KEY COMPONENTS OF COLORADO’S SINGLE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

- All schools and districts receive performance results based on the state’s School and District Performance Framework report, which includes data on academic achievement, academic growth, growth gaps, and post-secondary readiness indicators.
- All schools and districts complete the Unified Improvement Plan process to analyze their data more completely, and implement continuous improvement.
- Schools assigned Turnaround or Priority Improvement plans (the lowest performance levels) are required to make significant changes in practice. No school may remain in Turnaround or Priority Improvement for more than five years, per state law.
- Districts rated as Turnaround or Priority Improvement (the lowest performance levels) are required to make significant changes in practice. No district may remain in Turnaround or Priority Improvement for more than five years, per state law.
- A multi-tiered system of support is targeted towards helping schools and districts improve in order to ensure all students graduate from high school college- and career-ready.
- A dynamic and interactive data reporting system, SchoolView.org, creates transparency through easy access to the state’s comprehensive K-12 data, regardless of whether the data are included in the accountability system or not.

KEY CHANGES TO ACCOUNTABILITY IN COLORADO WITH WAIVER APPROVAL

- Ratings on the state School and District Performance Frameworks will replace Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) determinations as the accountability measure for Title I schools and districts.
- The performance frameworks will be amended to include CELApro Growth metrics and disaggregated graduation rates.
- Title I Schools will no longer be identified separately for School Improvement, Corrective Action, or Restructuring. Title I schools will be identified for additional support through state law, and the School Performance Frameworks.
- Title I districts will no longer be identified separately for Program Improvement or Corrective Action. Title I districts will be identified for additional support through the District Performance Frameworks.
- Title I schools on Turnaround or Priority Improvement plans will offer public school choice and supplemental educational services (SES).
- Additional supports to Title I schools with low achievement for historically disadvantaged groups of students will be eligible for additional assistance.
- Title I funds may continue to be used for school or district improvement efforts.

KEY CHANGES MADE TO COLORADO WAIVER REQUEST DURING REVISION PROCESS

- Priority schools are defined as the state’s Tiered Intervention Grant (TIG) schools.
- Focus schools are identified as Title I schools with Turnaround or Priority Improvement plans, that also have low achievement for historically disadvantaged student groups.
- Only Title I schools on Priority Improvement and Turnaround will be required to offer public school choice and supplemental educational services (SES). Previously, CDE proposed this requirement for all schools on Priority Improvement and Turnaround (not just Title I schools), but this provision of the application was rejected by the USDE as inconsistent with Title I law.

DECISIONS STILL PENDING

- CDE is also pursuing a Title III AMAO waiver request to bring its English proficiency assessment results into the state accountability system (just as the main NCLB waiver did for the academic assessment results). Success in this waiver request would further align the state and federal accountability systems for Colorado.
- The specific policies and details around public school choice and SES will be established after public comment and feedback from stakeholders.

2/13/2012, CDE Accountability Unit