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News Release

Assessment Review Subcommittees Will Meet For The First Time On Saturday, July 17 In Pueblo

CDE's Office of Standards and Assessments announced today that the Assessment Subcommittees will meet on Saturday, July 17 in Pueblo in order to make recommendations to the Assessment Stakeholders Committee to shape Colorado's next generation of student assessment system.

The meeting will take place at Colorado State University – Pueblo, at the Occhiato Center, 2200 Bonforte Blvd.

The goals of the meeting include: provide background information which leads to the revision of the Colorado Assessment System, understand the structure of the revision process including goals and timelines, identify the key players involved in the assessment system revision and their roles and responsibilities and establish subcommittee norms, goals and specific assessment expectations.

Agenda highlights include:

- 9 a.m. – Welcome, Background and Introductions
- 12:30 p.m. – Subcommittee Breakout Meetings
- 3:30 p.m. – Large Group Debrief
- 4 p.m. – Adjourn

Ninety individuals have been selected from a pool of more than 400 applicants. Each subcommittee will be charged with outlining the design specifications which the state will base its proposal for a new,

unified assessment system. The subcommittees are focused on: assessments for school readiness, postsecondary and workforce readiness, formative and interim (ongoing) and summative (CSAP replacement). One subcommittee will also work on new assessments for special populations of students.

For a list of selected subcommittee members and continued updates, visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/ASMTRev/Subcommittees.htm>

Background

According to Senate Bill 08-212, the Colorado Department of Education was to revise the content standards for 13 subjects. The Colorado State Board of Education accomplished this goal last year by formally adopting the new content standards on Dec. 11, 2009. By Dec. 2010, the state board will give approval for a plan to revise the state assessment system. The new system is expected to be implemented for the first time in the 2013-2014 school year.

There will be no changes to the 2011 spring assessment to allow districts and teachers adequate time to familiarize themselves with the new academic standards. The transition begins with 2012's spring summative test, which will assess only new standards and use only aligned and relevant items from the CSAP. This will ensure students receive no "surprises," but instead are assessed with a familiar testing process.

The 2013 spring summative test will introduce a revised state assessment that draws from existing CSAP items aligned to the new standards, as well as new items developed or purchased to cover additional content within the standards. (A new contract will be in place with a vendor employed to develop and deliver the new state summative assessment.)

In spring 2014, students will take the new state summative assessment.

Once the assessment system has been identified, CAP4K calls for the state board and Colorado Commission on Higher Education to review and consider the state's graduation guidelines, criteria for endorsed diplomas, and alignment with the higher education admission placement tests.

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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