

**Educational Success Task Force
Thursday, January 5, 2012
President's Conference Room
Colorado Community College System
9101 East Lowry Blvd., Denver, CO
Prepared by Jennifer Thomsen and 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 of the task force participated electronically. A list of the meeting attendees is included at the end of this summary.

1:15 p.m. - General Session

Legislation Update — Senator King reported that the four bills brought forward by the task force were approved by the Legislative Council Committee and would be introduced during the upcoming legislative session. Senator King explained that Bill B would drive a fiscal note, and that several options for funding the bill exist. The task force discussed various funding options. In addition, the task force discussed the possibility of aligning course titles across K-12 and higher education. Senator King clarified that task force members should feel free to come to the sponsors of the task force bills to suggest amendments. The task force returned to, and discussed at length, the issue of alignment between K-12 and higher education and the reasons so many students need remediation when they enter the higher education system. The task force discussed the utility of the math track that leads to college algebra for all students. Geri Anderson noted that many issues that are "blamed" on the K-12 system are issues of P-20 alignment, not K-12 issues.

Next the task force discussed the bills related to credit for prior learning, intervention services for middle-grade students, and the reverse-transfers. Dr. Anderson reported that she had spoken with the four-year institutions about the reverse-transfer bill, and they hope to have an amendment making the program a pilot. Senator King reminded the task force that there would also be a bill not carried by the task force related to third grade literacy. Dr. Anderson told the committee about a bill related to COF-allotment hours and COF differential for students who take longer to graduate. Senator Bacon provided further information, saying it might offer incentives for upper-level courses in the form of a larger COF stipend for those courses. Dr. Anderson said the Colorado Community College System (CCCS) would be running a dropout recovery bill.

Subgroup 1 Report — Kim Knous Dolan reported on the discussions of subgroup 1 at the November task force meeting. She referred the task force to the subgroup notes, which may be found on the task force website. She said the main themes were transition point identification, existing laws/policies/rules/regulations, and the definition of at-risk. She said she hopes the subgroup can use the Developmental Education Initiative Toolkit to identify gaps in Colorado policies.

Subgroup 2 Report — Samantha Long provided an update on subgroup 2. Referring to the subgroup notes, she said the group's focus was the use of ICAP, career clusters, and job trends. Jane Szucs noted that there might be room in Bill B for some of the work done so far by subgroup 2. Samantha talked about existing legislation around ICAP, noting that the subgroup would like to hear from experts on the issue. She suggested that the subgroups figure out the alignment between the groups and the bills, saying the subgroups could discuss them more explicitly.

Dr. Anderson took this opportunity to talk about the work of the task force so far, and how it might look going forward. She expressed a desire to create a more powerful legislative agenda for the next legislative session that is based on the work of the subgroups. The task force discussed whether, how, and if the task force could impact the legislation that will be going forward during the 2012 legislative session. Dr. Anderson said the subgroups should decide on one to three action items on which there can be action by May. Senator King directed task force members to go directly to bill sponsors with amendments. Dr. Anderson clarified her vision for the task force, saying legislation does not have to be the ultimate goal, the goal is to help all students reach their potential. Senator Bacon invited members to think about items in law that are impediments to the goal.

Report on Developmental Education Tool Kit — Dr. Anderson talked about the Developmental Education Tool Kit, referring members to the completed form, which is posted on the task force website. She said that the form was completed from the perspective of the DHE and the Community College System Board. She said innovation is a number one priority for the CCCS, and noted that data systems are also an issue, especially between the educational system and the workforce. She said performance measures should also be looked at by one of the subgroups, noting the need for intermediate measures. The task force discussed workforce needs. She asked that one of the subgroups study the issue of placement and assessment, and performance funding for higher education. The task force discussed the completed tool kit form. Dr. Anderson clarified that state funding for remediation is only available for 12th grade students through concurrent enrollment, though it is up to the high school to provide the opportunity for the student to participate. Senator King noted that more students can have access if the school is designated as an early college.

Discussion on Report to House and Senate Education Committees — Senator King explained that the task force is required to provide an update to the House and Senate Education Committees by January 31, 2012. He invited task force members to come to provide those updates. The Senate Education Committee will be hearing the update on Wednesday, January 18, upon adjournment and the House Education Committee will hear the update on Monday, January 23, at 1:30 p.m.

Discussion of Alignment Between Groups — Dr. Anderson talked to the task force about the plan for the task force's work going forward. She noted that the first subgroup meetings, which happened at the task force's November meeting, were an opportunity for brain storming. She said that the subgroup co-chairs, Samantha Long, Jane Szucs, Kim Knous Dolan, and Scott Mendelsberg, would lead conversations, outlining up to three action items for each group. Mr. Mendelsberg said the focus points identified by subgroup one are third grade literacy, the transition to middle school, and the high school to college transition. Ms. Knous Dolan said the challenge is identifying concrete ideas on which they can make recommendations. Mr. Mendelsberg discussed the expected outcomes of the subgroup's work. The task force discussed the focus of the subgroup, the work to be done, and how it could be accomplished with very limited resources. They further discussed transition points, and in particular the ICAP. The task force had a long discussion about education systems, transition

points, and students and ICAP. Dr. Anderson said the action item for subgroup two should be to design a model or recommendations for Colorado to explore competency-based system. Dr. Anderson proposed that the subgroups meet independently during the months of February and March to accomplish the action items set forth above. A meeting of the entire task force will take place in April and will provide the subgroups the opportunity to report their progress to the legislative members of the task force. The date and time of the meeting in April is to be determined.

Subgroup one will be meeting on February 1, 2012 and March 7, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. Subgroup two has scheduled a meeting for February 2, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. The meeting of the entire task force, which was scheduled for February 10, 2012, has been postponed until April 2012.

The task force did not complete agenda items "Subgroup Breakouts" and "General Session: Topics to Report" due to time restraints.

Educational Success Task Force

Date: January 5, 2012

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	X	
Mark Bell	X	
Charlotte Brantley		X
Judi Diaz Bonacquisti		X
Perla Delgado		X
Tamara Durbin		X
Carrie Heaney	X	
Daniel Jablonsky	X	
Sharon Kallus	participated electronically	
Kim Knous Dolan	X	
Samantha Long	X	
Rod Lucero	X	
Ryan McCoy	X	
Scott Mendelsberg	X	

Name	Present	Absent
Michelle Pearson		X
Montina Romero	X	
Deanna Sands		X
Susan Scheibel	participated electronically	
Bruce Siegel		X
Kevin Simpson	participated electronically	
Judy Skupa		X
John Sutton		X
Jane Szucs	participated electronically	
Tracy Thompson	X	
Jeff Wilhite	X	