Colorado State Board of Education

## TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

## BEFORE THE

## COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMMISSION

DENVER, COLORADO

February 19, 2015, Part 2

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT on February 19, 2015, the above-entitled meeting was conducted at the Colorado Department of Education, before the following Board Members:

Marcia Neal(R), Chairman
Angelika Schroeder (D), Vice Chairman
Steven Durham (R)
Valentina (Val) Flores (D)
Jane Goff (D)
Pam Mazanec (R)
Debora Scheffel (R)



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1 MADAM CHAIR: All right. We are reconvened 2 in order to engage in some questions, questions with the 3 panel. Deb, do you want to start it off? MS. SCHEFFEL: I can. 4 MADAM CHAIR: Well, I just thought we'd come 5 6 down the aisle. MS. SCHEFFEL: Okay. I'd like to first of 7 8 all --9 MADAM CHAIR: Can you lower your mic. Yeah. MS. SCHEFFEL: -- thank you for the great 10 I had a question for Jennifer -- no, for 11 information. 12 Holly. 13 MADAM CHAIR: Somebody up there. MS. SCHEFFEL: My question is, how do these 14 -- as we've been considering the difference between 15 guidelines and requirements, floors, ceilings, whatever, 16 17 how do these guidelines, which are really requirements once they are fully implemented, help you in your school? 18 19 MS. SAMPLE: I think, in our case, they 20 would help us to focus efforts at the lower grade levels 21 and perhaps even help in terms of the overall preparation 22 for students farther downstream. As Dr. Cobb mentioned, we 23 already have students in the system and one of the most

difficult things we have to do is when we get a ninth-

grader who is reading at the sixth-grade level or their



- 1 math grade level is third- or fourth-grade level, and then
- 2 being able to close those gaps. And we just need to close
- 3 the gaps much earlier. And then, of course, my concern is
- 4 setting those cut scores in a way that would disenfranchise
- 5 those students who are already in the system and already --
- 6 I mean, at some point we have to look at growth, not just
- 7 your final score.
- 8 MS. SCHEFFEL: But I guess my real question
- 9 is why would the state be dictating to a school like yours,
- 10 where you're already doing much of this great work? Why
- 11 would we be -- capstone, district approved in alignment
- 12 with CDE guidance and forthcoming implementation toolkit
- 13 documents -- why does that help you? I guess I'm getting
- 14 to the floor-ceiling discussion. I mean, why would we be
- 15 coming up with all this detail for you and your school?
- 16 How does that help you?
- 17 MS. SAMPLE: I think in my school our
- 18 biggest dilemma is we still have too high of a remediation
- 19 rate, based on college entry scores.
- MS. SCHEFFEL: So why wouldn't you be
- 21 implementing these things on your own, based on your own
- 22 research?
- MADAM CHAIR: Good question.
- MS. SAMPLE: Well, we have -- and I have to
- 25 say I'm not sure -- one of the reasons we have what we have



- 1 is there's a commitment to the overall growth and
- 2 development of the student as a whole, without focusing
- 3 just on cut scores. So if we were to do that, there's a
- 4 concern about what is lost.
- 5 MS. SCHEFFEL: But I'm just saying, with all
- 6 that these groups have generated, and all these documents
- 7 and guidance documents and all the work the CDE is putting
- 8 into it, I guess I'm asking, the State Board is asked to
- 9 decide on either a light touch or a heavy touch, right, to
- 10 look at high school graduation requirements. Why would we
- 11 have a heavy touch for schools like yours? How would that
- 12 help you?
- 13 MS. SAMPLE: I don't think that heavy touch
- 14 would help us at all. I think that -- and that's why I
- 15 speak about competency being demonstrated in a variety of
- 16 ways. It's not a standard space diploma if we're only
- 17 looking at some cut scores that require students to pass
- 18 those in order to graduate, because they could pass that
- 19 test without meeting the other standards. Flexibility to
- 20 meet a variety of pathways, as Mr. Stump mentioned, I
- 21 think, would be most beneficial to both my school and a
- 22 rural school in my area.
- 23 MS. SCHEFFEL: So while these documents can
- 24 be helpful, and it's great for the CDE to expose what ASVAB
- 25 score is a great threshold for students to be successful in



