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News Release

Assessment Review Subcommittees Will Meet Saturday, Aug. 14

The next meeting of the Assessment Subcommittees will take place on Saturday, Aug. 14 in the Denver Tech Center. The five subcommittees make recommendations to the Assessment Stakeholders Committee to shape Colorado's next generation of assessments.

The meeting will take place at the Denver Tech Center Doubletree Hotel, 7801 E. Orchard Rd., in Greenwood Village. It will begin with a speech from Commissioner of Education Dwight D. Jones.

The goals of the meeting include: analyze and discuss assessment research and exemplars from national and international designs to determine and clarify options in order to inform subcommittee recommendations; review the template and begin to draw out concepts and work plans; provide information on the national assessment activity and how it fits in with Colorado's revision and implementation timeline.

Agenda highlights include:

- 9 a.m. – Welcome and Overview of Goals
- 9:15 a.m. – The Commitment to CAP4K and an Aligned System, Commissioner of Education Dwight D. Jones
- 9:45 p.m. – Subcommittee Breakouts

- 12:30 p.m. – Large Group Information Session
- 1 p.m. – Subcommittee Breakouts
- 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 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.

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

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