



**PWR Endorsement Diploma Workgroup
Meeting Notes**
Lowry Campus
Meeting Date: April 19, 2018
Meeting Time: 10:00am-2:00pm

No.	Discussion	Initiator
	<p>Facilitators: Andy Tucker, CDE, and Carl Einhaus, CDHE</p> <p>Attendees: Ron Marostica, Sterling, RE-1; Elise Hauer, Adams 12; Tammy Ward, Community College System; Luis Sandoval, MSU Denver; Jef Fugita, Jeffco; Diana Zakhem, Englewood; Sheila Potorff, Poudre; Gabriel Castano, Johnson & Wales; Kim Medina, Colorado School of Mines; Colleen Newman, University of Colorado/Boulder; Renise Walker, CDE & CWDC; Cori Dreger, Lulu Buck, Joanna Bruno, and Fumnanya Camara: CDE</p>	
	<p>Welcome and Recap from last meeting</p> <p>Guiding Legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cap4K – “Preschool to Postsecondary Education Alignment” included the first mention of the PWR Endorsed Diploma – an incentive and a stamp of readiness: C.R.S 22-7-1009 & 22-7-1017 • SB17-272 – “Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Indicator” <p>Review: Please reference notes of this workgroup, Feb and Mar 8, 2018. These notes include a discussion of the history of the endorsement, Graduation Guidelines, the New Admission Policy (begins fall 2019) from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, and a report and presentation on the High School Metrics of Postsecondary Readiness from Education Commission of the States (measures of PWR). Predictors of Student Success, Colorado Admission Policy: mid 50% ranges, Selection of Resident Freshman Merit Scholarships, Developmental Education Policy at CDHE, SB17-123: Diploma Endorsement for Biliteracy, HB17-1201: The STEM Endorsement</p> <p>Guiding Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the compelling reason to offer this endorsement? And what does it mean for students? • Who is the audience? • What are indicators? If Graduation Guidelines is the minimum, what are other indicators that predict success and credential completion for students in careers, the military, and/or college? • Could the PWR Endorsement work with other legislated endorsements from 2017: SB17-123: Diploma Endorsement for Biliteracy, HB17-1201: The STEM Endorsement 	<p>Andy Tucker, Director, Office of Post- secondary Readiness, CDE</p>
	<p>Criteria for a PWR Endorsed Diploma</p> <p>The group considered possible criteria for the PWR endorsement, which included: Graduation Guidelines (GG) menu with higher levels of achievement + hours of work-based learning experience + minimum GPA</p> <p>Questions that the groups considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are all options equitable for all Colorado districts? • What to do about scores that are the same for both GG and PWR endorsement? • Should concurrent enrollment include a graduation requirement? • Need for additional subject areas? • Need for additional measures? • Need for additional criteria? • Can any of the measures be “district determined?” 	<p>Andy Tucker</p>

- Can any additional criteria be “district determined?”
- Is this tracking?
- Who are the stakeholders?

Small Group Discussion: comments and questions:

- Do these criteria meet workforce needs? Yes, encourages work-based learning; but can't require certifications
- Does PWR Endorsed Diploma supersede 4.0 GPA?
- Could higher assessments mean that higher education institutions give credit for a college course (i.e. higher ACT or SAT score in English = college credit in Eng 121)?
- Should there be a minimum grade for Concurrent Enrollment?
- Districts could create pathways for Associates in 4 years + ASCENT if necessary
- Work-based learning opportunities are included
- Encourages partnerships with institutions and businesses
- CTE programs could be included with PWR endorsed diploma
- PWR Endorsed Diploma (at high school level) could help students dive deeper and understand what they want to do for college/career– much earlier; students is focused on specific skill
- Could STEM endorsement model fit PWR endorsement?
- Competencies are hard to measure – subjective
- Required capstone? Could include work-based learning, alternative demonstrations
- If bar is set for number of courses required, small districts may struggle to meet requirements due to FTE or master schedules.
- Focus should be on career first
- Is higher bar high enough?

What is the value of a PWR Endorsed Diploma?

Group divided into constituent groups:

K-12

- Could serve as an incentive for students to graduate
- Could be an incentive for “non-traditional” college-bound students to enroll in college
- Could push students to apply to more selective colleges

Higher ED

- Academic preparation could lead to higher retention/graduation rates from colleges/universities
- Could curb under-matching
- Could provide students earlier/more appropriate choice of major + save time + save money

Workforce

- Language: adjust for community/employers
- Skills: capstone, stem competencies, work-based learning
- **The endorsement is not the value added, it's the experience that's valuable**

Groups reformed and each created a VALUE PROPOSITION:

1. PWR Endorsed Diploma emboldens students to pursue their full potential. The endorsement provides a “signal” to the student, parents, postsecondary institutions and employers that the student has demonstrated mastery of academic skills necessary for completion of a four-year

	<p>degree and a mastery of technical and essential skills required for success in the workplace.</p> <p>2. Acquiring a PWR Endorsed Diploma guarantees that a student has demonstrated workforce readiness which may lead to a job upon graduation. Will also guarantee admission to several Colorado colleges and increases admission opportunities for the selective/highly selective colleges.</p> <p>See video - Flipping the College Decision Paradigm - https://vimeo.com/174407736</p> <p>Mixed groups created criteria based on pathway. Students must successfully:</p> <p>Group 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meet or exceed district graduation expectations • complete a coherent sequence of at least 4 pathway courses as determined at the local level, with a 3.0 GPA or higher • complete a 100 hour work-based learning experience • Complete Capstone: Research - a topic to dig deeper into learning; Event Planning – for a passion area; Experiment – conduct an experiment in an area of interest; Service Learning – create a service learning opportunity to enhance our community; Internship – to gain more awareness, understanding, and knowledge about a career <p>Group 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meet or exceed district graduation expectation • complete a coherent sequence pathway courses as determined at the local level, with a 3.0 GPA or higher or • CTE Approved Programs or • Student choice for various ways of demonstration or • Capstone - and/or work based learning, and • Demonstration of Essential Skills 	
	<p>Next time</p> <p>Start with the value proposition Consider samples that incorporate a student’s pathway</p>	