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News Release

Assessment Stakeholder Committee Will Meet Friday, Dec. 11 In Denver

The Assessment Stakeholders Committee, working in collaboration with the Colorado Department of Education will gather for the third time on Friday, Dec. 11 in the ongoing effort to redesign the assessment system that the state uses to measure student achievement and growth. This is the third of six meetings.

The meeting will be held at the Westin Tabor Center (1672 Lawrence St.) in Denver from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Dec. 11 agenda includes:

- A look at the revised content standards
- Video interview with Roger Sampson, president of Education Commission of the States
- Framework for assessment system redesign
- Subcommittee selection process
- The Colorado Growth Model: New Directions in the Use of Large Scale Assessment Data
- Growth and assessments
- Reaction – large group discussion

- Next steps

On Oct. 26, the Assessment Stakeholder Committee convened in Denver for their first meeting. At this initial meeting, stakeholders accepted the charge to provide advice to the commissioner of the education and state board of education concerning a redesign of the system of assessment in Colorado.

The work of this subcommittee will culminate in March 2010. According to Senate Bill 08-212, the state board will give approval for a plan to redesign assessments by Dec. 2010. The new statewide assessment system is expected to be implemented for the first time in the 2011-2012 school year and will follow the rollout of the new state model content standards.

In addition to incorporating the expectations of the updated state content standards, the new assessment system will also meet requirements of S.B. 08-212, which calls for establishing a seamless pathway from preschool into college or the workplace. S.B. 08-212 is also known as the "Preschool to Postsecondary Education Alignment Act" or the Colorado Achievement Plan for Kids (CAP4K).

That legislation called for both school readiness and postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments.

The stakeholder advisory group is framing the issues related to the current state assessment system (the Colorado Student Assessment Program), identifying suggested improvements and defining the work of potential subcommittee groups.

Stakeholders include superintendents, chief academic officers, university professors, community members, business representatives, assessment directors, representatives from the early childhood community, military representatives, local board members and many others.

S.B. 08-212 is also the legislation that required the Colorado Department of Education to revise the content standards for 13 subjects. That process is nearing completion. Proposed standards are due to be presented to the Colorado State Board of Education in December 2009.

For more information visit

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/asmtrev/home.htm>

For more information, contact Mark Stevens, 303-866-3898, or Megan McDermott, 303-866-2334, in the CDE Office of Communications. 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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