Dyslexia Working Group

November 6, 2020 Meeting Summary

Time and Location
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Via Zoom

Attendees
Dyslexia Working Group Members: Jamie Brackney, Alex Christy, Kathleen Collins, Karin Johnson, Amanda Harris, Andrea Kamper, Karen Leopold, Kathy McCall, Laura Santerre-Lemmon, and Jennifer Urbach
Colorado Department of Education Staff: Floyd Cobb, Melissa Colsman, Ellen Hunter, Veronica Fiedler, and Paul Foster
Meeting Facilitator: Debbie Hunsaker, STRIVE Consulting

Meeting Objectives
- To learn about the status of the year 1 Dyslexia Working Group (DWG) report submitted in June
- To learn updates about the Dyslexia Pilot and provide feedback
- To review timelines and targets for the year
- To discuss the initial recommendations of dyslexia processes

Meeting Activities

Standards of Quality and Scope of Work
Meetings and Structure

The facilitator described the process for the year for the DWG meetings and small working group meetings. Team will meet with the facilitator in between the DWG meetings to determine the small working group topics based on the timelines and targets. Small working group leads will also identify potential members for each small working group based on interest, time, and expertise. The small working groups will meet, present and receive feedback on initial, substantial and ultimately final recommendations at the DWG meetings.

The facilitator reviewed the meeting dates for the year:
- November 6, 2020
- December 10, 2020
- January 7, 2021
- March 8, 2021
- May 7, 2021
Small working groups meetings will be held between each scheduled DWG meeting.

Timelines and Targets

The facilitator reviewed the timeline and targets for the 2020-2021 school year:

- **Began in Year 1, Finish in Year 2: September-December:** Identify and recommend appropriate dyslexia screening tools and processes as well as comprehensive assessments that address the recognized challenges of dyslexia, including phonological processing, phonemic awareness, and decoding and encoding skills.
- **Year 2: November-March:** Identify and recommend components of dyslexia awareness training for Colorado educators, including the content, target audience, time frame for training, and projected cost.
- **Year 2: January-May:** Identify and recommend educator training for in-state approved programs of preparation for teachers and alternative teacher programs and recommended training for current educators, based on effective practices in other states, as well as recommendations from state and national organizations focusing on literacy.
- **Year 2: September-May:** Provide recommendations to the department concerning the design and implementation of the pilot program. The working group shall analyze and integrate, as appropriate, the work and recommendations of other previous and ongoing state initiatives related to improving the identification and support of students who have dyslexia.

CDE Discussion and Sharing

DWG Reporting: Melissa Colsman discussed the DWG Report presentation to the State Board of Education and informed the group of READ Act Updates.

Dyslexia Pilot Program: Applications have been launched and will be accepted through November 30, 2020.
http://www.cde.state.co.us/coloradoliteracy/coloradodyslezxiapilotprogram
- The program will include up to five schools who will participate in the one-and-a-half-year program from January 2021 through June 2022.
- Schools will receive no-cost training and support for K-3 teachers and leadership and support staff in utilizing the pilot identification process for markers of dyslexia (i.e., READ Act approved screening assessments)
- All pilot program activities will be communicated and delivered by the University of Oregon pilot program teams

Subcommittee Presentations
Small Working Group

The DWG small working group presented four objectives and discussed guiding questions:
- Objective 1: Develop a graphic outlining specific steps in the process of dyslexia identification

that references appropriate age-level screener options

- Objective 2: Develop a concise list of recommended screeners to pair with graphic/checklist

- Objective 3: Develop an/or adopt a grade-specific checklist to collect formative teacher in put in learners

- Objective 4: Develop and/or adopt an age-specific checklist to collect family history and input in children

The small working group will take the feedback given from the DWG and research more and present their findings at the DWG December meeting.

Recommendations
No final recommendations were made as a result of this meeting session.