

**COLORADO ACCOUNTABILITY, ACCREDITATION, STUDENT PERFORMANCE
AND RESOURCE INEQUITY TASK FORCE**
(created by H.B. 23-1241)

Meeting Summary | September 16, 2024

Published Agenda

10:00-10:05 AM	Welcome and Overview
10:05-10:20 AM	Whole Group Pulse Check on Draft 2
10:20-10:35 AM	Looking Ahead: Process for Completion
10:35-3:00 PM	Small Group Work Time and Whole Group Discussion: Frameworks and Assessments (time permitting, Public Reporting & Engagement and Continuous Improvement)
3:00-3:45 PM	Accreditation
3:45-3:55 PM	Time Permitting: Input on Layout and Design
3:55-4:00 PM	Closing

Note: Throughout the meeting, the chair and vice chair made real-time adjustments in conversation and facilitation, resulting in variations from the original agenda for some topics and time ranges.

In Attendance

Task Force Members:

NAME	REPRESENTING	VENUE
Dr. Wendy Birhanzel (chair)	<i>Superintendent</i>	In-Person
Hon. Rebecca McClellan (vice chair)	<i>State Board of Education</i>	In-Person
Tomi Amos	<i>Charter Network Leader</i>	Virtual
Dr. Rob Anderson	<i>Superintendent (Urban)</i>	In-Person
Amie Baca-Oehlert	<i>Statewide Teachers Organization</i>	In-Person
Pamela Bisceglia	<i>Statewide Organization Specializing in Equity and Inclusion</i>	In-Person
Dr. Brenda Dickhoner	<i>Charter School Institute (Governing Board Member)</i>	In-Person
Kathleen Durán	<i>Expert in English Language Acquisition and Bilingual Ed</i>	In-Person
Lindsey Gish	<i>Teacher (Middle School)</i>	Absent
Alison Griffin	<i>Workforce Development and Education Organization</i>	Virtual
Don Haddad, Ed.D.	<i>Superintendent</i>	Virtual
Dr. Rhonda Haniford	<i>Colorado Department of Education</i>	In-Person
Tammi Hiler	<i>Governor's Office Representative</i>	In-Person

Ted Johnson	<i>District Administrator (Rural Accountability)</i>	In-Person
Erin Kane	<i>Superintendent</i>	Absent
Dr. Anne Keke	<i>Local School Board Member</i>	Virtual
Ryan Marks	<i>District Administrator (Accountability)</i>	In-Person
Nicholas Martinez	<i>Statewide Parents/Families Organization</i>	In-Person
Tony May	<i>Local School Board Member (Rural)</i>	Virtual
Dr. Robert Mitchell	<i>Teacher (Rural)</i>	In-Person
James Parr	<i>District Administrator (Rural Accountability)</i>	In-Person
Catie Santos de la Rosa	<i>Teacher (Elementary)</i>	In-Person
Mark Sass	<i>Statewide Teachers Organization</i>	In-Person
Dan Schaller	<i>Charter School Organization</i>	In-Person
Jen Walmer	<i>Statewide Education Policy Organization</i>	Absent
Lisa Yates	<i>Superintendent (Rural Participant in Local Accountability System Grant)</i>	In-Person

CDE Staff: Lisa Medler, April Thompson, and Lisa Steffen

Facilitators: Sheila Briggs, Adam Brumer, and Kelly Jasiura

Summary

Welcome and Overview

The chair and vice chair welcomed the task force and thanked them for their feedback on the most recent draft of the final report and for providing initial input on the remaining recommendations. They noted that while there is still more work to do to finalize the recommendations and complete the report, the task force is on track to share the report with the legislature and other government officials by November 15.

The chairs then reviewed the meeting objectives, which included:

- Consider the draft recommendations associated with Accreditation
- Work together to resolve outstanding comments under Frameworks, Assessments, and time permitting, Public Reporting and Continuous Improvement
- Provide input on the overall design and layout of the report

The chairs then briefly went over the agenda and reviewed the Task Force’s norms, charge, and participation etiquette.

Whole Group Pulse Check on Draft 2

Next, the facilitators gave an overview of the major updates and shifts they made to the report since the August meeting. These changes included:

- Making the report easier to read for the audience, in particular moving much of the introduction to the Appendix, creating challenge and opportunity call out boxes, and re-grouping recommendations from 11 study groups to just five major focus areas
- Combining or shifting recommendations to reduce the number of recommendations from 68 to about 40
- Planning for final layout and branding, including adding a color scheme, reorganizing the appendix, and using visuals

The facilitators then invited the Task Force to briefly share their major takeaways on the report after reviewing the second draft. Using the online tool Mentimeter, Task Force members were asked to share three words to describe the report. Words like “thorough,” “comprehensive,” and “thoughtful” were frequently shared, but task force members also added others like “complicated,” “getting closer,” and “lengthy.”

