Colorado State Board of Education

## TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

## **BEFORE THE**

## COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMMISSION DENVER, COLORADO

May 11, 2017 Meeting Transcript - PART 2

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT on May 11, 2017, the above-entitled meeting was conducted at the Colorado

Department of Education, before the following Board Members:

Angelika Schroeder (D), Chairman Joyce Rankin (R), Vice-Chairman Steven Durham (R) Valentina (Val) Flores (D) Jane Goff (D) Pam Mazanec (R) Rebecca McClellan (D)

- 1 MADAM CHAIR: Like to bring the meeting back
- 2 to order. Our apologies for the delay. We'd like to honor
- 3 the 2016 United States Senate Youth Program representatives.
- 4 Commissioner --
- 5 MS. ANTHES: Yes.
- 6 MADAM CHAIR: -- may I turn it over to you,
- 7 please?
- 8 MS. ANTHES: Thank you very much. We are glad
- 9 to have you. Today, we are pleased to be honoring the
- 10 recipients of the 2016 United States Senate Youth
- 11 Scholarship winners. And so, at this time, I'm going to call
- 12 Director Lynn Bamberry up to tell us a little bit about this
- 13 and provide the awards. Thank you.
- MS. BAMBERRY: Today, we'd like to honor Maia
- 15 Brockbank and Tennyson (Tye) Brown-Wolf, the Colorado
- 16 delegates for the 54th annual United States Senate Youth
- 17 Program. Selection to the United States Senate Youth Program
- 18 is based on a student's outstanding abilities and
- 19 demonstrated qualities of leadership in an elected or
- 20 appointed high school student office, in addition to
- 21 outstanding leadership abilities and strong commitment to
- 22 volunteer work.
- Two delegates are chosen from each state, the
- 24 District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education
- 25 Activity. The two students gathered in Washington from March

- 1 4th to 11th, 2017, for a week of intensive study of the
- 2 federal government and in particular, the US Senate.
- 3 Speakers for Washington Week included the
- 4 president of the United States, US senators including
- 5 Senator Cory Gardner from Colorado, Congressional
- 6 representatives, ambassadors, Supreme Court justices, and
- 7 NASA administrators. In addition, each delegate received a
- 8 \$10,000 college scholarship.
- 9 This scholarship, in addition to the program
- 10 week in Washington is made possible by a grant from the
- 11 Will- Willi- sorry, William Randolph Hearst Foundation. Of
- 12 the applications received, Maia and Tye rose to the top and
- 13 demonstrated higher academic achievement, leadership
- 14 ability, and a commitment to public service.
- To give you a little background on each of
- 16 the awardees, Maia is a senior at Denver High School of the
- 17 Arts. She currently serves on the student council and is the
- 18 Denver Public Schools Board of Education student
- 19 representative. She's active in National Honor Society and
- 20 International Thespian Society.
- 21 In addition, she served as the United States
- 22 Senate Page worker as an Intern for Senator Michael Bennet.
- 23 After graduation, she plans to major in political science
- 24 with an emphasis on minority rights. Her dream would be to
- 25 serve as an adviser to the president on historical trends,

- 1 revisionist history and how history can affect modern-day
- 2 public policy.
- 3 Tye Brown-Wolf is a senior at The Peak School
- 4 in Frisco, Colorado. He's currently the president of
- 5 Colorado Student Leaders Institute, the Colorado Governor's
- 6 School, student advisory board member, as well as the
- 7 captain of the debate team. Tye is taking accelerated
- 8 classes through both Colorado Mountain College and the
- 9 University of Colorado Denver.
- 10 He served as the director of outreach for
- 11 State Representative Millie Hamner's campaign and was a
- 12 volunteer for Hillary Clinton's presidential bid. He aspires
- 13 to work on legislation concerning American finances and
- 14 foreign policy.
- 15 Both Maia and Tye epitomize what our nation
- 16 needs for the next generation of leaders: A person who
- 17 challenges himself academically, cares about people, serves
- 18 their community and is willing to do the hard work required
- 19 to make our world a better place. So, please help me
- 20 recognize Maia and Tye as they come forward to say a few
- 21 words.
- 22 MS. BROCKBANK: Hi, Madam Chair and members
- 23 of the board. Thank you so much for having us here. We're
- 24 really honored to be here. So, we just wanted to give a
- 25 couple of points about our experience in Washington and,

- 1 sort of, as a point of thanks to you guys for help making it
- 2 all possible.
- 3 So, one of the things that was really
- 4 important for me and being in the trip was, sort of, the
- 5 emphasis that was being placed on public service, which I
- 6 think can be categories- categorized in a lot of different
- 7 ways and something that's often really overlooked as only
- 8 applicable to elected officials. And that that's something
- 9 that was really emphasized on the trip that that isn't true
- 10 and that there are public servants all throughout our
- 11 government who make a big impact on our lives today.
- 12 And some of my highlights from the trip
- 13 included being able to experience who those public servants
- 14 were. So, some of my favorite memories were meeting with the
- 15 Senate Parliamentarian and the Office of the Historian, and
- 16 an old friend of mine who is now working as a Capitol Police
- 17 officer, and, sort of, redefining what public service is.
- 18 And that's something that has sticked with me
- 19 and will continue to for the rest of my life. And it seems
- 20 like that's something that should feel very obvious is that
- 21 everyone at a level of government or outside of deserves
- 22 some level of recognition for the service that they do. But
- 23 in particular, in today's political climate, it feels like
- 24 there's a strong aversion to difference, and so those people
- 25 often go highly unrecognized.

- 1 And so, having the opportunity to, sort of,
- 2 be able to recognize the work that everyone does on each
- 3 scale is really important to me, which is why I wanted to
- 4 thank you guys too for also doing your job as public
- 5 servants. I know that the Department of Education is not
- 6 always glamorous, and you don't always get the, the star-
- 7 spangled treatment. But I just wanted to thank you guys so
- 8 much for what you do to be servants and that you are the
- 9 leaders that we look up to for tomorrow. So-
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.
- 11 MR. BROWN-WOLF: Good afternoon Madam Chair
- 12 and members of the board. My name is Tye Brown-Wolf, I'm a
- 13 senior at The Peak School in Frisco, Colorado. Next year,
- 14 I'll be getting a joint degree from William and Mary and St.
- 15 Andrews in Scotland. So, two years at both institutions for
- 16 a degree in International Economics.
- 17 I, until yesterday when session ended, was a
- 18 legislative intern for Representative Millie Hamner. Over
- 19 the past couple of years, I've tried to immerse myself in
- 20 both state and local government.
- 21 However, there are limited opportunities to
- 22 do so with the federal government. And the United States
- 23 Senate Youth Program does just this. It gives 140 United
- 24 States citizens the ability to go and experience federal
- 25 government firsthand. In addition, I got to experience 103

- 1 other remarkably talented and accomplished delegates. And I
- 2 have three main takeaways from that week.
- 3 The first is that I'd like to attend law
- 4 school. I wou- eventually, this might change, would like to
- 5 become a judge. The Wa- my time at Washington taught me that
- 6 judges have a remarkable ability to avoid party politics,
- 7 yet at the same time, make real decision to make real
- 8 change. This spoke to me on a personal level and I aspire to
- 9 do so.
- 10 The next is, it restored my faith in the
- 11 political process. Personally, I disagree with much of the
- 12 current administration has been doing, a lot of the
- 13 different budget cuts, and a lot of the leaders that are
- 14 leading our country. However, the week in DC taught me,
- 15 although I might not have faith in our political leaders, I
- 16 do have faith in our political process.
- 17 And that was very refreshing and encouraging
- 18 at the same time. And the last is the large spectrum that
- 19 the 104 delegates had political views in. Going into it, we
- 20 were all 17 or 18, and we were the perfect age for Bernie
- 21 Sanders' supporters. I thought we were all going to be very,
- 22 very liberal.
- However, I would say that it was split 50/50
- 24 between conservatives and liberals and that was encouraging
- 25 as well because not only did we have a wide range of

- 1 political beliefs, but everyone could sit down and have a
- 2 conversation about those beliefs and back up why they hold
- 3 those at such a personal level. So, all in all, the week at
- 4 Washington was incredible and I learned a lot. Thank you so
- 5 much for all that you do and the support you have for
- 6 Colorado. Thank you.
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you. We commend
- 8 you for your dedication to student achievement and for as-
- 9 inspiring students to higher performance. If you'll please
- 10 join me in honoring the 2016 US Senate Youth Program
- 11 Scholarship winners again. And when I call you, would each
- 12 of you please come forward with your families for a
- 13 photograph in front of our seal. Maia, (indiscernible).
- MS. BROCKBANK: Oh, no.
- MALE SPEAKER: So, I think, yeah. We have to
- 16 move all the stuff up here.
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We've discovered this
- 18 now. Congratulations.
- 19 MS. BROCKBANK: Thank you.
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: You too.
- MS. BROCKBANK: Thank you so much.
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We're going to take a
- 23 few. Thank you. And Tye.
- MR. BROWN-WOLF: Yes.
- 25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Please come.

