Colorado Content Collaboratives

Cohort II—Meeting One

Pueblo, Colorado—July 23 and 24, 2012

Goals of the Meeting:

- Provide purpose and context of the collaboratives' work
- Training on the assessment review process
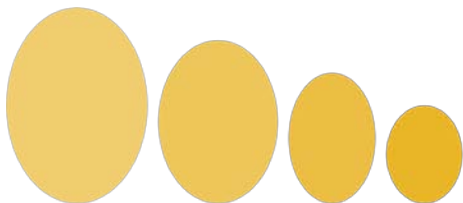- Establish communication protocols

Day One—July 23, 2012

Introduction

Jo O'Brien, Assistant Commissioner for Assessment, Research, and Evaluation, welcomed the Cohort II Collaboratives which include Comprehensive Health, Mathematics, Physical Education, World Languages and Science. In addition, Jo welcomed to the process the Colorado Community College System, Career and Technical Education (CTE) cluster areas which include: Business & Public Administration; Agriculture, Natural Resources & Energy; STEM, Arts, Design & Information Technology; Skilled trades & Technical Sciences; Health Sciences & Public Safety; and, Hospitality, Human Services & Education. Scott Stump, Dean of Career and Technical Education, represented the members of CTE and expressed their enthusiasm as they begin the process of identifying and reviewing assessments for their content areas.

Please refer to the Cohort II Meeting 1 PowerPoint presentation at http://www.cde.state.co.us/ContentCollaboratives/Cohort2.asp for full details on this section of the agenda.

Educator Effectiveness Overview

Tricia Miller, Director of Race to the Top at CDE, provided more context for the Cohort II Collaborative members by presenting an overview of Senate Bill 191 and the foundation for the development of the assessment banks that the Collaboratives will be working to construct. Please refer to the CC SB 91 Update for Pueblo July 2012 PowerPoint presentation at http://www.cde.state.co.us/ContentCollaboratives/Cohort2.asp for full details on this section of the agenda.

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Facilitated Meeting Structure

Jeff Wein, Lead Facilitator for the Cohort II Content Collaboratives, provided an overview of the group process and decision making tools to be used by the Collaboratives. For Cohort II, Content Specialists will also serve as Collaborative facilitators and will be receiving additional training prior to the second round of meetings in Loveland in September. Please refer to the Cohort II Meeting 1 PowerPoint presentation at http://www.cde.state.co.us/ContentCollaboratives/Cohort2.asp for full details on this section of the agenda.
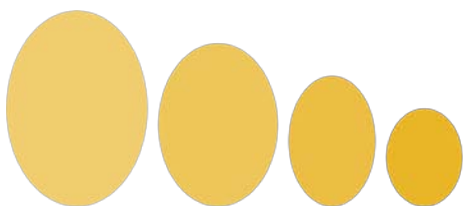
Understanding Assessment

Dr. Jeri Thompson from the Center for Assessment provided the first of her two presentations. Dr. Thompson provided the Collaboratives with a comprehensive yet concise overview of the types of assessments to be included in our reviews, along with examples and more details. Participants were then asked to work in groups to create a chart that responds to the following:

1) Use specific evidence from the webinars, your teaching experience, and from the assessments to determine if the assessments are formative, interim, or summative. Can they be used for more than one purpose? How do you know?

2) In what way does the assessment focus on authenticity, creativity, problem-solving, transference to other content areas, real-world use of data and tools? Why does this matter?

3) Consider the information an educator can gain from this assessment – What could be shared with colleagues, parents, and students that would indicate a students' learning of content, process, transference, and/or problem solving?

All participants then participated in a "gallery walk" to review each other's responses. Discussion of reactions and questions followed.

Breakouts into Content Collaboratives

Participants completed Day One by gathering in their respective meeting rooms to participate in several activities designed to allow Collaborative members to get to know one another. The activities were facilitated by each Collaborative's content specialist.

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Day Two—July 24, 2012

Using the Content Review Tool

Dr. Thompson opened Day Two with a comprehensive description of the Content Review Tool which will henceforth constitute the bulk of the work of the Collaboratives. Please refer to Dr. Thompson's PowerPoint Presentation at http://www.cde.state.co.us/ContentCollaboratives/Cohort2.asp.

The Content Review Tool requires analysis of an assessment in four key areas:

1. Alignment to Content and Rigor

2. Scoring Criteria

3. Fair and Unbiased

4. Opportunity to Learn

Breakout into Content Collaboratives

Following Dr. Thompson's second presentation, Collaborative members returned to their meeting rooms to begin using the Content Review Tool on content-specific assessments provided for them as samples. The Collaboratives initially worked in grade levels/spans to begin this work. Collaborative members shared one another's reviews and engaged in deep and rich conversations aimed at furthering their understanding of how to use the Content Review Tool, as well as to discuss common definitions and areas where there may be different interpretations or perspectives. These conversations will continue when the Collaboratives reconvene in September.

Reconvene in Plenary Session/Close

All participants reconvened to discuss their initial experience with the Content Review Tool and to ask questions of Dr. Thompson. The focus of the section of the agenda was to clarify use of the tool now that the participants had some initial experience with it.

The Pueblo meetings concluded with information about the location of the September 19 & 20, 2012, meetings (Embassy Suite in Loveland) and the fact that the individual researchers for each content area will be present to provide the assessments they have identified for each area.

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