



## End of Clock Pathway Guidance District Reorganization

The pathway guidance documents are intended to help districts and schools understand the Accountability Clock pathways outlined in the Education Accountability Act of 2009. Please send any comments or questions to Brenda Bautsch at [Bautsch\\_B@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Bautsch_B@cde.state.co.us).

District Pathway <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Pathway <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Overview of Pathway</b>	<b>Pathway Definition</b>	School district reorganization involves changing the organization of public school districts in the state and altering the boundaries of established school districts. This option is a consideration for districts that may desire to merge with another district contiguous to their boundary or deconsolidate into more than one school district.
	<b>Colorado statutory reference</b>	If a district fails to make substantial progress under its turnaround plan or has been in the accredited with priority improvement plan category or lower for five consecutive years, the State Review Panel may evaluate the school district and recommend: <i>“That the school district be reorganized pursuant to article 30 of this title, which reorganization may include consolidation”</i> C.R.S. § 22-11-209(2)(a)(I)(A)
	<b>What is non-negotiable?</b>	The requirements for district reorganization are specified in detail in C.R.S. § 22-30-101 through C.R.S. § 22-30-202 et al.
	<b>What is flexible?</b>	Flexibility is contained within the details of the plan of organization to meet the requirements as specified in C.R.S. § 22-30-114. The Commissioner and the committee will work together to develop a plan of organization that is mutually acceptable to both parties (C.R.S. § 22-30-116).



<p><b>Rationale for Selecting this Strategy</b></p>	<p><b>For which causes of underperformance might this pathway be selected?</b></p>	<p>This pathway might be selected in cases of persistent academic underperformance and if school district governance proves to be ineffective in improving outcomes for students over a period of time.</p>
<p><b>Governance Considerations</b></p>	<p><b>What governance and oversight structures are associated with this pathway?</b></p>	<p>Duties and responsibilities for governance and oversight are specified in C.R.S. § 22-30-101 through C.R.S. § 22-30-202 and include the involvement of the local board(s) of education, the district advisory accountability committee(s), school district organization planning committees, as well as the State Board of Education.</p>
	<p><b>What is the role of the Board in implementing this strategy?</b></p>	<p>The local board(s) of education appoints the required number of district organization planning committee members (as specified in statute) who will be authorized to study school district organization and develop a plan for reorganization.</p>
<p><b>Conditions Necessary for Success with this Strategy</b></p>	<p><b>What kind of leadership does the district/authorizer need to be able to provide?</b></p>	<p>The district needs to have the ability to successfully lead and negotiate multiple stakeholder interests for the development of a mutually acceptable plan of district organization that meets the requirements of statute, and which would be eventually voted on by eligible electors.</p>
	<p><b>What kind of leadership must the local board be prepared to provide?</b></p>	<p>The local board appoints a school district organization planning committee. Members of that committee must provide the time needed to represent multiple stakeholder interests, hold public hearings, and develop a plan of district organization that meets the requirements of statute.</p>



<p><b>Funding Considerations</b></p>	<p><b>What are the financial considerations associated with this strategy?</b></p>	<p>District reorganization is time intensive with statutorily defined timelines and involves local costs associated with an election process and probable legal fees. One of the requirements for a plan of organization is the equitable adjustment and distribution of all or any part of the properties and cash assets of the school district whose boundaries may be affected by the creation or dissolution of a school district or by the detachment and annexation of territory. For a fuller consideration pertaining to financial matters such as bonded indebtedness, assumption of existing bonded indebtedness, mill levy, valuation for assessment for taxable property and other key elements, please refer to the details of article 30 of title 22, C.R.S.</p>
<p><b>Risks/Special Considerations</b></p>	<p><b>What risks associated with this pathway might a district want to consider?</b></p>	<p>The major risk associated with this pathway is a defeat of the district plan of organization by the vote of eligible electors.</p>
	<p><b>What other information is important to be aware of?</b></p>	<p>The work is time intensive and the clock timelines/deadlines to meet various statutory requirements are clearly specified.</p>
<p><b>Examples</b></p>	<p><b>Where has this pathway been implemented with success? What other resources would be helpful to look at if considering this pathway?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A school district has not been reorganized due to the loss of accreditation under the Education Accountability Act of 2009.</li> <li>● Though not due to loss of accreditation, in November of 2000, the West Yuma District RJ-1 was dissolved by its voters at the end of the fiscal year and in July 2001, two new districts were formed – Yuma School District 1 and Liberty School District J-4.</li> <li>● Voters in November of 2000 also dissolved the East Yuma School District and formed two districts as a result—Wray School District RD-2 and Idalia School District RJ-3.</li> <li>● A valuable resource is the Manual of Procedures for the School Organization Act of 1992.</li> </ul>
<p><b>CDE Contact Information</b></p>	<p><b>Which unit should a district contact for more information about this pathway?</b></p>	<p>For further information, please contact: Office of Field Services <a href="http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/performance-support">http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/performance-support</a> Jhon Penn, Executive Director of Field Services 303-866-6632; <a href="mailto:penn_j@cde.state.co.us">penn_j@cde.state.co.us</a></p>