



Accountability Working Group (AWG)

January 29, 2021

Plans for Today

Purpose: Overview of our past work, plans for the work ahead, and input needed today

Time:	Content
9:30 - 10AM	Welcome, Introductions, & Icebreaker
10:00 - 10:15	ESSA Addendum Process
10:15 - 11:15	Preliminary Discussion: Brainstorm on Potential Request to Reconsider Process
11:15 - 11:45	Subcommittees: 1) Purpose and Charge, 2) Desired Outcome and Deliverables, 3) Logistics and Timeline, and 4) Request To Reconsider
11:45 - 11:55	Smartsheet Dashboard Demo!
11:55 - Noon	Future Meetings, Next Steps, and Homework

Welcome and Introductions



- Name
- Organization
- What is your top priority for addressing accountability issues in the next few months?

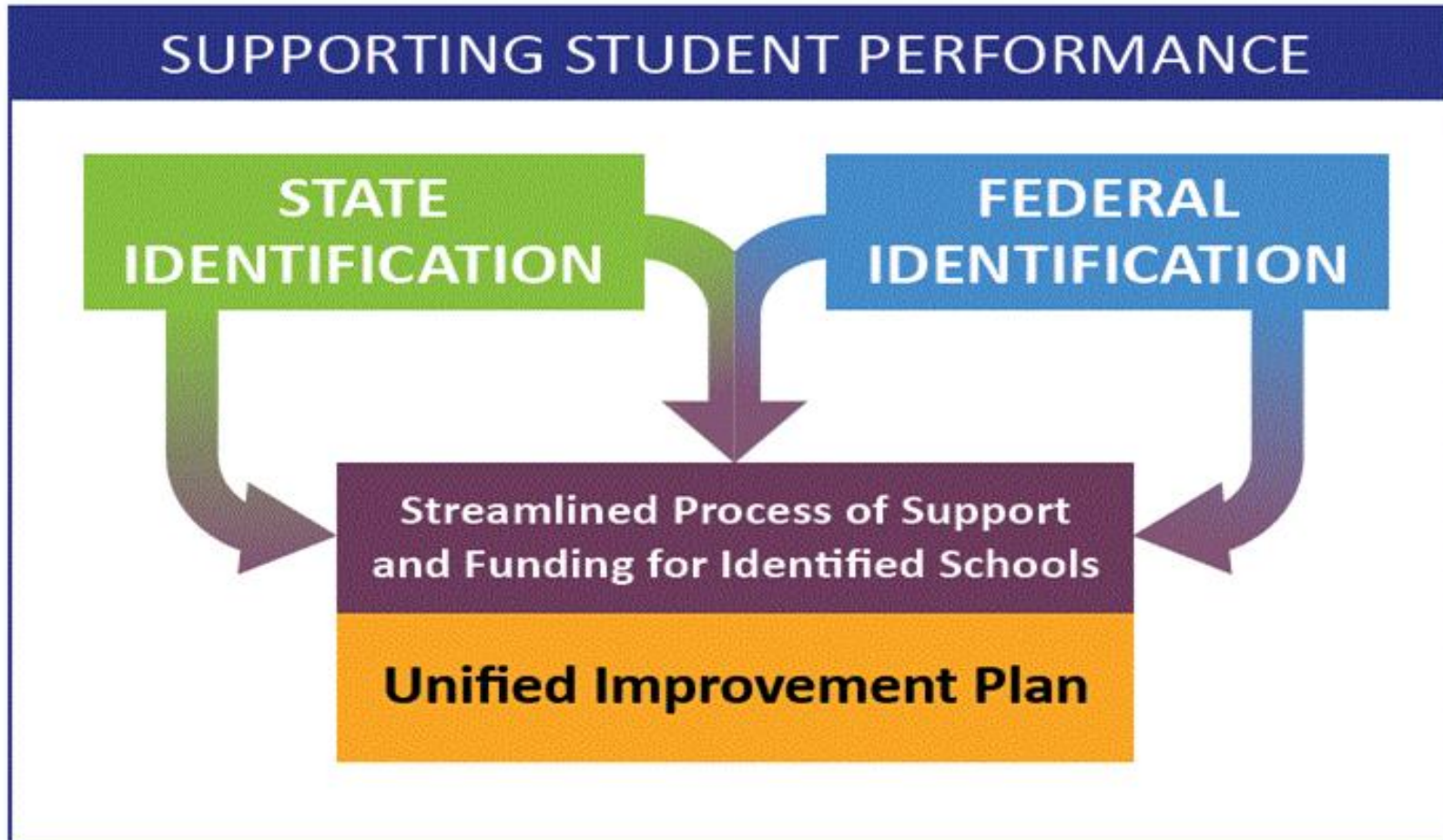




- The Accountability Work Group (AWG) serves as a policy advisory group to explore ideas in support of federal and state accountability policies (e.g., Every Student Succeeds Act implementation, state accountability during the pause year) and make recommendations to the state. This group will consider input from other stakeholders, when available and appropriate, in developing recommendations.
- It was first convened by the Commissioner of Education in 2014 to gather input on improving the state accountability performance framework reports. In 2016, the focus shifted to serving as the ESSA Accountability Spoke. It is now time to repurpose the group back to providing input on all accountability matters (both state and federal).



COLORADO ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM



ESSA Addendum



- Addendum -
 - Streamlined process for updating our methodology for identification of schools for ESSA support and improvement
 - Address how methodology would differ due to no spring 2020 state assessment
 - Could delay CS and ATS identification, but not TS
 - Due 2/1/21
- We have incorporated your feedback into the Addendum.
- Have not yet posted for public comment.
- January 19, 2021 - USDE Communication
 - Can now request to delay TS identification
 - Could submit after 2/2/21

(but still recommended that we do)
- January 26, 2021 - USDE Communication
 - Extending 2/1/21 due date until further notice





Should we request to delay TS identification along with CS identification as well?

What concerns do you have about delaying TS identification by one year?

Preliminary Discussion: Brainstorm on Potential Request To Reconsider



- Representative group met Aug-Nov 2020
- Provided recommendations on
 - State assessments in spring 2021
 - Accountability, accreditation and educator evaluation
- <http://www.cde.state.co.us/safeschools/covid-stakeholder-group>

- Recommendations shared with Commissioner and policymakers
- Implications for statute, state board rules and state level practices
- May have impact on requests for federal waivers