- 1 the military, great for parents to know, great for students
- 2 and schools to know, for us to set cut scores that go
- 3 beyond the very minimum that we need to do by statute
- 4 doesn't really help your score.
- 5 MS. SAMPLE: I don't think it helps my
- 6 school or students across the state.
- 7 MS. SCHEFFEL: So your sense is that the
- 8 lighter touch that the State Board can take is actually
- 9 better because it gives schools and districts more
- 10 flexibility to meet our statutory requirement. But it
- 11 strikes me that setting up a mechanism within CDE, in an
- 12 implementation toolkit, with guidance for the district
- 13 capstones -- I'm not sure why we would do that. I'm not
- 14 sure what benefit it creates for the districts, if those
- 15 examples can be somewhere for people to look at
- 16 voluntarily.
- 17 MS. SAMPLE: Yes. That's what I think would
- 18 be most useful, the resources for schools that haven't done
- 19 those things before, would like to try to implement them,
- 20 or, in my case, we'd like to make sure we can always do
- 21 better.
- MS. SCHEFFEL: Thank you.
- MADAM CHAIR: Okay. Val, do you have a
- 24 question?
- MS. FLORES: Actually, I just had a comment



- 1 about going through a program in graduate school, a
- 2 master's program that was competency based, where I don't
- 3 think the professors were prepared, and it took them two
- 4 years to come up with what the end result would be. And it
- 5 was very frustrating, you know, to go through that, for the
- 6 student.
- 7 MADAM CHAIR: Yes.
- 8 MS. FLORES: And I think that -- I'm just
- 9 wondering if there are students out there, or school
- 10 districts out there who have not, you know, come up with a
- 11 capstone, with what's required at the end.
- 12 Also, I believe that a score such as 18 or
- 13 19 is a score, 18 or 19. I mean, who's going to ask you,
- 14 "Are you an 18 or a 19," you know, afterwards? They're
- 15 going to think about, or know you as what you've done, what
- 16 you've accomplished. I mean, does it say anything about
- 17 your values -- personal development, social development?
- 18 Does it say anything about -- we know that now the brain,
- 19 and physically it does take more than 21 years for that
- 20 adult to develop, and maybe more. And kids develop at
- 21 different stages. So you may have somebody, even at 21,
- 22 who is going to do something at 23, or who -- you get the
- 23 gist.
- And then reading that book about grit, and
- 25 how important grit is. And we know that school grades are



- 1 usually a better predictor than is a score. I mean, I can
- 2 just give you examples of my high school class of 375, and,
- 3 you know, who were at the top, who were at the bottom, what
- 4 those people have done. And it doesn't flesh out to do
- 5 those scores.
- 6 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.
- 7 MS. FLORES: So much more.
- 8 MADAM CHAIR: Okay. We'll start at the
- 9 other end and come down, or we can do this way if you want.
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I have quite a few.
- 11 MADAM CHAIR: Okay. Go ahead.
- 12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: This is actually maybe
- 13 not a question for all of you. What's our most recent
- 14 remediation rate?
- MS. HOLMES: Madam Chair?
- MADAM CHAIR: Yes.
- 17 MS. HOLMES: Thirty-seven percent.
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And did that go up from
- 19 the year before?
- 20 MADAM CHAIR: Yes. I mean, I'm not
- 21 answering.
- MS. HOLMES: It went down slightly.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Slightly?
- Is someone -- I've been told that taking
- 25 PARCC is a minimum requirement for graduation.



