Standing weekly meeting, DHE and CDE
	4	212 regional meeting #5: Grand Junction

- 16 Standing weekly meeting, DHE and CDE
- 18 State Board Update
- 28 Phase I (Mathematics, Reading and Writing, Science, Financial Literacy and Music) Subcommittees standards review completed.
- 28 Phase II (Civics, Geography, Economics, and History) Subcommittees begin standards review process. To be completed by May 16, 2009.
- 30 Standing weekly meeting, DHE and CDE
- 30 CDE conducts a Regional Tour to ask Coloradoans to review, react to standards revision



School Readiness

The following is the Colorado Department of Education's recommendation for the school readiness description as required by Senate Bill 08-212. A description of school readiness must be adopted by the State Board by December 15, 2008.

School Readiness

School Readiness describes both the preparedness of a child to engage in and benefit from learning experiences, and the ability of a school to meet the needs of all students enrolled in publicly funded preschool or kindergarten.

School Readiness is enhanced when schools, families, and community service providers work collaboratively to ensure that every child is ready for higher levels of learning in academic content.

SB08-212 – Colorado Achievement Plan for Kids (CAP4K)

Co-convened Regional Meetings List

Colorado Dept of Education / Dept of Higher Education

(as of December 18, 2008)

Date	Location	Venue	Time	DHE Attendee	CDE Attendee
Monday, November 10, 2008	Gunnison, CO	Western State College	5:00 – 7:00 pm	Julie Carnahan	Ken Turner
Wednesday, December 3, 2008	Colorado Springs, CO	El Pomar Foundation Penrose House 1661 Mesa Avenue Colorado Springs, CO 80906	5:00 – 7:00 pm	David Skaggs – Executive Director	Dwight Jones – Commissioner
Tuesday, January 27, 2009	Denver Metro Area	Tivoli Student Union Turnhalle Ballroom 900 Auraria Parkway Denver, CO 80204	5:00 – 7:00 pm	David Skaggs – Executive Director	Ken Turner
Thursday, February 12, 2009	Fort Collins, CO	Colorado State University Lory Student Center 1101 Center Avenue Fort Collins, CO 80523	5:00 – 7:00 pm	Julie Carnahan	Dwight Jones – Commissioner
Wednesday, March 4, 2009	Grand Junction, CO	TBD	TBD	David Skaggs – Executive Director	Dwight Jones – Commissioner
Tuesday, March 17, 2009	Alamosa, CO	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Thursday, April 16, 2009	Pueblo, CO	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Wednesday, April 22, 2009	Sterling, CO	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Thursday, May 14, 2009	Glenwood Springs, CO	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Tuesday, May 19, 2009	Durango, CO	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

<http://highered.colorado.gov/Academics/cap4k/cap4k.html>

<http://www.cde.state.co.us>



Colorado's Preschool to Postsecondary Alignment Act, SB08-212 (CAP4K)

Commissioner Dwight Jones, Colorado Dept of Education
Executive Director David Skaggs, Colorado Dept of Higher Education



