

**Educational Success Task Force
Tuesday, October 4, 2011
President's Conference Room
Colorado Community College System
9101 East Lowry Blvd., Denver, CO
Prepared by Kristen Johnson, Legislative Council Staff**

All of the materials referenced in this summary are available on the Educational Success Task Force website at: <http://www.colorado.gov/lcs/EdSuccessTF>.

1:00 p.m. - Welcome and Introductions

Senator King welcomed the members of the Educational Success Task Force (task force) to the meeting. The members of the task force and the audience introduced themselves. Several members participated electronically. A list of the meeting attendees is included at the end of this meeting summary.

1:15 p.m. - Discussion of Potential Legislation

Senator King discussed the agenda for the meeting. He read aloud comments related to the concept paper proposing to replace the 10th grade CSAP assessment with the Accuplacer submitted by Jane Szucs, who was unable to attend the meeting. The task force discussed the differences between the Accuplacer and Compass assessments. Dr. Skupa referenced the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) website regarding assessments and discussed the charge of the task force and the direction the group is headed. She asked the task force to consider the steps that are already being taken by the CDE. The task force discussed the purpose and use of the CSAP and the Accuplacer.

Jo O'Brien, Assistant Commissioner of Standards and Assessment at CDE, spoke about the CSAP assessment and the appeal of Accuplacer as a comprehensive interim diagnostic tool that could lead to uniformity. The task force discussed the national assessment that is being developed currently by the common core consortia and the costs associated with using that assessment or developing a Colorado-specific assessment.

Representative Massey discussed the concept paper: "Requiring Minimum Level of Literacy at 3rd Grade." The proposed legislation would amend the Colorado Basic Literacy Act to strengthen early interventions for students. It would require schools to contact parents regarding their child's literacy levels and include the parents in intervention planning. Additionally, the proposal would prevent students that are functionally illiterate from receiving social promotion to the next grade level. The task force discussed student retention and social promotion. This concept will not be drafted into a bill for task force consideration.

Susan Schiebel discussed the concept paper: "Target Focus Concept Development." The paper proposes a structure for reaching educational success through family and community involvement and considers how best to connect students with the next step in their education.

Senator King described the components of the concept paper: "Degree Completion - Reverse-transfer for Degrees." The task force discussed the bill idea and decided it should be drafted into a bill for consideration at the next task force meeting.

Senator King and the task force discussed the concept paper: "Extend Growth Model to Postsecondary Education." The group discussed funding for concurrent enrollment in high school and postsecondary courses. The task force decided that the bill idea needed clarification from Dr. Anderson before moving forward.

Senator King and the task force discussed the concept paper: "Introducing Basic Skills Testing into High School in Place of the Tenth-grade CSAP." The task force removed bullet items 3, 5, 7, 8, and 9 from the concept paper and decided the remainder of the proposal should be drafted into a bill for consideration at the next task force meeting.

Senator King and the task force members discussed the concept paper: "Gateway to College Dropout Recovery Program." The task force decided the concept should be drafted into a bill for consideration at the next task force meeting.

Representative Massey proposed legislation around prior learning assessments, referring the committee to the prior learning assessments brief prepared by the Center for American Progress. A bill on this topic will be drafted for consideration at the next task force meeting.

Senator Hudak discussed the need to create a closer tie between the state's workforce centers and College in Colorado. Other members of the task force confirmed that a close relationship already exists, which allows adults to assess their strengths and weaknesses in order to be placed in postsecondary education.

Representative Fields proposed legislation on putting middle school students on the graduation path. Although the task force did not make a decision on the proposal at the meeting, Representative Fields submitted it for drafting and for consideration at the next task force meeting.

The meeting concluded. The task force will meet again on October 25 to discuss the bill drafts and next steps for the task force moving forward.

Educational Success Task Force

Date: October 4, 2011

| Name | Present | Absent |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Sen. Bob Bacon | x | |
| Rep. Rhonda Fields | x | |
| Rep. Chris Holbert | x | |
| Sen. Evie Hudak | x | |
| Sen. Keith King | x | |
| Rep. Tom Massey | x | |
| Public Committee Members | | |
| Geri Anderson | participated electronically | |
| Mark Bell | x | |
| Charlotte Brantley | | x |
| Judi Diaz Bonacquisti | | x |
| Perla Delgado | | x |
| Tamara Durbin | participated electronically | |
| Carrie Heaney | x | |
| Daniel Jablonsky | x | |
| Sharon Kallus | participated electronically | |
| Kim Knous Dolan | x | |
| Samantha Long | x | |
| Rod Lucero | x | |
| Ryan McCoy | participated electronically | |
| Scott Mendelsberg | x | |
| Michelle Pearson | participated electronically | |

| Name | Present | Absent |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Montina Romero | x | |
| Deanna Sands | x | |
| Susan Scheibel | x | |
| Bruce Siegel | | x |
| Kevin Simpson | | x |
| Judy Skupa | x | |
| John Sutton | x | |
| Jane Szucs | | x |
| Tracy Thompson | x | |
| Jeff Wilhite | | x |