- 1 MS. HOLMES: Madam Chair?
- 2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Is it? It's not on our
- 3 list but some districts are saying that.
- 4 MS. HOLMES: On the menu that you all
- 5 approved unanimously in 2013, PARCC was listed --
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's listed.
- 7 MS. HOLMES: -- as an option that districts
- 8 could use, as all of those items on the menu were an option
- 9 that districts can choose to use as part of a diploma or an
- 10 exit requirements, but that's optional.
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay. Also, I wasn't
- 12 sure what you meant when you said something about cut
- 13 scores being an easy way out. I think that was you.
- 14 MS. SAMPLE: Back to me. Thank you. In
- 15 reading the media lately and the dialogue out there about,
- 16 you know, lowering graduation guidelines, I think if we
- 17 look at just cut scores on the ACT, you might be able to
- 18 pass that in ninth grade, and then what do you do? And
- 19 does that really indicate that you are ready to move
- 20 forward out of high school? Is there more to a high school
- 21 education than that?
- 22 And so that's where I think it's important.
- 23 And I know that the Department has described, in their
- 24 toolkit, what the local board responsibilities are that go
- 25 beyond those cut scores. That's just sort of maybe a



- 1 common impression out there right now.
- 2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And finally, I just
- 3 have a comment. We have some superintendents of small
- 4 districts here who are very much affected by what we are
- 5 doing here, and I'm disappointed that they weren't included
- 6 in this discussion. They need to be heard. And I also
- 7 just want to make a comment that I'm very frustrated at all
- 8 the time we spend talking about these kinds of changes, and
- 9 it's not healthy. It seems to me if we have a remediation
- 10 rate problem, we are not solving it by what we're doing
- 11 here.
- 12 And so I'd just like to see -- let's figure
- 13 out how to make sure that our children are ready for
- 14 college and stop coming up with new plans that are, you
- 15 know, essentially a remake of what we've been doing for
- 16 years and hasn't changed anything. So that's just my
- 17 comment. Thank you.
- 18 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you. Scott, aren't you
- 19 a small superintendent?
- 20 MR. STUMP: No. School board member.
- 21 MADAM CHAIR: Okay. School board member.
- 22 Jane, got any comments here?
- MS. GOFF: I'll jump in. I think I probably
- 24 speak for the majority of us. We are all standing on two
- 25 sides of a chasm, and we're in the middle of a lot of



- 1 things, jumping from jumping. I know that the frustration
- 2 about nothing's working, we've got this high remediation
- 3 rate. I believe it's gone down from 40-something percent.
- 4 When this work started to kick in, down to the current 37,
- 5 is that good enough? No. No way. But we've been in the
- 6 process over the last few years of starting to look at the
- 7 possibilities for looking at things different, so a lot of
- 8 this, it is frustrating.
- 9 I guess a couple of questions. I know that
- 10 the higher ed, the discussion in reviewing the policy for
- 11 admission and also the changes to the remediation policy,
- 12 there was quite a bit of time spent on the PARCC and/or
- 13 perhaps SBAC, because when we're talking about, because
- 14 when we're talking about students coming in from other
- 15 states we have to keep the mind open for those things.
- But that was -- if I recall correctly, and I
- 17 served on the Remediation Advisory Board, to the task
- 18 force, we ended up where PARCC and other tests like that,
- 19 including Compass conversations and ASVAB and such as that
- 20 were on the as-verified or as-considered, but they were not
- 21 ever -- the only true stipulation made at all was around
- 22 ACT as our -- and it is still our current work readiness
- 23 measure. So but those were listed as options for districts
- 24 at some point in time, or whatever our state determines to
- 25 be that part of it.



- I would just say that I am an unabashedly
- 2 huge fan of performance opportunities, competency based. I
- 3 live -- my education life is based on performance and
- 4 competence, and I'm thinking that -- and for the smaller
- 5 districts and for -- I see Mr. Miles, Brett (ph) back
- 6 there, and, you know, appreciate and have a pretty good
- 7 idea of some opportunities within smaller districts. I
- 8 spent a lot of time in Adams County, which has an ongoing
- 9 and developing relationship with local businesses and
- 10 industries in bringing kids in. Those kinds of experiences
- 11 are there.
- 12 I just wonder if we are at a point -- when
- 13 do we get to a point where it's visible that those
- 14 organizations, those community groups, those schools, those
- 15 kids who are participating in that can talk about their
- 16 experience? When are we going to get to a point where they
- 17 can really display? It would be nice to see some of the
- 18 capstone projects on a nice video or something.
- 19 I just feel that our entire population needs
- 20 some visible, tangible examples of the possibilities.
- 21 Until we get to that point, justifiably enough time given
- 22 to those students and their programs, I think it's going to
- 23 be hard to latch on to how this could look and what we can
- 24 do to create substitute, as needed, as we agreed to. But
- 25 what is the best way to really make the focus of all of