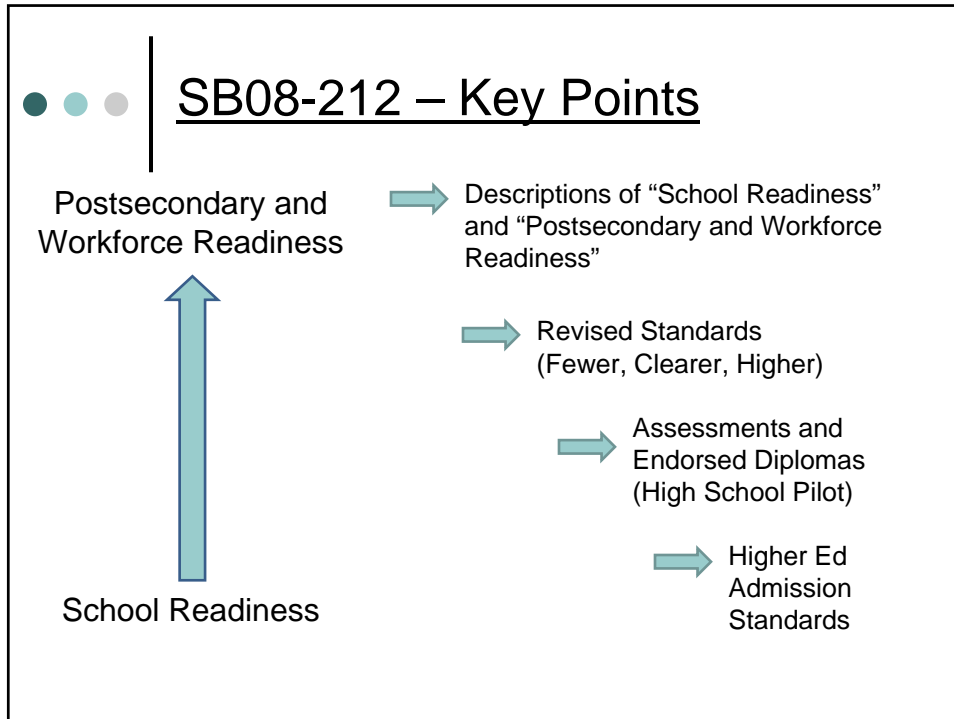
Evening's Objectives

To understand...

What SB08-212 is and why we are here.

To hear from you...

We need your ideas to help guide the 212
process and shape the outcome.



-
- Why Are We Here?**
- High school graduation rates are declining and achievement gaps are rising.
 - College remediation rates are too high.
 - Too many who enroll in college don't stay to completion.
 - Our highly educated population grows through immigration, while degree attainment by Coloradans lags.
 - Colorado has largest ethnic gap in college attainment in the U.S.
 - Employees enter workforce unprepared.



High School Graduation Rates

- For the first time in history, students are less likely to graduate high school than their parents.
 - Colorado is 46th in the U.S. in the rate of high school completion.
- A large disparity exists in Colorado high school graduation rates between White (82%) and Asian (84%) students and their Black (66%), Native American (59%) and Hispanic (57%) peers.

Source: Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2007
Source: Colorado Department of Education, 2007



College Remediation Rates

In Colorado Public Institutions:

56%	Two Year Public Institutions
20%	Four Year Institutions
30%	Overall Rate

Source: Surds Remedial Course File, End of Term Completion, 2006-2007



College Retention & Graduation

At Colorado Public Institutions:

Enrollment:

63% High school graduates enrolling in college

Retention (one year after entry):

55% Two-Year Institutions

72% Four-Year Institutions

Graduation:

21% Two-Year Institutions (2003 Cohort)

56% Four-Year Institutions (2000 Cohort)

Source: The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, 2007
Source: Surds Remedial Course File, End of Term Completion, 2006-2007



College Attainment

- Colorado is 4th in the U.S. in the percentage of college educated citizens.
- Colorado is 44th in the U.S. in 2-yr college attainment (i.e., an AA degree).
- College education gap between White and Hispanic students (the next largest ethnic group) is larger in Colorado (36%) than any other state and is twice the national average.

Source: The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, 2007



Unprepared Workforce

- Students lack traditional “soft skills” – *leadership, collaboration, and hospitality* – and need retraining.
- Business owners expect employees to know how to learn.
- Business owners expect employees to have writing, speaking, and leadership skills.

Source: CO Jobs Cabinet Report, Summer 2008



To Summarize

Improvement is needed in both high school and higher education for all Colorado students to graduate postsecondary and workforce ready.



What does SB08-212 ask of *you*?

The Departments of Education and Higher Education seek input from educators, parents, students, employers and others on a description of “postsecondary and workforce readiness.”



Guiding Questions

- What skills and competencies do students need to be workforce ready?
- What skills and competencies do students need to be postsecondary ready?
- Are there special considerations for the workforce or higher education in your region of the state?