- 1 MR. BROWN-WOLF: Thank you so much.
- 2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Now, everyone take a
- 3 little step- there we go. Congratulations.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Pause for photographs)
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So the next recognition
- 6 is of Colorado's 2016 Title One Distinguished Schools.
- 7 Commissioners, turned over to you.
- 8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes, we're pleased to be
- 9 honoring the recipients of the 2016 Title One Distinguished
- 10 Schools for this year. I've met a couple of our school
- 11 leaders already as I went to their schools earlier this year
- 12 to present the award to them.
- So we're glad to have you up here so the rest
- 14 of the board can congratulate you. So this time our
- 15 director, Lynn Bamberry, will come forward again to tell us
- 16 about it.
- 17 MS. BAMBURY: Thank you. Today we're going to
- 18 honor the 2016 Title One Distinguished School Award winners.
- 19 Since 2006, Colorado in conjunction with the National Party
- 20 One Association has selected examples of superior tied to
- 21 One School programs for recognition through the National
- 22 Title One Distinguished Schools program.
- 23 Schools are selected in one of two
- 24 categories. Exceptional student performance for two or more
- 25 consecutive years are closing the achievement gap between

- 1 student groups. In order to be eligible, schools must meet
- 2 the following criteria: have a poverty rate of at least 35
- 3 percent, demonstrate high academic achievement for two or
- 4 more consecutive years, meet or exceed state criteria for at
- 5 least two consecutive years.
- 6 From among the more than 750 Title One
- 7 schools in the state of Colorado, the 2016 Title One
- 8 Distinguished Schools Award for closing the achievement gap
- 9 was presented to Wildflower Elementary. Wildflower
- 10 Elementary School had percentile ranks above 80 percent for
- 11 both Reading and Language Arts and Math in 2016, indicating
- 12 that they perform better than over 80 percent of elementary
- 13 schools in the state.
- 14 Wildflower Elementary School closed the
- 15 achievement gap of all the segregated groups in English
- 16 Language Arts from 2015-16 while improving the achievement
- 17 of students overall. Wildflower Elementary School also
- 18 closed the achievement gaps for Math, for English language
- 19 learners, minority students and students with disabilities
- 20 from 2015 to 2016.
- 21 Eads Elementary was awarded the 2016 Title
- 22 One Distinguished Award for exceptional student performance.
- 23 Eads Elementary had part means scales scores above 760 for
- 24 both English Language Arts and Math in both 2015 and 2016,
- 25 indicating that the average performance of students tested

- 1 in the school is above, meets or exceeds expectations.
- Based on this performance, Eads Elementary
- 3 School had percentile ranks above 90 for both Reading and
- 4 Math for both years, indicating that they perform better
- 5 than over 90 of elementary schools in the state. These
- 6 Colorado schools joined hundreds of other distinguished
- 7 schools nationwide in making a difference for our Title One
- 8 children.
- 9 At award ceremonies at each school in
- 10 December, Dr. Anthers presented each school with their award
- 11 including a banner commemorating their incredible
- 12 achievement and a cheque for 10 thousand dollars to use at
- 13 the school's discretion. I would now like to introduce each
- 14 of our Title One Distinguished Schools and ask a
- 15 representative to say just a few words. We'll have Wendy
- 16 Godwin from Wildflower and Sue Fox from Eads Elementary.
- 17 MS. GODWIN: Hi, I'm Wendy Godwin, the
- 18 principal at Wildflower Elementary. First of all, I want to
- 19 thank you so much for this prestigious award. Our-our little
- 20 school and our little neighborhood-hood we work really,
- 21 really hard every day to make sure that we're achieving and
- 22 doing the best for all of our students.
- 23 My staff gives 150 percent every day and
- 24 they're just phenomenal people to work with and they come
- 25 back every year no matter how tough it gets, they-they just

- $1\quad$  keep coming back and giving and we just love all of the kids
- 2 there and we just really want to thank all of you all for
- 3 choosing us for this prestigious award and thank you for
- 4 the-the-the 10,000 dollars award. Of course, it didn't take
- 5 as long to spend that. Once again thank you so much. I do
- 6 appreciate it.
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Wildflowers in the
- 8 Harrison School District.
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Oh, I'm sorry.
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yep.
- 11 MS. FOX: Madam Chair and members of the
- 12 board, I'm Sue Fox. I'm the Special Education teacher at
- 13 Eads Schools, K through 12. And we also want to thank you so
- 14 much for honoring Eads with this award.
- I speak for the school staff, the school
- 16 board and community when I say that we are very proud to
- 17 receive it and plus the 10000 dollars was also a very nice
- 18 boost. Our staff feels strongly that every student deserves
- 19 the opportunity to be successful.
- We treasure every child and we try to keep
- 21 the parents informed and involved and we have high
- 22 expectations and standards. Eads is a small town in the
- 23 south eastern part of the state. Since I've been teaching
- 24 there the last 19 years, our demograph-demographics have
- 25 changed fairly, significantly.

- 1 We have seen an increase in the number of at-
- 2 risk students and have developed ways to deal with this.
- 3 These include a-interventions during the school day and
- 4 after-school homework program and summer school
- 5 interventions.
- 6 We continually monitor and assess where our
- 7 students are academically, and the entire staff works
- 8 together to allow the children to achieve to the best of
- 9 their abilities. We invite you each and every one of you to
- 10 come visit us at any time. Thank you very much.
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you very much for
- 12 your hard work and dedication to our kids, by inspiring all
- 13 of us. So when I call you would you please come forward
- 14 separately. Come forward and have a photograph taken and
- 15 receive it.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Miss Godwin?
- MS. GODWIN: Yes.
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah.
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We need someone here
- 20 (indiscernible).
- 21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's almost time.
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Kindergarten readiness.
- 23 Are we all back now? Can I start? So, the next item on the
- 24 agenda is consideration of Kindergarten School Readiness
- 25 assessment menu. Commissioner?

- 1 MS. ANTHES: Yes. Thank you. At this time,
- 2 I'll turn it over to Dr. Colsman, associate commissioner of
- 3 student learning. This is a topic though that we have talked
- 4 about a long time ago that I know you all are interested in,
- 5 in terms of school readiness assessments and we're trying to
- 6 provide more options for schools and districts. And so this
- 7 is the start of that conversation.
- 8 DR. COLSMAN: Good afternoon. And despite
- 9 what some people say, this is actually- it's very glamorous
- 10 to be with you. So, it's very glamorous. Yes. Your service
- 11 is actually quite glamorous.
- 12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: You got to worry about
- 13 your life.
- 14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: What are you trying to
- 15 achieve here, Ms. Colsman?
- DR. COLSMAN: Just- just basking- just
- 17 basking in the glorious. No actually it is- it is actually
- 18 truly a pleasure to be with you each time. My name is
- 19 Melissa Colsman, associate commissioner of student learning.
- 20 And with me, is Emily Kielmeyer, our kindergarten readiness
- 21 program manager for CDE.
- 22 And Emily- and Emily was a- is a former
- 23 kindergarten teacher and has worked extensively with
- 24 different kindergarten assessments and has been able to
- 25 provide great support for our kindergarten teachers in the

- 1 State during the start of Kindergarten School Readiness. So,
- 2 she'll be here to answer some questions as we go along.
- 3 So, as we wait for the presentation to be
- 4 pulled up, Bizy will also be handing out- we have a bonus
- 5 slide for you today which is in response to a couple of
- 6 questions we've received since the original materials were
- 7 sent to you. So you get a bonus slide which just provides a
- 8 little bit of additional information.
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: At no extra cost?
- 10 DR. COLSMAN: At no extra cost. No expenses
- 11 were spared. Our- our purpose today is to, first of all,
- 12 present recommendations from the Kindergarten School
- 13 Readiness assessment committee for changes to the school
- 14 readiness assessment menu, and then also ask for a vote on
- 15 the recommended changes to the menu.
- 16 As a brief overview of Kindergarten School
- 17 Readiness, within cap for K with respect to the requirements
- 18 for the State Board of Education and for local education
- 19 providers, the State Board is req- is required to adopt a
- 20 description of school readiness, adopt one or more
- 21 assessments for school readiness, adopt a system for
- 22 reporting population level results and then on a regular
- 23 basis, kind of revisit the description of school readiness
- 24 as well as the school readiness assessments.
- 25 And we've put in red that piece that we're

- 1 talking about today which is looking at the school readiness
- 2 assessments. School districts are required to ensure that
- 3 every child in a publicly funded preschool or kindergarten
- 4 program has an individual school readiness plan and that
- 5 that plan be informed by a school readiness assessment.
- 6 So, kind of doing a quick march through time
- 7 of kind of where have we been with this work. In 2010 is
- 8 when the State embarked on a yearlong process to look at the
- 9 State's assessment system and looking broadly at all of the
- 10 requirements within cap for K. There was a- an assessment
- 11 committee that had a subcommittee specific to school
- 12 readiness assessment which provided recommendations for this
- 13 work and we've been following those recommendations as we go
- 14 along. In 2012, is when we conducted the first review
- 15 process to bring forward recommendations for board
- 16 consideration, for school readiness assessments.
- 17 At that time, there was only one assessment
- 18 that met legislative criteria. At that point, what we talked
- 19 about was the legislation was head of the marketplace in
- 20 terms of the types of assessments that were being required
- 21 in cap for K and what was actually available. At that time,
- 22 the State Board was responding to the value of having choice
- 23 and having a menu and ensuring that there was more than one
- 24 option in the menu, because if there's only one choice, here
- 25 really isn't choice.

- 1 So, the board agreed with a proposal to phase
- 2 in the process of implementation of school readiness
- 3 assessments so that there'd be an opportunity for perhaps
- 4 the marketplace to catch up. In 2013, another assessment
- 5 review process was conducted.
- 6 There were no assessments found that met
- 7 criteria. And at that point, the phasing process was agreed
- 8 to be extended further. In 2014, we struck gold,
- 9 metaphorically, that there was an additional review process
- 10 conducted and there was an opportunity to recommend two
- 11 further assessments.
- 12 One is called the Desired Results
- 13 Developmental profile, that's an assessment developed by the
- 14 State of California, and as well as the Riverside Early
- 15 Learning assessment, I'm sorry, Riverside Early Assessment
- 16 of Learning, called REAL. And then also at that time,
- 17 Teaching Strategies had developed a kindergarten assessment
- 18 survey version of its larger assessment, so it's a shorter
- 19 assessment able to be administered or actually be able to be
- 20 used by teachers instead of thinking of one on one with
- 21 students more globally within groups of students. 2015, then
- 22 was the first-year full implementation of school readiness
- 23 assessments.
- 24 And last year, the State Board adopted a
- 25 system for reporting population level results. And today,

- 1 we're coming forward with our results of a fourth review of
- 2 school readiness assessments. And again, this was required
- 3 to have occurred by July 2017.
- 4 A few pieces of what these assessment
- 5 qualities are required to include, cap for K indicates that
- 6 these assessments be research based, be recognized
- 7 nationally as reliable, suitable for informing instruction
- 8 and support, suitable for measuring increasing knowledge and
- 9 skills, and that these assessment would be used to inform
- 10 the development and implementation of individual school
- 11 readiness plans, and could be used on a- on a regular basis
- 12 to guide teacher practice.
- So, over these last few years, we've learned
- 14 quite a bit about this initiative. And you have had an
- 15 opportunity to hear, actually from districts, about the
- 16 issues that they have dealt with- with respect to this. One
- 17 of the things that we've heard is that, yes, there still is
- 18 a value of choice in the State.
- 19 We've also heard that there's challenges for
- 20 teachers over the time needed to learn to efficiently use an
- 21 observational assessment. There's a learning curve in using
- 22 the types of assessments that are suitable for five-year-
- 23 olds and it takes time to learn to use those well and
- 24 efficiently. We've also heard general concerns about State
- 25 assessment requirements.