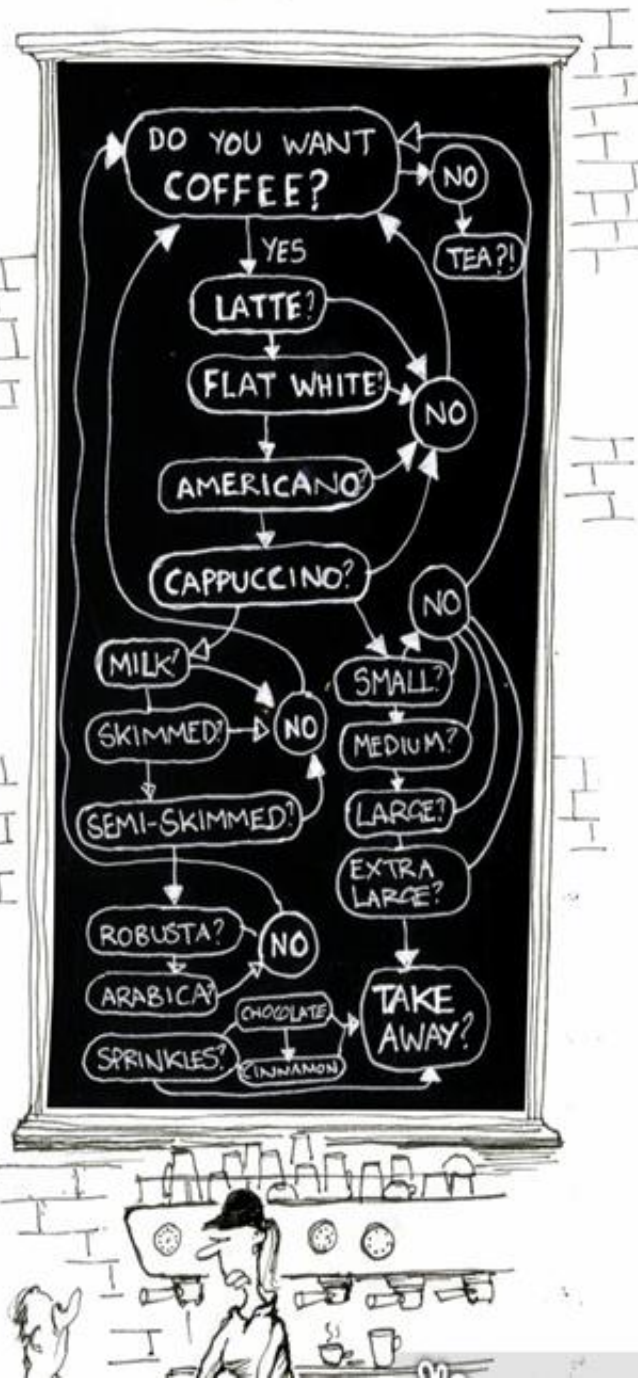
At Consensus

- Assessments: Administer PSAT/SAT in spring 2021, No CMAS Social Studies or Science
- Accountability: Pause performance frameworks in 2021-22. Continue accreditation and improvement planning.
- Educator Effectiveness: 100% professional practices in 2020-21

Not at Consensus

- Assessments: Administer CMAS ELA and Math
- Public reporting of any state assessment data (including growth)

Setting the Stage



- A lot is at play on the policy front (e.g., state legislature, state board)
- As a thought exercise: What if statute is passed for a year 2 accountability pause that allows for a request to reconsider process?
- No decisions have been made. CDE is only gathering input from the field.
- Potential parameters for an adjusted R2R:
 - High bar based upon compelling evidence
 - Balance with current messages of learning loss due to COVID
 - Cannot fully exit schools/districts from Performance Watch without a performance framework
 - Keep improvement work and support moving forward

