



DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Colorado Commission on Higher Education

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News Release

***Town Hall Meeting in Steamboat Springs Next Week
Continues Next Phase Of CAP4K And Assessment Revision
Effort***

The Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Department of Higher Education will jointly host a town hall meeting in Steamboat Springs on Wednesday, March 17, as part of the ongoing effort to redesign the state assessment system.

The meeting will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at Steamboat Springs Community Center, 1605 Lincoln Ave. The meeting will focus on school readiness and primary level assessments.

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).

To accommodate in-depth conversation on each end of the system, the 2009 – 2010 tour is split into two parts: one devoted to school readiness and assessments for primary grades; and one devoted to postsecondary and workforce readiness and assessments for secondary grades.

The final postsecondary and workforce readiness and secondary assessment meeting will take place from 5 to 7 p.m., on:

- **Wednesday, March 31 in Greeley** at UNC—University Center, Columbine A, 2045 10th Ave.

The final school readiness and primary (P-6) level assessments will also be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on:

- **Wednesday, March 24 in Glenwood Springs** at Glenwood Springs Community Center, Red Mountain Road, 100 Wulfsohn Road.

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>

Senate Bill 212 was enacted in 2008. Last year the Colorado State Board of Education adopted descriptions of what it means to be both school ready and postsecondary and workforce ready. In addition, the new Colorado Academic Standards were adopted on December 10, 2009.

Under CAP4K, Colorado is required to adopt a revised system of assessments that aligns with the updated state content standards. The revised system must include both school readiness and postsecondary and workforce readiness assessments; summative assessment; and the assessments for special populations (English Language Learners and students on an Individualized Education Plan).

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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