- 1 So, the school readiness assessment
- 2 initiative was also part of a lot of discussions around the
- 3 number of assessments that the State requires so that has
- 4 kind of been, kind of, I say, amassed in that discussion as
- 5 well. We've also had requests to show a better coordination
- 6 between Kindergarten School Readiness assessments and the
- 7 required READ Act assessments which occur at different grade
- 8 levels.
- 9 And in fact, two years ago, the legislature
- 10 addressed that by allowing the READ Act assessment
- 11 information to actually take the place of any of the- of the
- 12 literacy portion of the school readiness assessment. And
- 13 there's also been questions about the role and the purpose
- 14 of these assessments with respect to kindergarten standards
- 15 and whether or not these assessments would be fully
- 16 measuring the standards.
- 17 And we've been able to work with districts
- 18 and teachers to help them understand the school readiness
- 19 assessments are about looking at the- the different
- 20 developmental and academic domains of children which are
- 21 much more broad than a specific assessment of the Colorado
- 22 academic standards.
- That said, we did make sure that a
- 24 requirement for the review process for our assessment
- 25 recommendations would include an alignment with the Colorado

- 1 academic standards to ease that for teachers.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Ms. Colsman.
- DR. COLSMAN: Yes.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: If I may, I'd like to
- 5 add on page six, assessments to be used on a continuing
- 6 basis to guide teacher practice. If I'm not incorrect,
- 7 there's also a piece here about engaging parents in a
- 8 conversation as a result of these assessments.
- 9 Is your requirement that they be informed
- 10 throughout the year as their children progress? Could-could
- 11 you flush that out because for me, at least, that's actually
- 12 a very important piece, is the fact that communicating with
- 13 kindergarten parents about these.
- 14 DR. COLSMAN: Right. I think- yeah. Madam
- 15 Chair, that's a- that's a very good point and I think with-
- 16 with the READ Act, there is a very specific parent
- 17 engagement requirement specific to the development of READ
- 18 plans and with implementation of the READ plans. Within the-
- 19 the school readiness initiative, there's not as strict a
- 20 requirement around parents having to be involved in the
- 21 development. However, it's obviously a very important
- 22 practice.
- 23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I thought when you
- 24 developed the plan that the pa- it had to be shared with
- 25 parents, am I wrong?

- 1 DR. COLSMAN: So I'm looking at the-I
- 2 believe we provided, in- in addition to your materials, a
- 3 summary of what's in cap for K. So, with you, I will skim
- 4 through that and see if I see-making sure that I'm not
- 5 mistaken.
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I might be wrong. I
- 7 might have the wrong one, but I thought parents had to-
- 8 DR. COLSMAN: Right. But I would say though
- 9 that, especially at the kindergarten level, because, you
- 10 know, often- especially for first time parents, this is the
- 11 first opportunity that a parent has engaged with another
- 12 adult in looking at the growth and development of their
- 13 child and they are always hungry for information.
- 14 How is my child doing? Is my child
- 15 progressing the way that, you know, typical children are
- 16 progressing? Where can I help? And so, the assessment tools
- 17 and resources are- are meant to have very strong parent
- 18 engagement components, but it's- it's- from my read, I'm
- 19 seeing a very specific requirement there.
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Sorry. Thank you.
- DR. COLSMAN: Yeah.
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So, you will recall that
- 23 back in February, we brought forward the re- request for
- 24 information, which provided the criteria for review for
- 25 these assessment tools. Our, our school readiness committee

- 1 met, and has these recommendations for your consideration.
- The committee is recommending that the school
- 3 readiness assessment list continue to include the Desired
- 4 Results Developmental Profiles, so that was on the list from
- 5 earlier. Th- the assessment still meets the requirements of
- 6 state statute, that the assessment menu still continue to
- 7 include Teaching Strategies GOLD.
- 8 This is a good opportunity to talk about the
- 9 continuum of options that are available within that tool.
- 10 So, there is a full assessment tool, which is one that
- 11 includes a, a number of academic and developmental domains
- 12 and a multiple options of how teachers can document student
- 13 progress there.
- There is also an abbreviated assessment tool,
- 15 so an abbreviated version of that tool. Those are meant to
- 16 still record student progress on a student by student basis.
- 17 There's also a Kindergarten Entry Assessment survey and so
- 18 that's a version of the tool that allows a teacher to
- 19 perhaps work with a group of students or look at their whole
- 20 class in a single objective as a time.
- 21 So instead of student by student, actually
- 22 look at a particular objective and assess all of their
- 23 students at the same time. So, it's, it's kind of, it's more
- 24 of a checklist and a, a less time-consuming process. Then
- 25 there's also an abbreviated Kindergarten Entry Assessment

- 1 survey.
- 2 So, really there's a broad continuum of
- 3 options within that tool. Those are all available at the
- 4 same subscription price. So those, you, you buy a sub-
- 5 subscription, you can choose any option, it's completely at
- 6 the district or school level. The committee's request is
- 7 recommending removing the Riverside Early Assessments of
- 8 Learning or REAL from the list.
- 9 The reason for that, it's no longer being
- 10 published. So, it's no longer able to be used or available
- 11 for use. The committee identified HighScope Child
- 12 Observation Record or HighScope COR. As an addition, this is
- 13 a, a tool that actually has been in existence for a number
- 14 of years.
- They've actually been able to complete some
- 16 of the validation studies that were not complete last time
- 17 and actually bolster some of the areas that were found to be
- 18 inadequate the last time they were reviewed, and so, they
- 19 are now meeting requirements.
- There was also an interesting submission, and
- 21 this was a, a kindergarten assessment tool developed by the
- 22 State of North Carolina, and one of our school districts is
- 23 very interested in considering this as an addition to the
- 24 school readiness menu. So, the committee reviewed that
- 25 assessment tool.

- 1 But there were still some issues with respect
- 2 to completion of some of the validation studies. The
- 3 validation studie- studies have not yet been completed and
- 4 so the committee had some reluctance around whether or not
- 5 to recommend that fully to be added to the menu. But
- 6 instead, we are recommending that Jeffco Public Schools be
- 7 able to pilot a, a study of that tool for the next two years
- 8 in order to participate in the validation study.
- 9 They are very interested in this process and
- 10 we think that it actually could give th- the state another
- 11 option of consideration. So, the, the last piece that I will
- 12 share, and this is the bonus material that our many
- 13 thousands in the audience will not be able to see at the
- 14 moment, but -- but Bizy has them just in case. Yeah.
- 15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Right.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So, so what you'll see
- 17 there is just with respect to how many items do these
- 18 assessments have and how much do they cost. I think that was
- 19 something that was pointed out would be helpful for board
- 20 members. The one thing that I'll point out to you is, we
- 21 don't have a, we can't say how long these assessments take,
- 22 because these are not assessments that are administered to
- 23 children.
- 24 Five-year-olds don't really take test.
- 25 Instead, these are assessment tools that are based on

- 1 observation of children's behavior and a documentation of
- 2 that to report back to parents as well as to inform a school
- 3 readiness plan. So, what you'll see is, instead of time, is
- 4 how many ratings do each of them include.
- 5 The one thing that I, I will note for you is,
- 6 you'll see that the full version for Teaching Strategies
- 7 GOLD and the Kindergarten Entry survey versions, both have
- 8 the same number of ratings. But how those ratings are done
- 9 is what the difference is, is why the survey version is
- 10 faster.
- 11 So imagine, if you're doing 60 ratings with
- 12 each individual child, or if you're doing 60 ratings of your
- 13 whole class at a time, and so that's kind of how that, how,
- 14 why those are the, the difference between the two. I will
- 15 point out as well that the DRDP and the North Carolina
- 16 version, so DRDP-K if you remember that's developed by
- 17 California and the North Carolina tools, those are both free
- 18 and available for download.
- 19 In fact, for DRDP, we have a number of
- 20 charter schools that are using that as an option, but
- 21 because those are state produce, there's no cost for those.
- 22 However, there, if there would be an interest in having some
- 23 sort of way to have a more of a- an online record keeping
- 24 system, that is an option, but there's a cost associated
- 25 with that.

- 1 And that would be an economies of scale kind
- 2 of discussion depending on how many districts would be
- 3 interested in using it and in terms of sharing a cost. For
- 4 right now, that'll, that'll end our presentation. What I'll
- 5 ask for is, you know, obviously ask, answer any questions
- 6 that you might have, but we are asking for you to approve
- 7 the recommendations of the committee.
- 8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Comments, questions?
- 9 Board Member Durham.
- 10 MR. DURHAM: I move to approve the
- 11 recommendations of the committee.
- 12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I second.
- 13 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you. So, Board
- 14 Member Rankin, questions?
- 15 MS. RANKIN: Yes. I'd like to revisit GOLD
- 16 strategies and the GOL- I, I guess they call it now GOLD
- 17 light because it's less now. Can you tell me approximately
- 18 how many schools are, are using that and the percentage of
- 19 full GOLD or light? I'm just curious.
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Great. With -- I'll
- 21 defer to my colleague, Emily Kielmeyer.
- 22 MS. KIELMEYER: Yes, thank you. Most of our
- 23 districts have started off their school year with the
- 24 reduced versions, so the light version. It is a great way to
- 25 begin the school year as you get to know your kindergarten

- 1 class and your students. They also mostly use the survey
- 2 version or the checklist version as Melissa described to
- 3 really be able to look at their small groups, whole groups
- 4 but really that class view.
- 5 And then districts may choose to continue
- 6 using that. They may expand and choose some additional
- 7 items. There really is a great deal of flexibility within
- 8 these options now. And so anecdotally, I would say the
- 9 majority again of those using GOLD are using the reduced
- 10 version to start the year.
- 11 And then we do have about 25 districts or so
- 12 that have chosen to continue utilizing GOLD. They may use it
- 13 for their report cards, for parent-teacher conferences
- 14 really to continue to inform teacher instruction and
- 15 planning. But we don't collect actual data on that but
- 16 anecdotally that's what I've found as we've been out working
- 17 with districts across the state.
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Do you have any
- 19 anecdotal information since they've been around the longest.
- 20 That's the only reason I'm picking them out. As to how
- 21 students that have been involved in this program fair
- 22 compared to other students that are in parallel in all other
- 23 way?
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That's a wonderful-
- 25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Assessment

- 1 (indiscernible).
- 2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No in next step it would
- 3 be, though she knows.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I was going to say
- 5 that's a wonderful question. I've heard anecdotally from
- 6 teachers that it has definitely supported them. Sometimes
- 7 when they're looking at maybe interventions or progress
- 8 monitoring especially if they're looking to progress monitor
- 9 across areas.
- 10 So they might want to look at both
- 11 developmental and academic areas to support the child and
- 12 it's also supported them in working with their families and
- 13 really communicating to the family how the child is doing,
- 14 maybe some things the teacher is doing in class that are
- 15 really working and it gives some suggestions to families.
- 16 Again, it's very anecdotal. So I don't have any specific --
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Do we not have any
- 18 follow up like going on to first or second, third grade or
- 19 even through the reading scores if they've been in that
- 20 program? Maybe it's just anecdotal but I would think you
- 21 have some more concrete.
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah. So, I'll take this
- 23 question. The first thing I'd like to do is also just
- 24 distinguish between the data and assessment provides and
- 25 then using that data and information.