Thank you very much for
coming.

We're here to listen to you.

Let's open up the
conversation.



21st Century Skills & Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness

Below are working drafts of 21st century skills and postsecondary and workforce readiness descriptions which serve as discussion material only.

21st Century Skills and Abilities

Colorado's description of 21st century skills is a synthesis of the essential abilities students must apply in our fast changing world. These essential skills are:

- Critical thinking and reasoning (e.g. problem solving, analysis, logic, cause/effect)
- Information literacy (e.g. knowledge acquisition, source discernment, systems management)
- Collaboration (e.g. synergy, team resourcing, social skills, leadership)
- Self-direction (e.g. adaptability, initiative, personal responsibility, work ethics, self-advocacy)
- Invention (e.g. creativity, innovation, integration of ideas)

Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness

Colorado's description of postsecondary and workforce readiness is a student's capacity to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and competencies required for success in a global, interdependent society. Students must demonstrate:

- Application of reading, writing, and computing skills with minimal remediation or training (e.g. skills and performance necessary for entrance in to a postsecondary institution or the workforce)
- Logical reasoning and argumentation abilities (e.g. identifying a reasoned viewpoint which a student can persuasively and successfully communicate)
- Identification and solving of problems (e.g. monitoring and self-correcting performance, finding dilemmas, gaps and needs and generating accurate solutions; initiating, innovating, creating)
- Information management skills (e.g. system thinking competencies, financial awareness, increasing productivity and adapting to new information)
- Human relation skills (e.g. students are self-directed, applying integrity and work ethic, cooperation, tolerance)
- Analysis and interpretation skills (e.g. capacity to read into facts, patterns and conclusions which advance information and understanding)

Please provide your feedback to standards_review_com@cde.state.co.us.

**SB08-212 Preschool to Postsecondary Education Alignment Act
Colorado Achievement Plan for Kids**

Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Descriptions: A National Perspective

ACT: “College and Workforce Readiness”

- ”A set of standards that describes the level of preparation a student needs to be ready to enroll and succeed – without remediation – in a credit-bearing course at a two-year or four-year institution, trade school, or technical school.”

College Board: “College Readiness”

- “Successful performance in entry-level college courses, including Advanced Placement courses, as described by sets of English language and mathematics content standards.”

Education Policy and Improvement Center: “College Readiness”

- “The level of preparation a student needs in order to enroll and succeed – without remediation – in a credit-bearing general education course at a postsecondary institution...”

Pew Charitable Trust and the American Association of Universities: “College Readiness”

- “Knowledge and skills for University Success are standards for six content areas describing the knowledge and skills required “to do well enough in college entry-level core academic courses to meet general education requirements and to continue on to major in a particular area.”

America Diploma Project/Achieve: “College and Workforce Readiness”

- ”The English and mathematics that graduates must have mastered by the time they leave high school if they expect to succeed in postsecondary education or in high-performance, high-growth jobs.”

Society for Human Resources Management & Partnership for 21st Century Learning:
“Workforce Readiness”

- “Basic knowledge/skills and the applied skills necessary to succeed in the workplace.”

According to *Education Week's* Education Counts database, 12 states (highlighted in grey below) have described both “college readiness” and “work readiness” in 2008. Of these, six describe them as different concepts and six describe them as the same.