Relax and put on your thinking cap. This is complicated stuff.

Possible Path for Accountability Adjustments During Accountability Pause Year 2 (2021-22)

DRAFT – For Discussion Only

Performance
Improvement



Request to Reconsider

- Technical fixes only and non-performance related adjustments

Performance Watch

~~Performance/
Improvement
– On Watch~~

Priority
Improvement
Turnaround



If representative state assessment data are available, use traditional request to reconsider approach

If state data is not available or representative, use an adjusted body of evidence:

- **Promising data:** Local academic and non-academic, fidelity to administration

AND

- **Strong plan:** Approved UIP with strong research-based strategies

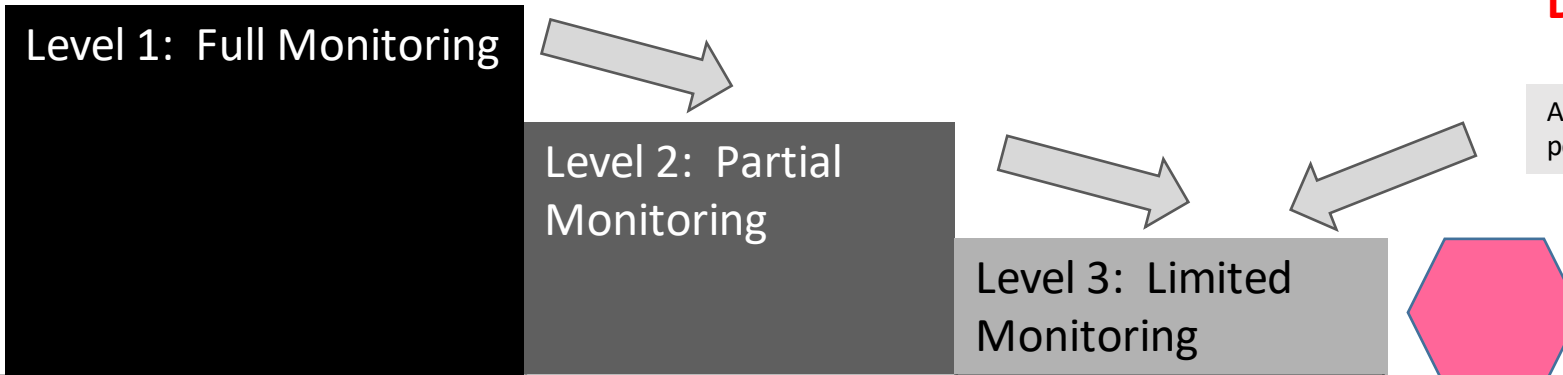
AND

- **Solid implementation:** Documented through an external review (State Review Panel)



Possible Path Continued: Exiting Performance Watch during Accountability Pause (2021-22)

DRAFT – For Discussion Only



Allow districts to opt schools into performance watch?