- 1 And so, so one of the things that we always
- 2 want to make sure that we distinguish between is whether an
- 3 assessment will cause changes in, in student performance or
- 4 whether it's the changes in what happens in instruction with
- 5 respect to those results. So I think that's an important
- 6 variable to consider with these.
- 7 So, so with respect to, we are able to take a
- 8 look at student performance from K1, 2, 3 in our redact
- 9 information that we have. Right now, we don't have our
- 10 reporting system for kindergarten in place to be able to
- 11 make that connection between kindergarten school readiness
- 12 and to K1, 2, 3 and ultimately grade three achievement just
- 13 because the record, the reporting system will only be going
- 14 in place this year.
- 15 And it's not in an individual student level
- 16 if you'll recall. So there will be some questions that we
- 17 can't necessarily answer. But I think that would be actually
- 18 a very good question to ask the districts what you're
- 19 working with because they're the ones that have access to
- 20 that information and they know how their students are
- 21 responding to the instruction.
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I mentioned this before
- 23 but when I first came on the board, I went to one of the
- 24 classes on TS school, that was the, or TS school that was
- 25 the only one that was out there at the time and I heard a

- 1 lot of criticisms about how much time it takes and the
- 2 effort. But I have a district that the mandatorily require,
- 3 but the teachers are just, they will not let it go.
- 4 They want the full thing and as the child
- 5 progresses, they will go back and use some of the, a- and
- 6 it's, it's amazing but the whole district is doing quite
- 7 well and I'm hoping to see some kind of correlation with
- 8 prekindergarten work. I think it's vitally important
- 9 especially when you have the parents, they are wanting to do
- 10 it. So thank you so much.
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Board member Mazanec.
- MS. MAZANEC: What is next step? Will you
- 13 have a program in the next step?
- 14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, it was, yeah, I'm
- 15 sorry. What I was saying is after they get done with, with
- 16 pre-K and that sort of thing. Are they doing better as a
- 17 next step? It's not a program, it was just-
- 18 MS. MAZANEC: In the reporting is just how
- 19 many are ready for kindergarten and how many aren't, right?
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So the reporting system
- 21 that the board adopted is more of a what percent of kids are
- 22 showing readiness indicators by the number of domains. So
- 23 it's a little bit of a complex system.
- 24 So there are six domains in legislation. So
- 25 physical and motor development, cognition, general knowledge

- 1 and so on. And so, the reporting system the board adopted
- 2 asks for what is the percent of kids that shows zero out of
- 3 six, one out of six, two out of six, three out of six all
- 4 the way through six out of six domains.
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Board member Goff.
- 6 MS. GOFF: Just curious, Jeffco's -- was this
- 7 a recommendation? Is this contended to be a replacement for
- 8 a while of another one on the menu? I don't know, where did
- 9 it come from and why, I guess? I'm just curious.
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So we've had a number of
- 11 discussions with Jeffco leadership with respect to how they
- 12 were considering the kindergarten school readiness work in
- 13 their district and they have done a great deal of research
- 14 and preparation for thinking through how to best implement
- 15 within that district. And they have done some of their own
- 16 research on different tools that are available and actually
- 17 believe that the North Carolina tool really was one that met
- 18 their needs and so had asked us to consider a, inclusion on
- 19 the list.
- 20 MS. GOFF: So it wouldn't necessarily mean
- 21 Jeffco, they could always have the option but could change
- 22 up one of, whatever they're using now primarily for this one
- 23 --
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So my-
- MS. GOFF: -- or just add it to the-

- 1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: My understanding is that
- 2 they would replace what they're doing now with this North
- 3 Carolina tool and they would use that for a two-year time
- 4 period. At the end of that time, we would have been able to
- 5 look at some of those validation studies and determine
- 6 whether or not that should go permanently on the list for
- 7 the rest of the state.
- 8 MS. GOFF: Okay.
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: The full version?
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Both versions.
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Both versions.
- 12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Right, for North
- 13 Carolina.
- 14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Board Member Flores.
- 15 MS. FLORES: Is this just the, you might
- 16 think silly but how much does the state give to a district
- 17 per child? How much is spent per child per te- for testing.
- 18 Do you have any idea?
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So for the kindergarten
- 20 school readiness assessment, there are no state allocated
- 21 dollars for that. However, we, Colorado with the Department
- 22 of Human Services have been a part of the race to the top
- 23 early learning challenge fund. And during that time period
- 24 of this grant, we've been able to reimburse districts for
- 25 the cost of these assessments.

- 1 We'll actually be able to, this coming school
- 2 year will be the last year that through the grant we'll be
- 3 able to reimburse costs for the assessments.
- 4 MS. FLORES: I mean I was just remembering
- 5 when I worked in the evaluation department for Houston
- 6 school district, and we had \$2.75 to spend on testing per --
- 7 per student. So I mean when you read, and I know tests have
- 8 gone up.
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I was going to say that.
- 10 MS. FLORES: I mean, I'm something and then
- 11 we think of all the tests that we require and what that adds
- 12 up I'd like to know at some point. Maybe you're not the
- 13 person to answer this but that would be interesting. Thank
- 14 you.
- 15 MADAM CHAIR: Any other questions? Do you
- 16 want to call the vote, please?
- 17 MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Durham.
- MR. DURHAM: Yes.
- 19 MADAM CHAIR: A motion has already been made
- 20 and seconded. So the second one? No.
- 21 MS. CORDIAL: Yes. Board Member Flores
- 22 seconded the vote.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Right.
- MS. CORDIAL: So Board Member Dur- yes, okay.
- 25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: He said yes.

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1
                   MS. CORDIAL:
                                 Okay.
2
                   MS. FLORES: He -- yeah.
3
                   MS. CORDIAL: Board member Flores.
                   MS. FLORES: Yes.
                   MS. CORDIAL: Board member Goff.
5
6
                   MS. GOFF: Yes.
                   MS. CORDIAL: Board member Mazanec.
7
                   MS. MAZANEC: Yes.
8
9
                   MS. CORDIAL: Board Member McClellan.
10
                   MS. MCCLELLAN: Yes.
11
                   MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Rankin.
                   MS. RANKIN: Yes.
12
13
                   MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Schroeder.
                   MS. SCHROEDER:
14
                                   Yes.
                   UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Well, we thank you for
15
16
    this glamorous opportunity.
17
                   UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.
18
                   UNIDENTIFIED VOICE:
                                        Thank you. Next item is
19
    an update on the department's budget.
                   UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes, thank you. I will
20
    ask Leanne Emm and Jeff Blandford to come forward and
21
22
    they'll be giving us an overview. That said, we're going to
23
    use this opportunity to kind of just refresh our memory
24
    about the budget process. And I will say, in the past
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several years that I've been a staff person at the

25

- 1 Department, I've seen the budget process and I know we've
- 2 been holding off on a lot of things, just because of the
- 3 climate, you know, out there.
- 4 But in terms of when I came in as the
- 5 permanent Commissioner, I did want to just have an honest
- 6 conversation with you all about sort of an overview of the
- 7 needs we see in the Department. It doesn't mean that we have
- 8 to put all of these things forward, but we do want to share
- 9 with you from a Staff perspective, the different needs and
- 10 things that we see.
- 11 So you may have looked at this material and
- 12 sort of gulped hard, as I know I did when- when we kind of
- 13 asked our staff to bring forward the needs but, we want to
- 14 have this transparent conversation with you because you all
- 15 will have to make the decision, about what goes forward and
- 16 what doesn't. So with that, I'll turn it over to Ms. Emm.
- 17 MS. EMM: Thank you. Leanne Emm, Deputy
- 18 Commissioner, School Finance and Operations. We've already
- 19 turned over to Jeff to kind of walk through the PowerPoint.
- 20 I just wanted to talk a little bit about what Katy was
- 21 saying and we really wanted to take this opportunity to kind
- 22 of give an overview of the Department budget and look at
- 23 those needs without necessarily discussing how much they
- 24 might cost or something like that, because we'll be back
- 25 with you in June, in order to put some more- put some more

- 1 meat on the bones in order to be talking about what those
- 2 items might look like from a cost standpoint.
- 3 But we really did want to take the
- 4 opportunity to let you all know, here's what we're seeing
- 5 across the Department. And given that we just ended the
- 6 session yesterday, we really just don't want to talk about,
- 7 you know, taking stuff forward into the 18, 19 year, until
- 8 we've had a little bit more time to really see what the
- 9 Legislation did to us this year, and see how we can
- 10 incorporate some of that going forward also. So with that,
- 11 I'll turn it over to Jeff Blandford.
- 12 MR. BLANDFORD: Hi. Thank you, Leanne. As
- 13 Leanne mentioned, we, the State Board meeting marks an
- 14 ending and a beginning. The Legislative session ended
- 15 yesterday, and we get to ki- kick off the budget cycle
- 16 today. I can't tell you how excited I am about it.
- 17 With that, we'll jump right in. It's got
- 18 three parts, our presentation. We're going to conclude with
- 19 the-.
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: You want me to do the
- 21 clicker?
- MR. BLANDFORD: Oh sure. That would be
- 23 wonderful, thank you. Multitasking is not my thing.
- We'll start with just a general overview. I
- 25 know we have at least one new board member and by way of