	K-12 education system has work readiness definition	State has defined college readiness	How college readiness is defined	How work readiness is defined	K-12 work readiness definition is different from college readiness (for states defining both concepts)
Alabama	Yes	No	--	skills	n/a
Alaska	Yes	No	--	standards	n/a
Arizona	Yes	No	--	standards	n/a
Arkansas	Yes	Yes	courses, standards, tests	courses, standards, tests	No
California	Yes	Yes	courses	standards	Yes
Colorado	No	No	--	--	--
Connecticut	Yes	No	--	skills	n/a
Delaware	No	No	--	--	--
District of Columbia	Yes	No	--	skills	n/a
Florida	No	No	--	--	--
Georgia	Yes	No	--	skills, standards	n/a
Hawaii	No	No	--	--	--
Idaho	No	No	--	--	--
Illinois	No	No	--	--	--
Indiana	Yes	Yes	courses, standards, tests	courses, standards, tests	No
Iowa	No	No	--	--	--
Kansas	No	No	--	--	--
Kentucky	No	Yes	courses, skills, standards, tests	--	n/a
Louisiana	No	No	--	--	--
Maine	No	No	--	--	--
Maryland	Yes	No	--	skills, standards	n/a
Massachusetts	Yes	No	--	standards	n/a
Michigan	Yes	Yes	courses, standards	skills, standards	Yes
Minnesota	No	Yes	standards	--	n/a
Mississippi	No	No	--	--	--
Missouri	Yes	No	--	standards	n/a
Montana	Yes	No	--	standards	n/a
Nebraska	No	No	--	--	--
Nevada	No	No	--	--	--
New Hampshire	Yes	No	--	standards	n/a
New Jersey	Yes	Yes	courses, standards	standards	Yes
New Mexico	Yes	Yes	courses, standards, tests	courses, standards, tests	No
New York	Yes	Yes	courses, standards, tests	courses, standards, tests	No
North Carolina	No	No	--	--	--

North Dakota	Yes	No	--	standards	n/a
Ohio	No	No	--	--	--
Oklahoma	No	Yes	courses, standards, tests	--	n/a
Oregon	Yes	No	--	standards	n/a
Pennsylvania	Yes	Yes	standards	standards	No
Rhode Island	No	No	--	--	--
South Carolina	Yes	Yes	courses, skills, standards	courses, tests	Yes
South Dakota	No	No	--	--	--
Tennessee	Yes	Yes	courses, skills	skills, standards	Yes
Texas	No	No	--	--	--
Utah	No	No	--	--	--
Vermont	No	No	--	--	--
Virginia	Yes	No	--	skills, standards	n/a
Washington	Yes	Yes	standards	skills, standards	No
West Virginia	Yes	Yes	courses, skills, tests	courses, skills, tests	Yes
Wisconsin	No	No	--	--	--
Wyoming	No	No	--	--	--
U.S.	26	15	--	--	6

Source: Editorial Projects in Education, 2008, available at <http://www.edweek.org/rc/2007/06/07/edcounts.html>

**Schedule of Updates & Outreach
for Colorado Model Content Standard Review**

<i>What/Who</i>	<i>When</i>	
CDE Standards Review Web page Refreshed	Every Tuesday morning thru Dec. 2009	
CEA, CASE, CASB, CCDE, CCHE, Preschool Members PTA, COSPRA	Twice a month with directors, or staff, or members every 2nd & 4th Wednesday	
Media & The CDE "Scoop"	Press releases, or editorial meetings, or reporter updates Twice a month - every 1st & 3rd Wednesday	
Subcommittees: PHASE I: Reading & Writing, Math, Science, Financial Literacy, and Music PHASE II: History, Economics, Geography, and Civics PHASE III: World Language, Physical Education, Dance, Theatre, and Visual Arts	January 10-March 28 March 28-May 16 June 20-August 22	
Stakeholder Committee Meetings	<u>2008</u> April 9, 2008 May 30, 2008 July 18, 2008 August 25, 2008 October 17, 2008 December 15, 2008	<u>2009</u> February 2, 2009 March 9, 2009 April 27, 2009 June 22, 2009 August 3, 2009 September 28, 2009 October 30, 2009 December 18, 2009
Commissioner, Forward Thinking, CDE, & Cabinet	Every two weeks 1st & 3rd Mondays - thru Dec. 2009	
CDE Calendar updated	Every week on Friday	
CDE Presentations to Colorado State Board	Monthly	
State Wide Association Conferences	Year Long	
Video / WebEX	Year Long	