

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

Meeting Summary | February 21, 2024

Published Agenda

10:00-10:25 AM	Welcome and Overview
10:25-11:05 AM	Discuss Proposed Road Map Revisions
11:05-12:10 PM	Study Groups Work Time
12:10-12:40 PM	Lunch
12:40-1:20 PM	Study Group Work Time
1:20-2:20 PM	Cross-Study Group Collaboration Time, Groups 1-3
2:20-2:35 PM	Break
2:35-3:15 PM	Cross-Study Group Collaboration Time, Groups 4-5
3:15-3:40 PM	Review and Finalize Interim Report
3:40-4:00 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.

Task Force Members in Attendance

NAME	REPRESENTING	VENUE
Dr. Wendy Birhanzel (chair)	<i>Superintendent</i>	In-person
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>	Virtual
Pam 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 Duran	<i>Expert in English Language Acquisition and Bilingual Ed</i>	Virtual
Lindsey Gish	<i>Teacher (Middle School)</i>	Virtual
Alison Griffin	<i>Workforce Development and Education Organization</i>	In-Person
Dr. Don Haddad	<i>Superintendent</i>	In-Person
Dr. Rhonda Haniford	<i>Colorado Department of Education</i>	In-Person
Tamara Hiler	<i>Governor's Office Representative</i>	Virtual
Ted Johnson	<i>District Administrator (Rural Accountability)</i>	In-Person
Erin Kane	<i>Superintendent</i>	In-Person
Dr. Anne Keke	<i>Local School Board Member</i>	In-Person
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>	In-Person
Lisa Yates	<i>Superintendent (Rural Participant in Local Accountability System Grant)</i>	In-Person

CDE Staff: Lisa Medler, April Thompson, and Aislinn Wales

Facilitators: Sheila Briggs, Adam Brumer, and Kelly Jasiura

Welcome and Overview

The chair and vice chair welcomed the Task Force members and shared that the day's meeting would focus primarily on generating findings and recommendations on Colorado's Education Accountability system. In particular, the Task Force members will continue their conversations on what is working in

the accountability system, and where there is opportunity for improvement. The chairs also noted that given the Task Force's feedback from the January 21, 2024, meeting, as well as their answers to a pre-meeting survey, the facilitators would be proposing an updated roadmap to direct the group's work. Finally, the chairs shared that the group would take time to review the interim report before it is due to the legislature by March 1, and that the facilitators would also offer an update on the stakeholder consultation process.

The chairs then reviewed the objectives for the day's meeting, which included:

- Review updates to the 1241 Task Force Road Map
- Review and offer final feedback on the Interim Report
- Form study groups to prepare findings, prepare stakeholder consultations, and consider recommendations to five focus areas within the frameworks

The chairs also reminded the group of the Task Force's norms and charge. The facilitators then engaged the Task Force members in a connector activity.

Discuss Proposed Road Map Revisions

The facilitators then proposed to the Task Force a new roadmap to guide the remainder of the Task Force's work, which was co-created with input from the Task Force during the January 21, 2024, meeting and the pre-meeting survey.

The proposed new roadmap prioritizes discussion of the accountability frameworks during the February, March, and April meetings. To engage in these discussions, the Task Force would break into five study groups to determine findings and recommendations. The proposed study groups include:

- Impact of n-size and participation rates on SPF ratings
- Recognition of trends between groups of students (demographics, other categories)
- Assessments used for accountability ratings
- Measures sufficient for high school
- Measures sufficient for early grades

The Task Force would also produce findings and recommendations for the other elements of the accountability system – Reporting, Supports & Interventions, Improvement Planning, Public Engagement, and Awards – during the April, May, and June meetings.

In addition to studying the various elements of the accountability system, the roadmap also proposed that the Task Force would engage in stakeholder consultations between the February and May meetings, and that they would hear from panels of external stakeholders to inform findings and recommendations during the April meeting. Lastly, the facilitators would work to develop the final report using Task Force input beginning in March, aiming for completion of the report in June.

After presenting the updated roadmap, the Task Force members shared that the timeline seemed too quick, and they wanted to extend the timeline beyond June to have more time to engage in

conversations about the accountability system frameworks, produce recommendations, and draft the final report. As a next step, the facilitators said they would consider the feedback from the Task Force and update the roadmap accordingly.