- 1 this work on student success, and how are the students
- 2 playing out this part of their responsibility and the
- 3 things that they would like to do?
- 4 So I'm really not saying much here other
- 5 than keep looking down the road.
- 6 MADAM CHAIR: Keep going.
- 7 MS. GOFF: But I appreciate the work. Thank
- 8 you.
- 9 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Jane. Steve?
- 10 MR. DURHAM: Just one observation, Madam
- 11 Chair, and one question.
- 12 You know, a high remediation rate can mean
- 13 one of two things. One is the schools, K-12 schools, are
- 14 not doing a good job. The other possibility is that the
- 15 higher education community should review its admission
- 16 standards, because it's not necessarily just A. A B could
- 17 be part of the problem.
- 18 But I do have a question, returning, and for
- 19 our attorney. Would it be possible for us to call these --
- 20 while the statute apparently refers to them as -- what does
- 21 it refer to them as? -- guidelines, they are, in fact, not
- 22 quidelines. They are, in fact, requirements. Is there
- 23 anything that would prohibit us from changing our documents
- 24 that we send out to everyone in properly labeling these
- 25 materials what, in fact, they are, which is requirements?



- 1 And nobody ever wants to take the heat for getting the job
- 2 done properly, but if they're requirements we need to treat
- 3 them as requirements and we need to advertise them as
- 4 requirements, and, if there is heat associated with having
- 5 those requirements then it can go to the General Assembly
- 6 where it belongs.
- 7 MADAM CHAIR: Tony.
- 8 MR. DILL: The short answer is I --
- 9 MADAM CHAIR: Oh, I was just going to say do
- 10 you -- are you able to answer that question without it
- 11 coming back with a --
- MR. DILL: Yes.
- 13 MADAM CHAIR: Okay. Go ahead.
- MR. DILL: Yeah. The language is you are to
- 15 adopt a comprehensive set of quidelines for the
- 16 establishment of high school graduation requirements.
- 17 (Laughter.)
- 18 MR. DILL: In fact, although it discourages
- 19 quidelines they really do, if you read the statute,
- 20 function as really sort of minimum standards for high
- 21 school graduation. And I think that's broad enough to call
- 22 them graduation requirements or graduation standards.
- 23 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.
- MR. DURHAM: Thank you very much.
- 25 MADAM CHAIR: I mean, that was a short one.



- 1 Angelika?
- MS. SCHROEDER: Tony.
- 3 MADAM CHAIR: Oh, you've got another one.
- 4 Come back up here.
- 5 MS. SCHROEDER: While you're here, before I
- 6 go through the rest of my list, does guidelines mean you
- 7 have to meet all of them or is it what we think this is,
- 8 which is a menu for school boards to choose one or three or
- 9 -- in other words, I'm trying to figure out this long list,
- 10 and it'll be a growing list, I think, over time. Tell me
- 11 what guidelines means in terms of --
- 12 MADAM CHAIR: It's a living document.
- 13 MS. SCHROEDER: It's a living document, but
- 14 is it everything? No, by no means, right, because some
- 15 districts can't fulfill this.
- MR. DILL: No, I don't believe so. Of
- 17 course, after saying you shall establish the guidelines we
- 18 go on for another, you know, two pages in terms of what
- 19 these guidelines have to include. And I think if you read
- 20 through that I think having differentiation is really what
- 21 was intended here between, you know, rural districts have
- 22 special concerns. And so there's really a whole host of
- 23 issues that need to be dealt with here.
- 24 MS. SCHROEDER: So can a board say I'm going
- 25 to pick one of -- just let me finish. Can a board say I'm