Exit Performance Watch!

Who?	Schools/districts on clock with SBE directed action	a. Schools/districts on clock Y1-Y5 without directed action b. On Watch with directed action	Schools/districts On Watch without directed action
If R2R approved	Retire directed action (with SBE approval?), remain on clock, move to level 2	a. Change plan type to improvement On Watch, move to level 3 b. Retire directed action, move to level 3	Do we allow anyone to fully exit without a framework? We are thinking not, but let's discuss.
Required Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of directed action - Progress monitoring with SBE, CDE and SRP - Annual review of UIP - Public notification and hearing of plan type and plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual review of UIP - Public notification and hearing of plan type and plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual review of UIP
Available Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School Improvement grants - Assigned Support Coordinator - Designed school improvement services 		



Brainstorming Activity:

- Brainstorm Questions:
 - What problems could this solve?
 - What challenges do you foresee?
 - What is missing?
- Steps:
 - Solo brainstorm time - add sticky notes to the Jamboard (5 minutes)
 - Breakout groups to discuss (20 minutes)
 - Report out to the full group (10 minutes)
- Jamboard:
https://jamboard.google.com/d/12z1deDdeIuaYSPETMNSo9Hd6Bka5WaH8wA4hf_mHbfFQ/viewer

Subcommittees

Moving the Work Forward

- Divide and Conquer!
 - Subcommittees
- Multiple opportunities for input for everyone!
- Alternating meetings
 - Meet every two weeks
 - Second Friday of the month - Subcommittees
 - Last Friday of the month - Full AWG
 - Share-out / present work of the subcommittees
 - Opportunity for providing input on other subcommittees' work



- Estimated Timeline
 - **January/February** - Review of prior AWG work and work time
 - **March/April** - Subcommittees develop recommendations and make final revisions
 - **May** - Subcommittees make final recommendations
 - **June** - AWG makes final recommendations
 - **July/August** - CDE makes final edits made to amendment and submitted for public comment
 - **September** - Amendment submitted to State of Colorado
 - **October** - Amendment submitted to U.S. Department of Education

Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Lowest 5% Subcommittee



- Explore ideas and make a final recommendation to the State and Committee of Practitioners regarding the “more rigorous State-determined action, such as the implementation of interventions” that shall result for schools identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Lowest 5% that do not meet exit criteria within the State-determined number of years (not to exceed four years).
- Review ESSA requirements, previous work of the AWG, and stakeholder feedback to provide a final recommendation regarding pathways for more-rigorous actions, including factors to be considered (e.g., grade level, state accountability or identification).

- **Outcome:** Final recommendation to CDE and the Committee of Practitioners that includes recommendations for addressing other factors that should impact outcomes
 - State Accountability
 - Schools on the state accountability (years 3+)
 - Schools on the state accountability (less than 3 years or on watch)
 - Schools not on state accountability clock
 - School levels or types
 - Alternative Education Campuses (AECs)
 - K-2 schools
 - EMH
 - Schools identified due to participation
- **Deliverable:** Final written recommendation that includes
 - Implementation timeline
 - District's role in implementation
 - CDE's role in implementation
 - Next steps if a school continues to be identified

Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Grad Subcommittee



- Explore ideas and make recommendations to the State and Committee of Practitioners regarding the “more rigorous State-determined action, such as the implementation of interventions” that shall result for schools identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement - Low Grad that do not meet exit criteria within the State-determined number of years (not to exceed four years).
- Review ESSA requirements, previous work of the AWG, and stakeholder feedback to provide a final recommendation regarding pathways for more-rigorous actions, including factors to be considered (e.g., grade level, state accountability or identification).

- **Outcome:** Final recommendation to CDE and the Committee of Practitioners that includes recommendations for addressing other factors that should impact outcomes
 - State Accountability
 - Schools on the state accountability (years 3+)
 - Schools on the state accountability (less than 3 years or on watch)
 - Schools not on state accountability clock
 - Pathways for Alternative Education Campuses (AECs)
- **Deliverable:** Final written recommendation that includes
 - Implementation timeline
 - District's role in implementation
 - CDE's role in implementation
 - Next steps if a school continues to be identified

School Quality or Student Success (SQSS) Indicator Subcommittee



- Explore ideas and make recommendations to the State regarding which measure(s) should be used for the Other Indicator of School Quality or Student Success (SQSS) within Colorado’s accountability system for identifying schools for support and improvement under ESSA.
- Review ESSA requirements, previous work of the AWG and Other Indicator Work Group, and stakeholder feedback to provide recommendations regarding the long-term plans for the SQSS Indicator.



