



DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Colorado Commission on Higher Education

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News Release

***Change of Location: CAP4K Town Hall Meeting in Pueblo
Next Week on Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness***

The Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Department of Higher Education will jointly host two town hall meetings next week in Alamosa and Pueblo as part of the ongoing effort to establish a description of “postsecondary and workforce readiness.”

The location has changed for the Pueblo meeting, which will be facilitated by Executive Director David Skaggs.

The meetings will be held:

- Wednesday, April 15, from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Adams State College Student Union Building, Rooms 308-309, 208 Edgemont Blvd., Alamosa.
- Thursday, April 16, from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Pueblo Convention Center (Ballroom C-West), 320 Central Main St., Pueblo.

Educators, students, parents, business and community members and interested citizens are invited to the meetings.

The gatherings in Alamosa and Pueblo are two in a series of 13 statewide meetings planned to solicit a broad spectrum of community thinking. The work was launched by Senate Bill 08-212, the "Preschool to Postsecondary Education Alignment Act" also known as the Colorado Achievement Plan for Kids (CAP4K).

The town hall forums will focus on such questions as:

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

S.B. 08-212 requires that the Colorado State Board of Education and the Colorado Commission on Higher Education adopt a description of "postsecondary and workforce readiness" by Dec. 15, 2009.

Further, S.B. 08-212 seeks to establish a seamless pathway from preschool into college or the workplace. Essential to that pathway is an understanding of what it means to be ready for education or the workforce after high school and a plan to ensure that students take the necessary courses and master the content to do so.

The description of postsecondary and workforce readiness will provide a bookend to a description of "school readiness," which was adopted by the Colorado State Board of Education in December, 2008.

These descriptions of school readiness and postsecondary and workforce readiness will guide the final selection of new statewide model content standards, which are being revised for the first time since they were adopted 13 years ago.

Similar community meetings are scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m. for Wednesday, April 22, in Sterling; Tuesday, May 5 in Steamboat Springs; Thursday, May 14, in Glenwood Springs; and Tuesday, May 19, in Durango. Additional meetings are also being planned in Limon (rescheduled from March 26) and Boulder. Precise locations are to be announced.

For more information, contact Mark Stevens, 303-866-3898, or Megan McDermott, 303-

866-2334, in the CDE Office of Communications, or John Karakoulakis, 303-866-4742, at the Department of Higher Education. To sign up for the CDE e-mail news service, please visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/index.html>.

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