- 1 just going to pick one of these, from this list, and they
- 2 all have met the intent of this part of 212?
- 3 MR. DILL: Without sitting down and spending
- 4 10 or 15 minutes really closely reading everything in the
- 5 statute --
- 6 MS. SCHROEDER: Okay.
- 7 MR. DILL: -- I really don't know. However,
- 8 you know, you do have discretion, you know, in terms of how
- 9 you -- you know, as long as all the statutory requirements
- 10 in there are being addressed, you do have discretion on
- 11 exactly how these are being done.
- 12 MADAM CHAIR: I think Scott wants to answer
- 13 your question.
- MS. SCHROEDER: Maybe I have more.
- 15 MR. DURHAM: If I may, Madam Chair.
- MADAM CHAIR: Yes.
- 17 MR. DURHAM: To give a perspective on what
- 18 the council that proposed those, the original intent was,
- 19 in that, no, it was not that a student meet all of those.
- 20 Absolutely not.
- MS. SCHROEDER: Good.
- MR. DURHAM: It was meant to say here is a
- 23 base level of performance, whatever we collectively agree
- 24 and say, you know, a student leaving a high school should
- 25 have this proficiency in English or math, to be ready for



- 1 entry into the workplace or into postsecondary, which is a
- 2 big wiggly piece. But the intent of the council was let's
- 3 let students demonstrate that in lots of different ways.
- 4 Let's not harbor them into one. So they don't have to do
- 5 all of those but those are meant to be comparable and
- 6 quantified as relatively equitable ways of measuring. So
- 7 the ASVAB scores is someone loosely -- well, research-based
- 8 tied to the SAT or the ACT, and then coming up with an
- 9 equitable performance point.
- 10 But the goal was lots of ways. And I know
- 11 we originally, in the council room, in the spring of 2013,
- 12 a big, big chart of options, and we're told that we needed
- 13 to whittle that back down to really the research-based in
- 14 the time that we had to say, no, these are the only ones we
- 15 can verify now. And then at this table, two years ago, I
- 16 said, "We need to expand that list," and I know that's
- 17 what's been working on and see the proposed list ahead of
- 18 you, and my hope is that it continues to expand, because
- 19 right now there are performance assessment tools in the
- 20 work that I'm doing that haven't even been seen in
- 21 education yet. And so we've got to get to what are the
- 22 ways that are emerging that we can identify if the student
- 23 is ready.
- 24 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.
- 25 MS. SCHROEDER: Thank you. So I'd like to



- 1 just comment on a couple of the changes that were
- 2 recommended this time around, based on what we passed a
- 3 couple of years ago, or last year -- last year.
- 4 The advanced placement, the drop of one
- 5 score piece, I just want to say that it reminds me of the
- 6 efforts in a lot of high schools to give weighted grades,
- 7 and I think it's analogous. In order to encourage students
- 8 to take actually IB or AP courses, weighted grades were
- 9 give, so that if you got a B you got a higher score in your
- 10 GPA than for PE.
- 11 So I think to me it makes sense where the
- 12 assessment committee, or whoever suggested this, I think
- 13 this actually makes sense, because it does encourage
- 14 students to go ahead and take some of those harder courses,
- 15 demonstrate that they can essentially get through them.
- 16 The interesting thing about the IB
- 17 successful completion, there are kids that don't take the
- 18 IB test in a course that they take. So that also makes --
- 19 that's also a refinement, I think, of the work that you all
- 20 have done, and I appreciate that.
- 21 I'll admit I'm a little worried about where
- 22 we go with PARCC or CMAS, simply because we haven't done --
- 23 we haven't had our conversations yet about what that means.
- 24 Fundamentally, you posed the question what does a Colorado
- 25 diploma, a high school diploma mean? We have to have the