- Provide recommendation of whether Colorado should keep its approved short-term measure (i.e., reduction of chronic absenteeism), and if maintained:
 - Provide recommendation of the cut scores to be used to assign ratings
 - Provide recommendation of the methodology for calculating “reduction,” particularly for those schools with a starting chronic absenteeism rate at or near zero percent
- Provide recommendation of whether Colorado should include additional measures within its SQSS indicator, and if so:
 - Operationalize process for implementing new measure(s), if not currently collected by CDE and/or all districts
 - Provide recommendation of the methodology and cut scores to be used to assign ratings

State Request to Reconsider Process Subcommittee



- Explore ways to use the request to reconsider process during a potential Year 2 accountability pause to support of schools and districts on performance watch.
- Respond to a rapidly shifting policy context.
- Note: This may be on a shorter timeline than other subcommittees and could morph into another topic such as re-envisioning the state's improvement planning process.



- Provide recommendations on adjustments to the request to reconsider process. This includes
 - Examining ways of using representative state assessment data if available
 - Exploring ways to consider local data
 - Providing recommendations on a site visit process
 - Offering new ideas that haven't been considered yet

Becoming a Subcommittee Member



- Complete the [AWG Subcommittee Form](#) by **February 3, 2021** to rank your interest in each subcommittee
- Each AWG member will be assigned to one subcommittee
 - Efforts will be made to match members with their top choice
- All AWG members will have the opportunity to provide input on the final recommendations and decisions made across all subcommittees

Smartsheet Dashboard Demonstration!



- AWG members will utilize the [AWG 2021 Dashboard](#) to:
 - View upcoming events and reminders
 - View AWG and Subcommittee resources, including:
 - Work in progress
 - Products and Deliverables
 - View timeline for ESSA State Plan revisions

Next Steps, Future Meetings, and Homework



Future Meetings

- Friday, 2/12/21
 - Does this time work?
 - We will send holds for all meetings for every other Friday through end of June
- Quick turnaround between meetings (e.g., email requests)



Homework

- CDE will send out a subcommittee selection e-mail
- Application Form for all members (veteran and new members):
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/33RVX7X>

Our Contact Information

State Accountability Contacts



Accountability and Continuous Improvement Unit	Position	E-mail
Lisa Medler	Executive Director, ACI Unit	medler_l@cde.state.co.us
Marie Huchton	Supervisor, Accountability Analytics	huchton_m@cde.state.co.us
Erin Loften	Co-Lead, School Improvement and Planning	loften_e@cde.state.co.us
Susan Barrett	Co-Lead, School Improvement and Planning	barrett_s@cde.state.co.us

School and District Transformation Unit	Position	E-mail
Lindsey Jaeckel	Executive Director, SDT Unit	jaeckel_l@cde.state.co.us
Julie Woods	Accountability Specialist	woods_julie@cde.state.co.us



Federal Accountability ~ ESEA Office: Data, Accountability, Reporting & Evaluation Team

ESEA Office	Position	Phone	E-mail
Nazie Mohajeri-Nelson	Director of ESEA Office	303-866-6205	Mohajeri-nelson_n@cde.state.co.us
DeLilah Collins	Assistant Director of ESEA Office	303-866-6850	Collins_d@cde.state.co.us
Emily Owen	Program Support	303.866.6700	Owen_e@cde.state.co.us
Marissa Gonzales	Program Support	303-866-6963	Gonzales_m@cde.state.co.us

DARE Team	Expertise	Phone	Email
Tina Negley	ESSA Accountability, Program Evaluation, and Reporting	303-866-5243	negley_t@cde.state.co.us
Alan Shimmin	ESSA Reporting and Data Collections	303-866-6209	shimmin_a@cde.state.co.us
Mary Shen	ESSA Program Evaluation, Research, and Accountability	303-866-4571	shen_m@cde.state.co.us