

Feb. 6, 2025

Dear Superintendents and BOCES Directors,

For this Thursday update, I would like to share:

Title IX

- On February 4, the [US Department of Education released a "Dear Colleague" letter to clarify their enforcement of Title IX under the 2020 \(rather than 2024\) rules.](#)
- The [2020 rules](#) are available on both the US Department of Education website and on our website.
- We encourage you to work with your boards, legal counsel, and Title IX coordinators on this issue.

Executive Order: "Keeping Men out of Women's Sports"

- On February 5, a new federal [Executive Order related to K-12 education was released.](#)
- The order requires that the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy begin convening with athletic governing bodies within 60 days.
- We encourage you to work with your legal counsel on next steps. We are aware that the Office of Civil Rights has begun [issuing](#) investigatory notices to entities in other states.

CCSSO Statement

This week, we received the following statement from the Council for Chief State School Officers (CCSSO):

We recognize there have been news reports this week of a forthcoming executive order pertaining to the U.S. Department of Education. As a practice, CCSSO does not comment on news stories and waits until official documentation is released before conducting public analyses. However, we understand several members have questions or may be fielding inquiries.

To help address some of the questions we have received, we want to share the Statutory Framework for the U.S. Department of Education that we previously sent to state members in November 2024. This document provides an overview of the statutory framework for the U.S. Department of Education, including Department offices and principal officers that are mandated in federal statutes that would have to be amended by Congress to be changed. It

also describes the flexibility available to the executive branch to make changes in Department structure and operations without congressional action.

If an executive order is signed and published on this topic or another topic related to K-12 education, CCSSO will review and provide timely analysis to state members. Typically, executive orders direct the Secretary of Education and/or other appointed members to advise the President, formulate recommendations, and/or take certain actions within a prescribed period of time, typically 30-60-90-120 days.

Resources for Schools

The CDE website has many resources to support schools, including the [Colorado Multi-Tiered System of Supports \(COMTSS\)](#). If you feel like you need additional resources or information, please contact our Chief Communications Officer Emma Garrett-Nelson at garrett-nelson_e@cde.state.co.us.