Study Groups Work Time

The facilitators then shared with the group the process for engaging in the study groups. The facilitators explained that during the day's meeting and the March and April meetings, the Task Force would be given significant time to gather and work in their small groups and engage with one another as a full Task Force. The facilitators would provide the Task Force with the tools to do this work, such as facilitation agendas, note-catchers, and instruments to gather stakeholder feedback, but study groups would be responsible for analyzing and summarizing the information they collect to inform their findings and recommendations. The facilitators would also provide toolkits to support stakeholder engagement and specific guidance on how study groups can meet between Task Force meetings while still following the rules of a public meeting.

The facilitators then outlined the essential elements of the study group process, which include:

- Gathering and considering existing Task Force materials on each study group topic;
- identifying additional information needs;
- identifying and engaging with additional resources and/or external stakeholders to meet additional information needs;
- producing findings and recommendations;
- getting feedback on findings and recommendations from the rest of the Task Force; and
- revising findings and recommendations based on the Task Force's feedback.

Most importantly, the facilitators emphasized that every Task Force member would have an opportunity to weigh in on each study group's findings and recommendations, regardless of whether they are assigned to that study group.

After presenting the study group process, the facilitators then led the Task Force members through an exercise to help them level set on the types of recommendations they could make, as well as the specificity and grain size of the recommendations. The facilitators noted that the Task Force's recommendations should focus on actions that the education committees of the house of representatives and senate, the governor, the state board, the commissioner of education, and the Colorado Department of Education can do. These entities can support the passage of a law, but the group brainstormed other actions the Task Force recommend they do, including:

- Creating rules;
- allocating funding;
- utilizing federal waiver opportunities from the federal government;
- aligning across other education statutes; and
- working toward public education and understanding.

The facilitators then talked about the grain size for the recommendations. They noted that while it is helpful when the recommendations are specific, when the group cannot reach consensus or does not have the knowledge to recommend a more specific action, backing up to a more general recommendation can help solve for this challenge. Not all recommendations need to be the same grain size, and proposing broader recommendations can help ensure all recommendations gain consensus from the full Task Force.

The Task Force members then split up into their study groups to review progress from previous meetings; being generating accountability-related findings and recommendations grounded in enhancing academic opportunities or addressing academic inequities; and preparing for a whole group share out.

Cross-Study Group Collaboration Time

After working in their study groups, each of the five groups shared out their key findings and any proposed recommendations with the full group for initial feedback and to take clarifying questions. The full group was also asked to take a pulse check on each of the key findings and recommendations in the five study group notetaking documents. Using the comment function in Google Documents, Task Force members shared the following reactions to other groups' early findings and recommendations:

- You are on the right track;
- I have some concerns, but with modifications I could get on board; and
- I am opposed to this direction.

Using this initial feedback, study groups will continue to refine their findings and recommendations in future meetings.

Review and Finalize Interim Report

At the start of the meeting, the facilitators briefly walked the Task Force through the timeline and process used for reviewing the interim report and incorporating Task Force feedback. They then gave the Task Force time to review changes that had been made to the report since the last time it had been shared with the Task Force. Upon review of the changes, many members of the Task Force requested further edits.

During the meeting, the facilitators worked to incorporate these requested edits. Towards the end of the meeting, the facilitators presented the edits to the Task Force and made further changes as requested. At the meeting's close, the Task Force approved the proposed final language in the interim report. As a next step, the facilitators are making final approved edits and reviewing the report for copyediting and formatting. The chairs will submit the report to the Legislature by the March 1 deadline.

Closing

The chairs closed the meeting by recapping the day's agenda and objectives and thanking the Task Force members for their hard work, and the CDE and Aurora PLCC staff for their tech and logistical support.

Summary of next steps

- Education First will revise the proposed roadmap to extend the Task Force’s work beyond June
- The Task Force members will continue to add notes to their study group note-catchers and leave comments in other groups’ note-catchers to inform their findings and recommendations
- Education First will finalize the interim report and the chairs will submit the report to the legislature by the March 1 deadline
- Task Force members will complete the post-meeting survey

The next meeting will take place on March 12, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned.

Meeting summary prepared by Education First