Members were then asked to respond to a multiple-choice prompt asking them to share which section of the report they were most excited for and which they were most eager to discuss. They could choose from the report's five main sections: Frameworks, Assessments, Public Reporting and Engagement, Continuous Improvement, and Accreditation. Participants responded that they were most excited about the Frameworks section and most eager to discuss the Accreditation section.

Looking Ahead: Process for Completion

Next, the facilitators outlined a process for completing the report before the November 15 deadline. First, to reflect on the work to date and share feedback with fellow task force members, the facilitators presented prompts to the task force and asked them to respond to them on chart paper throughout the meeting. These prompts included:

- An example from the report that shows this task force’s commitment to advancing equity...
- An example from a meeting when you were inspired by a colleague...
- An example from a small group when you learned something new...
- An example from a discussion when a belief of yours changed or shifted...
- An example from our work together that makes you proud to be on the task force...

Then, the facilitators reviewed the timeline for completing the report. The goal for the day’s meeting was to resolve all feedback in the report. After the meeting, the facilitators would make a third draft of the final report and share it with the Task Force for feedback. Before the October 18 meeting, the facilitators would incorporate that feedback and update the report's design and layout. The October 18 meeting would then be reserved for resolving any final edits and making a decision on how to proceed if there is not consensus on any items. The goal is to have “pens down” by the end of the October 18 meeting so the facilitators could make any remaining edits after that. At the October 22 meeting, the task force would discuss layout, formatting, and any final thoughts on messaging to the legislature.

The facilitators noted that they would keep an eye out for the following challenges that could impact the timeline for completing the final report:

- The task force does not resolve all the feedback in the report today, and the conversation needs to be continued at the October 18 meeting

- At the end of the October 18 meeting, there is not consensus on all recommendations
- The Task Force doesn't leave adequate time to discuss final edits

Small Group Work Time and Whole Group Discussion: Frameworks and Assessments

The Task Force then split into two groups to resolve the feedback in the Frameworks and Assessments sections of the report. To approach making edits, the facilitators asked the task force to resolve the edits in the following manner:

- **Low-hanging fruit:** This included edits that would enhance the audience's understanding or strengthen the report. To resolve these, the task force would assign someone to write 1-3 sentences or make revisions with track changes.
- **Some group discussion needed:** This included changes to content that addressed misconceptions or resolved minor tensions. To address these edits, the task force would engage in small group discussion then assign someone to make revisions with track changes, if needed.
- **Whole group discussion needed:** This included edits that suggested major changes or resulted in conflicting feedback. To address these, the task force would tee up the precise issue to be addressed, then choose a colleague to share with the large group to get feedback.

After resolving comments in the two groups, the task force reconvened for full group share outs. The two groups shared an update on edits they made, and then introduced the comments that required whole group discussion to resolve. The representatives from the small group shared the items discussed and the changes they made.

At the end of this process, the two groups had sufficient feedback to resolve all comments or had a plan to gather further feedback to resolve the comments.

The task force only was able to discuss the Frameworks and Assessments sections. The Public Reporting and Engagement and Continuous Improvement sections will be prioritized at the October 18 meeting.

Accreditation

Next, the task force discussed the recommendations in the accreditation section. The authors of the accreditation section walked through the feedback received on their recommendations and answered questions from the task force. As a next step, the facilitators will share a survey with task force members asking for input on new labels for the accreditation ratings.

Input on Layout and Design

The task force did not have time during the meeting to provide input on the layout and design of the final report. The facilitators will gather their input on this either in a future meeting or through a survey.

Closing

The chairs closed out the meeting and thanked the Task Force for their hard work and the CDE and the Aurora PLCC staff for their technical and logistical support. The facilitators then reviewed the next steps.

Summary of next steps

- **September 27:** Facilitators create third draft of report with task force feedback incorporated, where possible
- **September 27 – October 4:** Task force reviews report and adds comments
- **October 17:** Facilitators incorporate task force comments and create designed version of the report
- Task Force members complete survey providing input on labels for accreditation ratings and design of report
- Task Force members complete the post-meeting survey

The next meeting will take place virtually on October 18 from 9am-3pm.

The meeting was adjourned.

Meeting summary prepared by Education First