cde

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Colorado Commission on Higher Education

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News Release

Town Hall Meetings in Colorado Springs and Fort Morgan This Week Continue Next Phase Of CAP4K And Assessment Revision Effort

The Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Department of Higher Education will jointly host town hall meetings in Colorado Springs on Tuesday, Jan. 26 and on Thursday, Jan. 28 in Fort Morgan, as part of the ongoing effort to redesign the state assessment system.

The meeting in Colorado Springs will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at Pikes Peak Community College, Rampart Range Campus, Rampart Range Room W101, 11195 Highway 83.

The meeting in Fort Morgan will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at Morgan Community College, Founders Room, 920 Barlow Road.

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

The statewide meetings 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 be broken up into two sets. One set of meetings will focus on postsecondary and workforce readiness and secondary level assessments. All meetings will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Those meeting dates/locations are:

- Tuesday, Feb. 16 in Grand Junction, location TBD
- Wednesday, Feb. 17 in Gunnison, location TBD
- Wednesday, Feb. 24 in Alamosa, location TBD
- Thursday, March 4 in Pueblo, location TBD
- Wednesday, March 31 in Greeley, location TBD

The second set of meetings will focus on school readiness and primary level assessments. They will also be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at these locations:

- Tuesday, Jan. 26 - Pikes Peak Community College, Rampart Range Campus, Rampart Range Room W101, 11195 Highway 83, Colorado Springs
- Thursday, Jan. 28 – Morgan Community College, Founders Room, 920 Barlow Road, Fort Morgan
- Thursday, Feb. 4, 2010 in Limon, Morgan Community College, Limon Center, 477 D Avenue, Limon, CO, 80828
- Tuesday, Feb. 23 – Cortez, location TBD
- Wednesday, March 17 in Steamboat Springs, location TBD
- Wednesday, March 24 in Glenwood Springs, location TBD

A schedule of these meetings can be found on either department's Web site:
http://highered.colorado.gov/Academics/cap4k/cap4k.html
http://www.cde.state.co.us/ASMTRev/publictour.htm

Earlier this year, in accordance with S.B. 08-212 (the Preschool to Postsecondary Alignment Act), the Colorado Departments of Education (CDE) and Higher Education (DHE) co-sponsored 13 regional town hall meetings around the state that focused on "postsecondary and workforce readiness," and the skills and competencies Colorado students need to succeed after high school.

This legislation, sometimes called the Colorado Achievement Plan for Kids, or CAP4K, was enacted in 2008. In addition to creating a description of what it means to be postsecondary and workforce ready (PWR), it requires Colorado to revise and align 13 Model Content Standards. The PWR description was

adopted in June 2009, and the standards were adopted on December 10, 2009.

In addition to the updated state content standards, the Colorado Department of Education is currently revising the new state assessment system. This new system will reflect the expectations of the updated standards and the requirements of CAP4K, which calls for both school readiness and Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness assessments.

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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