- 1 review for the rest of our members, then a quick look at the
- 2 budget process, how these changes will take place if- if
- 3 they in fact are approved by the State Board and then we'll
- 4 get into the budget priorities and talk about those a little
- 5 bit.
- 6 With that, we'll be flying at 30,000 feet
- 7 today but if you want to go up or down, just let me know, we
- 8 can go wherever you'd like. The State's budget is about 5.4
- 9 billion dollars. and based on this graphic, you can see 98
- 10 percent of that goes out to payees of some sort, school
- 11 districts, administrative units and other recipients.
- 12 The other two percent which is about 110
- 13 million dollars stays here at the Department to run
- 14 operations and programs we have here. And the breakdown
- 15 between state and Federal in case you're curious, is about
- 16 4.7 Billion dollars. And the sorry, that's state and then
- 17 the Federal is about 467- sorry, 647 million.
- 18 I'm transposing numbers already, 647 million
- 19 is what our Federal expenditures and budget are typically
- 20 year to year and that's about 12 percent of the budget
- 21 you're looking at there. To drill down just a bit, this is
- 22 an overview of how we use that 110 million dollars here at
- 23 the State level, pretty evenly divided between payroll and
- 24 contracts with operating coming in a distant third.
- 25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay, can we interrupt

- 1 you?
- 2 MR. JEFF: Absolutely.
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Board member Mazanec.
- 4 MS. MAZANEC: What does the contract's
- 5 portion represent? I understand operating and salary.
- 6 MR. JEFF: The con- the biggest piece of the
- 7 contracts there are there are small. You- you have to issue
- 8 a purchase orders say if you buy office furniture, so that
- 9 would be included in this, but the biggest chunk of the
- 10 contracts is the assessment by far, I- I looked at those
- 11 numbers today getting ready. That's about 28 to 30 million
- 12 dollars of the contracts, is- is the state assessments.
- 13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: How much?
- 14 MR. BLANDFORD: It's about 28 to 30 million
- 15 that we have budgeted this year. How much we will spend,
- 16 remains to be seen, but that's- that's what's in the budget
- 17 for this year. A big- a big one you may recall we had a best
- 18 decision item last year.
- 19 Well, it was the year before, but the
- 20 contract for the database upgrade was this year and that's
- 21 about 2.7 million. So, we have some significant contracts,
- 22 but once- once you take assessment out of the equation, it
- 23 drops down into much smaller dollars than the 28 or 30
- 24 million.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay.

- 1 MR. BLANDFORD: Thank you, Madam Chair. So,
- 2 to just put some- some again, top Level numbers to it. Our
- 3 long bill is divided into three divisions, CSDB, The
- 4 Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind is the fourth
- 5 division, but we do not include that in CDE's budget, so we
- 6 have- we aren't presenting that here. The first division is
- 7 aptly titled Management Administration and that's most of
- 8 what happens there.
- 9 We do have some programs in that division but
- 10 that is where most of the operations of the Department are
- 11 funded. Division two is where the grants, both State and
- 12 Federal come out of, that is by far our largest section of
- 13 the long bill, and library programs has its own section and
- 14 it's divided pretty evenly between distribution and
- 15 operations.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So, I always thought
- 17 that the library programs are actually a bigger dollar
- 18 amount than the assistance to public schools.
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: One is a million, one is
- 20 a billion.
- 21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Makes a big difference.
- 22 Because I looked at that last night and I didn't think- I'm
- 23 like, wow that looks really weird.
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Build a lot of
- 25 libraries.

1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I have no idea. Okay. I feel better now. 2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's been a long wait. 3 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It happen when you are tired. 5 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: You just need to like 7 bold the b. MALE SPEAKER: Yeah, that doesn't jump out 8 like it probably should. 10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It doesn't, yeah. 11 MALE SPEAKER: If there are no questions on 12 the budget, we'll move on to the chain --13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Well, tell me --14 MALE SPEAKER: -- request process. UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: -- we have state-level 15 16 administration, 110 million on page three and then we have 65 million. 17 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: All three, Madam Chair, all three of the state level administration line. So, you 19 20 have 63.5 in management and admin. Then you have another 42 in the assistance to public schools in the state level, in 22 under the library. So those together --23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: There it is.

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: -- come to the 110.

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: -- there it is. Okay.

24

25

- 1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I was looking at that
- 2 myself.
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I guess --
- 4 MALE SPEAKER: We overuse the word
- 5 administration.
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: -- I shook up with the,
- 7 with the (indiscernible) that I, I never even looked at the
- 8 next one, but you're right. thank you. Please don't test
- 9 us.
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah.
- 11 MALE SPEAKER: We can repeat it as much as
- 12 you want.
- 13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It won't help.
- 14 MALE SPEAKER: Which is probably not much
- 15 but.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Very clever of them to
- 17 have the budget discussion after lunch.
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible).
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Eyes glazed over. Go
- 20 ahead, sir. Please.
- 21 MALE SPEAKER: Well, you might ask yourselves
- 22 how we would go about changing or adding to these numbers we
- 23 just went over and that's the next topic in our
- 24 presentation.
- 25 The budget requ- change request process as I

- 1 mentioned, it starts with the State Board for CDE. You all
- 2 approve any requests that we bring forward.
- 3 So, as Leanne mentioned, next month you'll
- 4 see details, there will be some estimates numbers, rationale
- 5 for why we're asking what we're asking for, a lot more
- 6 specifics than what you're seeing here today.
- 7 And provided you approve that, in July and
- 8 August, we will submit the same items in a somewhat
- 9 different format to the office of state planning and
- 10 budgeting, for their review and consideration. If they
- 11 approve those items, they will be incorporated into our
- 12 November 1, budget request, which will go to the Joint
- 13 Budget Committee and their staff for their consideration.
- 14 That's where we get to about three quarters
- 15 or two-thirds of the way down the page. The JBC analysts
- 16 take our budget submission and they prepare their briefings,
- 17 to be presented to the Joint Budget Committee.
- 18 That has generally happened for CDE in
- 19 December. I believe those hearings for agencies in general
- 20 start in November but ours has typically been between
- 21 December 7th and December 15th, and I think we can continue
- 22 expecting that. During the briefing, members, the JBC is the
- 23 primary attendance, but Joint Education Committee members
- 24 often attend our briefing and hearing.
- 25 During that presentation, members ask

- 1 questions about the budget presentation. Those questions
- 2 form the agenda for the next bullet there which is J- CDEs
- 3 hearing.
- 4 We are able to address the joint budget
- 5 committee with any concerns, questions or other discussion
- 6 we would like to have with them, but the, the bulk of the
- 7 agenda is driven by the questions that members ask during
- 8 our briefing.
- 9 From there, figure setting similar to the
- 10 process, we will go through here, they hear our items in
- 11 December, get our responses to any questions they may have
- 12 and then during figure setting, the JBC takes a vote on each
- 13 agency's budget including any change requests we have
- 14 submitted to determine whether they will be included in the
- 15 long bill for that year or not.
- Now we're getting to our priorities and how
- 17 we identify them generally and then how we identified them
- 18 this time around. Budget meets with programs throughout the
- 19 year about their operating and internal budgets. But often
- 20 during those meetings and conversations, budget priorities
- 21 do come up, so we certainly put those aside and keep them in
- 22 mind for what we do in the early spring where we survey
- 23 program managers across the department requesting any budget
- 24 priorities they may have.
- 25 And those are then presented to the executive

- 1 team and the commissioner, for which ones will be presented
- 2 to the state board here in June now. And if there are no
- 3 questions, we can get to what you've all been waiting for,
- 4 which are our budget priorities for fiscal year 2018/19.
- 5 A little terminology before I go any further,
- 6 we call this the 17/18 budget cycle because we prepare the
- 7 budget during fiscal year 17/18 but it's actually for fiscal
- 8 year 18/19. We prepare the budget almost a full year in
- 9 advance. So, if I slip up on that I apologize, but that's,
- 10 that's a terminology that we'll be using for the next couple
- 11 of months now.
- 12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Just stop. One moment,
- 13 please. Board member Flores.
- 14 MS. FLORES: I think we've gone a little far.
- 15 I wanted to just kind of go -- go back. I'm sorry --
- MALE SPEAKER: Sure.
- 17 MS. FLORES: -- and ask about, I mean, the,
- 18 the state assessment. If the feds require a federal
- 19 assessment, shouldn't they pay for it? I mean, I think they
- 20 should.
- 21 MALE SPEAKER: Well, I'm not sure I should
- 22 opine on who should pay for it --
- MS. FLORES: Well, I mean, it, it still can
- 24 change.
- 25 MALE SPEAKER: -- but -- but sure. It -- it

- 1 is and -- and the feds do provide a grant that does
- 2 contributed, the lion's share does come out of state
- 3 funding, but the feds do provide us about seven million
- 4 dollars a year for state assessments. So, it's not
- 5 exclusively state-funded even though by far the bulk of it
- 6 is.
- 7 MS. FLORES: I was just thinking about the --
- 8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Cookies keep. Get your
- 9 cookie stand going.
- 10 MS. FLORES: -- the computer network that the
- 11 division of school accreditation, the teacher accreditation
- 12 license.
- MALE SPEAKER: License, you mean.
- 14 MS. FLORES: They need all that money to kind
- 15 of get all that computer going, I mean, that would
- 16 definitely pay for it.
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah.
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Don't look at me. Are
- 19 you finished?
- MS. FLORES: No. I'm just saying we should
- 21 really-
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.
- MS. FLORES: -- do something about it.
- 24 MALE SPEAKER: Well, as a -- as a technical
- 25 matter, board member Flores, the licensure you need is in

- 1 its own cash fund.
- MS. FLORES: I know --
- 3 MALE SPEAKER: So, I'm not sure it would be -
- 4 –
- 5 MS. FLORES: I wanted the state, too.
- 6 Everybody else who pays. The doctors, the lawyers, the state
- 7 pays for that, but for teachers, we have to --
- 8 MALE SPEAKER: -- well, no. Those are fees as
- 9 well.
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Those are fees. That's
- 11 not a cash fund.
- 12 MALE SPEAKER: Yes doctors, lawyers.
- 13 MS. FLORES: So hunting licenses and all
- 14 sorts of other things. There are lots of cash funds.
- 15 MALE SPEAKER: We have a lot of cash funds to
- 16 --
- MS. FLORES: I need money.
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mr. Blanchard.
- 19 MALE SPEAKER: Thank you.
- MS. FLORES: All right. I'm sorry.
- 21 MALE SPEAKER: Not at all. It's fine.
- 22 MS. FLORES: I thought I found a big part of
- 23 the money that-
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Keep playing, you keep
- 25 saying serve cookies.