- 1 conversation here, does that mean that our students have
- 2 met our Colorado standards? Then how do we work in
- 3 partnership with school districts to develop their own
- 4 graduation requirements to somehow suggest, yep, if you're
- 5 a Colorado graduate you've demonstrated, in some way, that
- 6 you've met the Colorado standards. I mean, that's the way
- 7 I see it. I think that's a discussion that we need to
- 8 have, whether that's really what we believe in.
- 9 So thank you very much for the work. I also
- 10 appreciate the additions of options for districts to
- 11 consider. Having served on a board, I think school boards
- 12 work very hard and try to be very thoughtful in developing
- 13 their graduation requirements, because they need to come
- 14 back to their own community. And I'll tell you what.
- 15 Sometimes parents think things sound too hard, and when
- 16 their kid is 25 years old and they're living in their
- 17 basement, they're saying, "Gee, you should have asked for
- 18 more." So I'll close with that.
- 19 MADAM CHAIR: Val, you had another comment?
- MS. FLORES: Yes, I did. I have a question
- 21 about, if kids can go to school until they're 21, and if
- 22 the colleges -- I know that colleges are expensive -- why
- 23 not have kids stay in school until they meet those
- 24 requirements instead of going to pay all that money in
- 25 college? I mean, kids, parents should have the right to do



- 1 that.
- I know I taught at a school that was maybe
- 3 about \$40,000 a year, and there were kids who knew, who
- 4 needed remediation. They were not just poor kids. They
- 5 were very rich kids. And I had to teach a remediation
- 6 course in English language arts. So I thought, why are
- 7 they paying this amount of money, not only in math -- I
- 8 mean, in English language arts and English, but also in
- 9 math. It was just phenomenal amounts of money to get those
- 10 remediation, you know, credits.
- 11 So why not be honest, you know, with
- 12 parents, with the community, and say if you are going to
- 13 take remediation classes, take them in the school district.
- 14 Don't take them in the college, where that's going to be so
- 15 expensive.
- 16 Thank you for hearing me out.
- 17 MADAM CHAIR: Deb?
- 18 MS. SCHEFFEL: Yeah, I just have one more
- 19 question. It's for Rebecca. Can you just surface, what is
- 20 the minimum the State Board needs to do? And it's in the
- 21 context of, you know, we can have a regulatory approach to
- 22 improving quality, and we can look at data for a long time
- 23 that suggest that's not particularly the best approach,
- 24 regulation. People will address often time the letter of
- 25 the law, but the spirit of it somehow gets lost.



- 1 So I think setting these competencies can do
- 2 some great things in the sense of shining a flashlight for
- 3 kids and parents, what does it take to be successful in
- 4 college, in a career path, in the military, whatever? And
- 5 the Department is in a great position to expose that
- 6 information so people are aware of it. But to set specific
- 7 cut points that high schools have to meet, specific kids
- 8 have to meet, is a different thing, because testing is a
- 9 genre that some kids are good at, others are not, which is
- 10 why you have capstones and other options in there.
- 11 So to me, being heavy on the regulatory side
- 12 does not really serve the kids or the parents or the high
- 13 schools or the districts very well, but shining a light on
- 14 information helps. So the question is, what is the minimum
- 15 the State Board needs to do to fulfill our statutory
- 16 obligation, and then how can we infuse not so much a
- 17 regulatory approach but choice. You know, help people see
- 18 the panoply of options that they can embrace in order to,
- 19 in a district or in a school, to show that they are
- 20 prepared for the next step.
- 21 MADAM CHAIR: Question or just a statement?
- MS. HOLMES: Madam Chair?
- 23 MADAM CHAIR: Oh, Rebecca. Go ahead.
- 24 MS. HOLMES: I'm interpreting your question as what are the
- 25 minimum requirements inside the qualifications.



- 1 MS. SCHEFFEL: Those are statutory.
- MS. HOLMES: So, Madam Chair, we have
- 3 interpreted that, with some legal guidance as well, that
- 4 there is a requirement that the State Board set minimum
- 5 qualifications. Those minimum qualifications be aligned
- 6 with the postsecondary remediation cut scores in our state.
- 7 Postsecondary remediation cut scores currently exist in
- 8 only English and math, and so that is one reason you all
- 9 could certainly meet your statutory requirement in our
- 10 interpretation and scale the menu back from four subjects
- 11 to two. And that where there are cut scores set by the
- 12 Department of Higher Ed and the Commission of Higher Ed, as
- 13 there are currently in ACT and SAT, and as we understand
- 14 through future process there will be on other assessments
- 15 as well, then the cut scores must align.
- So I think that's the regulatory minimum.
- 17 To Scott's comments, there has always been an intention,
- 18 then, in doing so, to offer districts more choice than they
- 19 would have if we only had the assessments that higher ed
- 20 has recognized in order to have a more robust recognition
- 21 of college and career readiness and that students choose
- 22 many pathways other than just traditional higher ed
- 23 institutions.
- 24 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you.
- 25 MS. SCHEFFEL: So if we have this menu of



