

Colorado Department of Education – Communications Office  
201 East Colfax Ave.  
Room 103  
Denver, CO 80203  
Phone: 303-866-3898  
Fax: 303-866-6938

**May 14, 2009**

## **News Release**

### ***CAP4K Town Hall Meeting in Durango Tuesday, May 19 on Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness***

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

The meeting is 5–7 p.m. Tuesday, May 19 at the DoubleTree Hotel Durango, 501 Camino del Rio.

Educators, students, parents, business and community members, and interested citizens are invited to the meeting – the tenth in a series of 13 statewide meetings 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 forum 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 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 the description of “school readiness” that was adopted by the state board in December 2008.

These descriptions of school readiness and postsecondary and workforce readiness will guide the final selection of new statewide academic standards, which are being revised for the first time since they were adopted in 1994.

Similar community meetings are scheduled from 5–7 p.m. Wednesday, May 27 in Boulder and Wednesday, June 3 in Limon.

**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>.

# # #