- 1 MALE SPEAKER: Smart people that are sitting
- 2 at this table have worked for those pots of money already;
- 3 none left for us.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'm sorry.
- 5 MALE SPEAKER: Not at all. The priorities we
- 6 have identified as the last piece of our presentation, and
- 7 the first one of those is accountability turnaround in
- 8 support.
- 9 The supports that CDE is currently providing
- 10 have shown a lot of promise on e- early indicators show an
- 11 increase student performance in those schools and districts
- 12 where the comprehensive supports have been provided.
- 13 Unfortunately, once ESSA in, in July kicks in, about half of
- 14 our schools and, and or districts that are on priority or
- 15 turnaround will no longer be eligible for those federal
- 16 funds. We, we do have- do, do you have- I'm sorry.
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, no, no. I'm the one
- 18 that said, I'm the one that said why. This is why-this is
- 19 what I wanted to have explained. What are the changes that-
- 20 MALE SPEAKER: I would like to turn it over
- 21 to Alyssa.
- 22 MS. PEARSON: So, we don't have the exact
- 23 numbers yet. We've run some simulations just on the one year
- 24 of data that we have looking at, because ESSA really has
- 25 some different priorities for what schools get identified,

- 1 right?
- They have the same, the same priorities with
- 3 comprehensive, those lowest five percent school. So that's
- 4 in alignment. All those schools for comprehensive
- 5 identification, our turnaround and priority improvement
- 6 schools, I think they're all actually turnaround schools.
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And they're still
- 8 funded?
- 9 MS. PEARSON: They're still funded. Study
- 10 finds were funded. ESSA added that component of the low
- 11 graduation schools, that comprehensive low graduation
- 12 schools, and some of those are priority improvement, and
- 13 some of them aren't.
- 14 And if you- and again, these numbers will
- 15 change once we ha- we have all the final data and then you,
- 16 but they're no- it's not a direct overlap. And then, ESSA
- 17 has that component around the targeted schools, right, where
- 18 it's individual disaggregated groups not meeting those
- 19 expectations.
- 20 Again, some of those are already priority
- 21 improvement turnaround, but some aren't. And I- that's
- 22 really purposeful in ESSA, that they want to make sure we're
- 23 getting attention to those schools, where maybe overall kids
- 24 are doing well, but there's groups of students within a
- 25 school that aren't.

- 1 And that's just something that prior to state
- 2 law and the way we've done things that hasn't been a strong
- 3 focus, we've kind of focus more at the one is struggling.
- 4 And beyond just that five percent at the bottom, we've been
- 5 kind of looking beyond that.
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Now, does that change
- 7 from what NCLB was like?
- 8 MS. PEARSON: NCLB is one thing and then we
- 9 had the waiver. I think it's really the change from the
- 10 waiver that does that, because with a waiver we said, "We
- 11 use our state system for our federal system for
- 12 identification of schools.".
- So, I think the bonus of ESSA is that now,
- 14 we're going to be able to support some other schools, and
- 15 focus on some needs for some students that we, as a state,
- 16 haven't been doing, and then schools and districts of-
- 17 different schools and districts have been focusing there,
- 18 but that hasn't been the focus of what we've been doing.
- 19 But where it leaves us right now again,
- 20 preliminary numbers, it looks like about half of our
- 21 priority improvement or turnaround schools would not be
- 22 identified under ESSA. So -- so we just have that kind of
- 23 conundrum, where when you've seen those lists of grants and
- 24 support, we've been given, most of those are coming out of
- 25 the Federal 1003 funds, this federal school improvement

- 1 support funds.
- 2 So, we -- we are at this point of how can we
- 3 get creative, where can we find supports if we want to
- 4 support those other state-identified schools that are not
- 5 federally identified.
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: By when can you do a
- 7 SWAG estimate?
- 8 MS. PEARSON: To really know? We'll know much
- 9 more concretely come August, September, when we have the new
- 10 assessment results if we run priority improvement, the new
- 11 performance frameworks and --
- 12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Which is before we send
- 13 our request over to, I'm trying to remember what schedule it
- 14 was.
- 15 MS. PEARSON: Yeah. We'll have some time,
- 16 right? And we can revise, too, right?
- 17 MALE SPEAKER: They are do prior to that,
- 18 Madam Chair, but you can pull our, our request all the way
- 19 up to probably the end of October. The budget's being
- 20 finalized, so other changes are hard.
- 21 But, as far as change requests if an agency
- 22 wish to remove something, it would not be problematic. If we
- 23 wanted to increase or change it some other way
- 24 substantially, that could be problematic, but it's never a
- 25 problem to pull it out. So, it would be before the due date,

- 1 but there would be time to revise through September at
- 2 least.
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay. Ms. Emm?
- 4 MS. EMM: Yes, I was just going to add that-
- 5 so, the consideration for you all that we would like to
- 6 bring back in June is, would you like us to prioritize this,
- 7 and start crafting the, the documentation and the arguments
- 8 that we would need to step forward in order to support these
- 9 schools that would be losing out?
- 10 So that's kind of where we would need your
- 11 guidance. And then, we would, you know, picking crafting
- 12 that message, and, you know, figuring out what the, what the
- 13 parameters, and the numbers would look like, and all that.
- 14 Yup.
- 15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Board Member Flores.
- 16 MS. FLORES: Thank you. Could you give us
- 17 like four districts that would be out of this that we're
- 18 helping right now? But will -- if you will not?
- 19 MS. PEARSON: I don't have that note. It's
- 20 classified. I like that answer. Can I use that answer?
- 21 That I would probably say it's classified. I think we --
- 22 these are really stimulated numbers right now, and because
- 23 we haven't told schools about identification or anything
- 24 like that, we don't have that solid.
- I'd rather wait till August or September, and

- 1 give it -- when we can -- once we've notified schools and
- 2 districts, we can give you that complete list of who's
- 3 eligible for what and where so --
- 4 MALE SPEAKER: Creede on this.
- 5 MS. PEARSON: Yeah. Yeah.
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Go ahead, folks.
- 7 MS. PEARSON: Okay.
- 8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Go ahead.
- 9 MR. FOX: Thank you. So, that, that is your
- 10 first item for consideration?
- 11 MALE SPEAKER: So, the ESSA- I was just going
- 12 to ask for some additional funding, is that correct? So,
- 13 justification was the first one would be to compensate for
- 14 loss of federal funds?
- MR. FOX: Yes, sir.
- MS. PEARSON: All right. And -- just that --
- 17 I'd say may be redirected federal funds right now. And Pat,
- 18 you correct me. I don't know that we're going to lose
- 19 actual dollars although it's something that we don't know
- 20 about, but bec -- it's that redirection of prioritization.
- 21 So, is that fair to say?
- 22 MALE SPEAKER: We're identifying a lot of
- 23 state schools and (indiscernible).
- MS. PEARSON: Okay.
- 25 MALE SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

- 1 MS. PEARSON: Okay.
- 2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: When you say
- 3 redirecting, that means you're taking money from somewhere
- 4 else. Where would you be taking the money from?
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: From schools that needed
- 6 and schools that don't.
- 7 MS. PEARSON: So, it -- it's that, it's that
- 8 who are we looking at, right? Instead of us, with the
- 9 waiver, we've been looking at our priority improvement
- 10 turnaround schools. It's now saying just the lowest five
- 11 percent, no, it's the lowest five percent of title one
- 12 schools, not of all schools, so that's about 30 schools
- 13 compared to our almost 200 priority improvement turnaround
- 14 schools.
- So, it's that -- and then, redirecting it
- 16 into low grad and the, the targeted schools. So, it's
- 17 really just this, who -- which schools are we prioritizing
- 18 for support. And the feds are saying, "There's some other
- 19 priorities on who we look at besides just the lowest
- 20 struggling ones in a state of saying, 'Who could be
- 21 closed."'
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'm just trying to
- 23 figure out. Aren't we asking for more money?
- MS. PEARSON: For -- for this? This is
- 25 looking at ways to support all the schools that are

- 1 identified.
- 2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Right.
- 3 MS. PEARSON: Right. And I think there's
- 4 some ways to do it --
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So, it's not
- 6 redirecting, it's getting some more?
- 7 MALE SPEAKER: More to say.
- 8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Maybe some -- may --
- 9 maybe some redirecting, but also --
- 10 MS. PEARSON: I think, yeah, I think it's the
- 11 federal funds are getting redirected for other schools or
- 12 looked at broadly, and then we've got these-because of
- 13 that, we've got other schools that we don't have funds to
- 14 support. Does that make sense?
- 15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah. I would say, just
- 16 another sort of argument on this one is, you know, we have
- 17 our state accountability system that says, "CDE shall
- 18 support," you know, districts that have been identified.
- 19 We've been using federal funds to do that.
- 20 And, you know, we do, you know, state funds should also be
- 21 contributing if, if the state laws are requesting us to
- 22 support.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Well, that's a theory.
- 24 That's a Colorado theory. Grants give them donations,
- 25 folks.