- 1 options, the language that precedes that menu is going to
- 2 be really important. Students or districts must embrace
- 3 two of ten. One or two, and three or six, or how many,
- 4 right. That language that precedes that menu, whatever is
- 5 on it, whatever initial thresholds are there, that's going
- 6 to be really crucial. Is that right?
- 7 MADAM CHAIR: Good point. All right.
- 8 One nice thing about getting to be the last
- 9 person to make comments is I get to hear what everybody
- 10 else says. So I'm sitting over here writing notes.
- I think both Deb and Val made some really
- 12 good points there, and that's talking about the variety of
- 13 ways. Again, I am a very strong local control person. But
- 14 if we have local control and we are graduating kids, as we
- 15 are, that are not prepared for workforce or college, then I
- 16 think we need to step in.
- 17 Schools such as Cherry Creek and Aspen, they
- 18 don't have much of that problem. Some, I'm sure, but, you
- 19 know, schools such as Dove Creek may have a few of those
- 20 problems. So I think we really need to be -- I totally
- 21 agree that we really need to be working for them all to
- 22 meet that.
- 23 And to Val's -- just a suggestion, one of
- 24 the things I would really like to see, and I've seen it in
- 25 Mesa County and that's why I mention it, is that CMU works



- 1 with the Mesa County School District and offers -- they
- 2 offer a remedial class while the kids are still in high
- 3 school, that they send their teachers down and they take
- 4 this remedial class. Because we all know, we let way too
- 5 many kids move by with, as I said, just a GPA, and it
- 6 doesn't mean a whole lot. So that's just a suggestion that
- 7 some people could meet.
- 8 We all have different ideas about local
- 9 control, and I believe in it very strongly, and yet, having
- 10 been in the classroom, I know how many kids we're leaving
- 11 every year that were not prepared for either workforce.
- 12 And I like what Scott, too, what Scott said. You know, if
- 13 it's a workforce score, if they've scored high in some
- 14 workforce test, then you know they can get out of school
- 15 and get a job, that's just as important as what they got on
- 16 their ACT.
- 17 So I think you're doing great work. It's
- 18 hard work, and you've been working at it for a long time.
- 19 But I think, from what I hear, you really are talking about
- 20 all those options and all the different ways, and yet
- 21 trying very hard not to put the heavy hand of this is what
- 22 you must do, because we really need for schools to maintain
- 23 as much local control as possible.
- 24 So I congratulate you and I think you're
- 25 doing a good job. And with that we'll move on to the next



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1 agenda item. 2 MR. DURHAM: Madam Chair, could I ask counsel a question, just briefly. 3 4 MADAM CHAIR: We're trying to get out of here by 11:30, so keep it brief. 5 6 MR. DURHAM: Yeah. Could I have a copy of the statute that's relevant to this discussion, and could 7 you provide us with your opinion as to what the minimum 8 9 amount the Board would have to do to comply with that statute? 10 MR. DILL: Okay. 11 12 MR. DURHAM: Thank you. 13 MADAM CHAIR: All right. Thank you. 14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you very much. 15 MADAM CHAIR: Yeah. It was a great discussion. 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23



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1	CERTIFICATE
2	I, Kimberly C. McCright, Certified Vendor and
3	Notary, do hereby certify that the above-mentioned matter
4	occurred as hereinbefore set out.
5	I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT the proceedings of such
6	were reported by me or under my supervision, later reduced
7	to typewritten form under my supervision and control and
8	that the foregoing pages are a full, true and correct
9	transcription of the original notes.
LO	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
<b>L</b> 1	and seal this 25th day of October, 2018.
12	
L3	/s/ Kimberly C. McCright
L4	Kimberly C. McCright
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