

A Letter From Members of the 1215 Task Force

September 24, 2024

Dear Members of the 1241 Legislative Task Force:

It is with great respect and appreciation that we, members of the 1215 Legislative Task Force, offer our feedback to the esteemed 1241 Legislative Task Force.

We begin by commending you for your thorough and excellent process and product thus far in your tenure. Your draft recommendations have been constructively critical and complementary to the 1215 recommendations, particularly in language development and categorization.

We urge the 1241 Legislative Task Force to consider the broader impact on Postsecondary Workforce Readiness (PWR). Including the *College and Career Readiness Before Graduation* and *Postsecondary Progress* categories is inspiring. We noticed that the 1241 Task Force has yet to make any reference or recommendation regarding the overall weighting of either these sub-indicators or the overall weight of the PWR indicator. We would urge you to consider acknowledging the importance of these components and how they will or will not drive schools and districts to change the opportunities they provide to students while also recognizing the consequences of inadvertently disadvantaging resource-limited districts.

Watching your developments integrate alongside the HB 24-1364 contracted study of PWR programs and their finances is also exciting. Slalom's work should provide a template outlining the fiscal motivation for PWR programs. If the state wants to inspire PWR growth in all districts, what better way than to pass legislation directing a harmonious increase in funding and performance frameworks?

Colorado is known nationally for moving the needle on educational progress into our students' futures. It's time to change the 2009 performance framework to reflect a world 15 years later and beyond, one that values opportunities designed to chart individualized career pathways and attain career education and credentialing at a secondary level. The risk versus reward mentality that you have shown thus far is to be held up as ground-breaking. Please complete the journey by studying the impact of a widened PWR element within the framework and then recommend that legislators boldly implement the findings.

Best,

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(see member names on the following page)

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