- 3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Sorry. Sarcastic.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: All Right. Who's got
- 5 the courage to sit in next one? Okay.
- 6 MALE SPEAKER: Next one is Dropout Prevention
- 7 and Student Re-engagement. Kind of like accountability.
- 8 Dropout prevention seen some good results. About 80 percent
- 9 of the districts they've supported, have had improved
- 10 student outcomes. However, they've seen a significant drop
- 11 in funding over the last couple of years. The -- the office
- 12 was formed, I want to say, right around nine, 10.
- 13 Please don't quote me on that. It's could be
- 14 a year earlier or later. But it -- it was sustained for a
- 15 while with state funds. Those were discontinued, and then
- 16 federal grant, competitive federal grant, was secured for
- 17 four years.
- 18 That just expired August of 2016. So, from
- 19 2015 to today, we've seen the efforts in this office. And
- 20 the funding for this office dropped from five FTE to a
- 21 portion of an FTE with no dedicated funding for- for this
- 22 function. So, this is the next area we would request the
- 23 board's consideration and input to.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Board member Mazanec.
- 25 MS. MAZANEC: I have a question. What does

- 1 the -- what does the department do concerning dropout
- 2 prevention and student re-engagement? What does that look
- 3 like?
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We're having Misty
- 5 Rothling come up. She's the executive director in that area
- 6 and she can speak to that more succinctly than I.
- 7 MS. MAZANEC: Is it mostly providing support
- 8 to districts and --
- 9 MS. ROTHLING: It is mostly supporting --
- 10 support -- providing supports for districts. And over this
- 11 period of time, for when the office was formed to now, we've
- 12 seen the graduation rate in the state increased by almost 7
- 13 percent, and the dropout rate almost half itself.
- 14 MS. MAZANEC: Really, we just kind of went in
- 15 what that looks like. I mean, and frankly I'm asking, is
- 16 this something that districts could do themselves?
- 17 MS. ROTHLING: So, over that time, we've seen
- 18 a variety of strategies being identified such as early
- 19 warning systems or utilization of how to identify students
- 20 that might be struggling. And, well -- well districts may
- 21 be able to do some of this on their own. What they don't
- 22 have capacity to do oftentimes is learn what works. And
- 23 then, our responsibility has been to help scale those
- 24 practices versus districts trying something and then finding
- 25 out later, right, that it's not a strategy that maybe was

- 1 proven or evidence --based.
- 2 MS. MAZANEC: So, are you saying it's mostly
- 3 that you vet these programs or these strategies,
- 4 interventions for districts, and then it's not like you go
- 5 into the district and -- and implement it, implement them
- 6 for them, correct?
- 7 MS. ROTHLING: So --
- 8 MS. MAZANEC: You're providing what we call
- 9 research-based?
- 10 MS. ROTHLING: Thank you for your question.
- 11 So, it's really a balance of we find oftentimes that
- 12 administrators and folks in the schools are spending their
- 13 time with students. And that oftentimes, they -- there's
- 14 not capacity for them to look at what is it that they're
- 15 doing for dropout prevention, and to support proactive
- 16 graduation efforts.
- 17 And so, it's really almost a consultative
- 18 role in many ways, helping them do a scan of their needs,
- 19 and then providing suggestions about how they might support
- 20 graduation rates. F is just for graduation rates and
- 21 decrease dropouts -- decrease dropout rates.
- MS. MAZANEC: Okay.
- MS. ROTHLING: We are happy to give you more
- 24 specifics.
- 25 MS. ROTHLING: But we're going to get into

- 1 more specifics about actual FTE or assigned to each of these
- 2 next month.
- MS. ROTHLING: Yes.
- 4 MS. MAZANEC: Thank you.
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Sounds like examples
- 6 will be also very important.
- 7 MS. MAZANEC: Yes.
- 8 MS. ROTHLING: Yes. Thank you. And we can
- 9 also provide you the- didn't we just complete a legislative
- 10 report on the dropout prevention? Well, forward that to Bizy
- 11 and make sure that you all have that. It's got really good
- 12 information in, about the results of these programs.
- MS. MAZANEC: I think we're trying to keep
- 14 that.
- MS. ROTHLING: Oh, yeah. We do have that.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay. It's probably in
- 17 the-
- MS. ROTHLING: The reality -- the reality is
- 19 replace --
- MS. MAZANEC: But it wasn't on the agenda.
- 21 MS. ROTHLING: -- a bunch of reports and
- 22 there's more. Yes. They're waiting our attention.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Proceed please.
- 24 MALE SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam Chair. Our
- 25 next item is a big one just in today's world, Information

- 1 Management Systems. It's really got three parts for this
- 2 particular priority. The first is security and the
- 3 infrastructure around that as attacks and threats become
- 4 more sophisticated, so must the responses and preventions to
- 5 those.
- 6 The second part of that is around the data
- 7 collections from districts, the accessibility of those, the
- 8 reporting and information that we provide. Part of this is
- 9 around finding that we had from the Office of Civil Rights,
- 10 which- which again is the accessibility of the data. And the
- 11 last piece, which is kind of the foundation on which the
- 12 other two said are the hardware and software upgrades. It's
- 13 -- it's really about maintaining and- and maybe improving
- 14 our obsolescence plans so that our hardware and software is
- 15 more up-to-date.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Board member Rankin.
- 17 MS. RANKIN: The three you just named. Does
- 18 it entirely over that? Are- are they just there?
- 19 MALE SPEAKER: Thank you, board member
- 20 Rankin. No. In fact, everything is- is not prioritized by me
- 21 at this point. We're just sharing our priorities. The
- 22 commissioner and the executive team will make those
- 23 determinations at a later date.
- 24 MS. RANKIN: Thank you. And I -- I have one
- 25 more question on the security infrastructure.

- 1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Do you have your mic on?
- MS. RANKIN: Oh, I'm sorry. The security
- 3 infrastructure, the -- the first one on security. I -- I'm
- 4 concerned about what kind of security infrastructure do we
- 5 have. Is ours separate from the SEPA and what the state
- 6 use, you know, across the street? Are we a silo or are we
- 7 under there? Because I believe they would have more
- 8 enhanced if we were by ourselves. Are we a part of that
- 9 security?
- 10 MALE SPEAKER: And I hope Marsha's, Marsha
- 11 Bowhand is here. I can say we do -- we get our Internet
- 12 service from OIT, so there are security measures that we
- 13 share with them. So, I don't think they're completely
- 14 separated at all. I think it's an integrated approach. And
- 15 we work with them to do that. But if you want more
- 16 specifics, I would need to --
- 17 MS. RANKIN: You know, and I don't need the
- 18 specifics right now and let's, Marsha, please feel free to
- 19 speak if you'd like. But when we go into this with the
- 20 money attached to it, I would like a little more of a
- 21 specific breakdown of that.
- 22 MALE SPEAKER: That makes sense.
- MS. RANKIN: Thank you. And maybe OIT can
- 24 provide it. That -- that would be very helpful.
- 25 MALE SPEAKER: I will make sure Marsha gets

- 1 that to us.
- MS. MARSHA: He will make sure I do.
- 3 MS. RANKIN: I don't need it right now, but
- 4 if you'd like to talk about it, I'd be more happy to listen.
- 5 MS. MARSHA: Just real quickly. He's right.
- 6 Just right in that. OIT does provide sort of the underlying
- 7 Internet access, but we do a lot of our own security
- 8 infrastructure here, not physically here, but, you know,
- 9 within our- our- our own sort of environment. And we have
- 10 some additional requirements that OIT doesn't necessarily
- 11 have.
- 12 So, we need to make sure that that with the
- 13 state law that passed. And now we have some additional very
- 14 specific requirements. So, the security infrastructure and
- 15 controls that we need to maintain and improve sometimes go
- 16 above and beyond. But we can get you more details on that.
- 17 MS. RANKIN: And OIT is very clear on what we
- 18 have. That is, that they can't provide is all of that
- 19 somewhere?
- 20 MS. MARSHA: It's -- it's clear what -- what
- 21 services OIT provide to us. I would not go so far, as to
- 22 say, they're clear on what we are doing. That's over and
- 23 above because they've got the rest of the state to worry
- 24 about. But it is very clear what services they provide to
- 25 us, and what services we pay for. One, just as an example,

- 1 one of the items that we've listed in that particular area
- 2 is something that would allow us to share -- share data with
- 3 researchers, so it's not identifiable.
- 4 So, that's -- it's a little different than
- 5 the infrastructure that OIT would provide because they
- 6 wouldn't have that requirement. But it gives us a way to
- 7 see they could still engage in research, and research
- 8 partners could do that. And we wouldn't have the issues
- 9 that we're currently having with identifiable information
- 10 being shared.
- 11 So, that's just an example of something
- 12 that's a little bit different than what OIT would need to
- 13 provide, if that helps. We'll bring you some more of those
- 14 in June.
- MS. RANKIN: I just want to make sure that
- 16 there's not redundancy or something they can help us with --
- MS. MARSHA: Right.
- MS. RANKIN: -- that we're not doing because
- 19 they're more vehement than we are.
- MS. MARSHA: Yeah.
- 21 MS. RANKIN: Maybe. But thank you.
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Are there any federal
- 23 grants?
- MS. MARSHA: Not right now. We haven't been
- 25 able to tap into federal grants in the past. There's not

- 1 very much of that available right now. And we're not really
- 2 thinking many of those are going to come around for a while,
- 3 but, I mean, we- we keep looking for them, but there's no a
- 4 lot there now.
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So, in alignment with
- 6 Ms. Rankin's question, I guess I'd like to know what is the
- 7 system we have? How old is it? To some extent, the risk
- 8 level. That stuff proceeds with changes are not making
- 9 changes.
- 10 And then, any opportunities to increase
- 11 capacity. We could do more if, because it seems like if
- 12 we're going to be spending or asking to spend money, let's
- 13 be thinking, today, I think what we're thinking is let's
- 14 catch up because we're probably behind. But maybe it's an
- 15 opport -- maybe we should be thinking a little bit further
- 16 ahead if at all possible.
- MS. MARSHA: We'll do that. Are you writing
- 18 that down?
- 19 MALE SPEAKER: I am.
- MS. MARSHA: Yeah, we'll bring that.
- 21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.
- MALE SPEAKER: Do you have a back of the
- 23 envelope estimate?
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's a back of the
- 25 envelope estimate, but I'm not sure if we want to go there.

- 1 Do we want to go there?
- 2 MALE SPEAKER: That -- that could be
- 3 classified in talking.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We know.
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Let us -- let us -- let
- 6 us get a good envelope.
- 7 MALE SPEAKER: Okay.
- 8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay. It's a little
- 9 shaggy envelope.
- 10 MALE SPEAKER: Shaggy envelope.
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah. It's kinda got --
- 12 it's -- but yeah.
- 13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Borrow napkin?
- 14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No we. We do envelopes.
- 15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Big manila envelope.
- MALE SPEAKER: I feel that's got a big
- 17 number.
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I -- I only deal with
- 19 big numbers.
- 20 MALE SPEAKER: Yes.
- 21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: But it doesn't start
- 22 with a B.
- MALE SPEAKER: That's good.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's not that big then
- 25 is it? But it --

- 3 going to be focused.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'll take it. I'd take
- 5 it
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah. She's not on the
- 7 T's.
- 8 MALE SPEAKER: She is not on the T's.
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That's the problem.
- 10 Please proceed folks.
- 11 MALE SPEAKER: Thank you. Well, our last
- 12 priority item is, I think slightly less glamorous but
- 13 equally important, and I'll just summarize it to say our --
- 14 our purchasing area is experiencing a little more work than
- 15 they're able to keep up with, and they do the important
- 16 things like the assessment request for proposal, and the big
- 17 contracts that the department has to make sure are right
- 18 signed and all that.
- 19 So, that is the last item we thought we'd
- 20 conclude with the options we have for funding those items,
- 21 if the board is so inclined. The options are limited, but
- 22 we've got a few. The first is in my area, it's a budget
- 23 decision item, and through that process you can -- it's also
- 24 known as a change request coming back to terminology, but I
- 25 refer to it as a decision item because there are other

- 1 budget events that are also referred to as change requests,
- 2 and under that scenario or -- or process we can request new
- 3 funding, or we could request that we move dollars between or
- 4 appropriations between long bill lines, provided there is
- 5 nothing in statute preventing that.
- 6 There are many appropriations we receive that
- 7 actually specify the number in the statute, and that would
- 8 require your legislation. So --
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So you are threatening
- 10 to take this out of our salaries?
- 11 MALE SPEAKER: I would never do that.
- MALE SPEAKER: It's okay.
- 13 MALE SPEAKER: As much as you all make, I
- 14 wouldn't dream of it. The next option is always an option,
- 15 we could identify areas within the department to reallocate
- 16 or reprioritize. And the last would be at the board's
- 17 discretion entirely, which would be to run legislation, and
- 18 that would also include the first option where a
- 19 reallocation would require legislation. It would either be
- 20 new funding, or if we had identified a program that is
- 21 meeting the needs of its constituents, but the dollars,
- 22 there are some grant programs that have difficulty awarding
- 23 100 percent of their funding, you could reallocate those
- 24 dollars as well.
- 25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Questions, comments,

- 1 thoughts? Board member Flores.
- MS. FLORES: When I spoke with a -- an export
- 3 member from Michigan, who said that we should really fill
- 4 out some just very lazy paperwork that needs to be done, and
- 5 I spoke with you about that, that could bring in more
- 6 federal moneys that would be easier to do.
- 7 I know you kind of looked at it, and I don't
- 8 know how deep you went into it Pat. Could you tell us about
- 9 a little bit? I think you had a better understanding of it
- 10 than I did, when we came to you to -- for an explanation.
- 11 MR. PAT: It was a the gentleman --
- MS. FLORES: I can't remember --
- 13 MR. PAT: -- John. I reported to these guys.
- MS. FLORES: Right.
- 15 MR. PAT: Because I felt it was kind of -- it
- 16 was too --
- 17 MS. FLORES: Well it was -- suddenly for me.
- 18 MR. PAT: -- deep, it's too complex from a
- 19 fiscal standpoint, but I think the general point was the
- 20 amount of effort, fiscal effort that -- and what we used to
- 21 count our state effort toward education, makes a difference
- 22 in how much federal money we end up receiving. So he was
- 23 saying, and -- and that we might be able to look at our
- 24 inputs, our supports for education, and count some things
- 25 that we haven't been counting, and he had helped other

- 1 states do that, and he was offering to help Colorado do that
- 2 as well.
- 3 MS. FLORES: And I think -- right, I think
- 4 he's -- he's moving here because of his family. He has
- 5 family here, and so I -- I just -- I think I --
- 6 MR. PAT: I talk to them as much as I could,
- 7 but it got beyond my capability, and so I thought that I
- 8 would forward to our fiscal and budget folks.
- 9 MALE SPEAKER: Is it program specific? So
- 10 like Title I --
- 11 MR. PAT: I think it was related to how much
- 12 Title I we're in. Remember when we talked to the U.S.
- 13 Department of Education just last year?
- 14 MALE SPEAKER: You state your formula and --
- MR. PAT: That's what I kept -- yeah --
- MALE SPEAKER: I got you, I got you.
- 17 MR. PAT: So it might be something we want to
- 18 pursue, and I think it's a good idea.
- 19 MALE SPEAKER: But -- if it's what I'm
- 20 thinking of it, may require legislation as well within the
- 21 title one grant. There are four categories of grants. One
- 22 of them is a series of weighted factors, and one of those
- 23 factors is how equitable your school finance formula is
- 24 relative to other states around the country, and if it's
- 25 more equitable, you do -- you do enjoy an increase in -- in

- 1 your title one allocation.
- That -- that allocation is proprietary, so I
- 3 couldn't tell you how -- how much, but we would certainly be
- 4 happy to talk to anybody about increasing our federal funds.
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That may be -- and I
- 6 think that that's a really good area, that when we have to
- 7 do this interim committee on the school finance study, that
- 8 if we were to make changes to the school finance act
- 9 formula, what would that do, and would it have a back end
- 10 effect on potentially bringing more federal dollars in.
- MS. FLORES: Sounds good. Would that- would
- 12 that entail maybe hiring more people with the department? I
- 13 mean, and don't start spending the money, we haven't gotten
- 14 the money yet.
- 15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Oh, no, no, wait a
- 16 minute.
- 17 MS. FLORES: So would it -- just weighing
- 18 that bringing in more people to get more moneys with that
- 19 kind of -- be maybe not -- not a good thing. If we're
- 20 spending more money in trying to get a little bit more
- 21 money.
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you. I'm going to
- 23 -- I'm going to put on my Leanne opinion hat, and just say
- 24 that if we were to be able to increase funding to the school
- 25 districts, through either the state or federal funds, that I

- 1 would prefer to see it go to this -- to the districts, and
- 2 not attempt to build staff internally just because we are
- 3 getting a little bit of extra money.
- 4 MS. FLORES: Oh no, no. I wasn't saying that.
- 5 But sometimes there is, you get more people in to try and
- 6 get more money, but at the end, you don't get any. I mean,
- 7 it doesn't weigh.
- 8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Very true, very true.
- 9 MS. FLORES: Any more questions? Thank you.
- 10 All right. Thank you, folks. The next item on today's
- 11 agenda is an update from title one multi district online
- 12 school allocation pilot. This is some more eyes glaze over
- 13 kind of stuff, for which we're very ready. Mr. Chapman,
- 14 please. Sorry. I just want to do --
- 15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'm just going to kick
- 16 it off, and then I'll kick it over to Pat. Last year, you
- 17 all had approved extending the criteria for multi districts
- 18 online schools, and this is a kind of program which would
- 19 take the federal dollars, and basically count -- count those
- 20 kids (indiscernible).
- 21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: In place for the past
- 22 few years and when we expanded the criteria last year to
- 23 pick up the Elevate School, I think that was done in
- 24 October. So, it's been Hope -- Hope and Douglas County have
- 25 been participating. And then last year, you all approved

- 1 the expansion of the criteria, which picked up Elevate
- 2 School in Byers.
- 3 At that time, we had -- we had talked about
- 4 the possibility of through looking at the ESSA program,
- 5 would we want to bring forward this pilot and implement it
- 6 statewide? So, that's what -- that's what we wanted to tee-
- 7 up today to talk with you about and some of those
- 8 implications about rolling that out statewide and then bring
- 9 this back in June and then you all could -- could direct us
- 10 to either stick with the pilot or get rid of the pilot in
- 11 its entirety or maybe yes, go ahead and go statewide.
- 12 MALE SPEAKER: Madam Chair?
- 13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Sir?
- 14 MALE SPEAKER: This illustration page that
- 15 you have. So, if I -- if I understand that the -- the --
- 16 the difference between what a district now receives and what
- 17 the -- with the -- with the pilot that we now have, and what
- 18 they would have if the -- if the funds just followed the
- 19 student. Is that in the far-right column or is it in the
- 20 next to the far-right column?
- 21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes, sir. It's in the
- 22 far-right column, that if we were to look at this- if we
- 23 were to look at this chart.
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Excuse me, which --
- 25 which chart are you?

- 1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's this chart here.
- 2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I just want to make sure
- 3 it goes around.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It looks like this.
- 5 Yeah. And actually, if you flip to the very back.
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Oh, this one?
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Well, no, that's okay.
- 8 Never mind. The very first page. So, in Adams County right
- 9 now, Adams, Arapahoe, so, that's Aurora, and this is using
- 10 16, 17 funding levels and running it through basically an
- 11 ESSA illustration. It is not totally all the way through
- 12 the formula. There will still be subject to change --
- 13 MALE SPEAKER: It's not precise.
- 14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: -- all over the place.
- 15 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah. It's not precise.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Right. But without the
- 17 pilot they'd have 14.3 million. We are operating with the
- 18 pilot that some of their funds gets pulled because they have
- 19 students living within their district that are actually
- 20 attending a multi-district online school in another
- 21 district. So, therefore Aurora gives up a little bit of
- 22 their money. It goes over to- to the pilot districts. So,
- 23 they lose \$371,000 under the pilot. If we rolled it
- 24 statewide, they would -- their allocation would come down
- 25 \$419,000 instead of \$371,000.

- 1 So, if we were to roll it statewide, allocate
- 2 statewide, then Aurora's difference would be \$47,000, if we
- 3 did it statewide versus sticking with the pilot. Whereas,
- 4 Denver their district, their difference would be an
- 5 additional \$60,000 that would be pulled from their
- 6 allocation to go statewide. The reason why we're looking at
- 7 this, at this point in time is because we feel that it is
- 8 the best time to do this.
- 9 We've got new allocation processes for ESSA.
- 10 So, districts are going to see a change in those allocations
- 11 anyway, and the other thing that we are -- that we are
- 12 attempting to alleviate or avoid is- is the situation that
- 13 we were in with the Elevate. That when we have potentially
- 14 other schools that -- that identify that they may want to
- 15 participate and then we have to come to you in the middle of
- 16 the year and potentially look at changes in criteria, we
- 17 felt that if we rolled it statewide it's -- it's fair and we
- 18 can implement it easily.
- 19 So, that's why we wanted to bring it to you,
- 20 and- and for discussion.
- 21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Go ahead.
- 22 MALE SPEAKER: Well, so then -- then the net
- 23 change and for most districts with like other Pueblo is all
- 24 in the tens of thousands rather than the numbers I thought
- 25 they might be, and then the gainers are those districts that

- 1 have-they already -- that have the online programs, multi-
- 2 district onlines?
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes. And to be clear,
- 4 the funding -- so, for instance on the back page, Falcon 49
- 5 would be a large gainer of rolling this statewide. However,
- 6 that funding does not necessarily go directly to their
- 7 online schools because they would still be required to rank-
- 8 order their schools.
- 9 MALE SPEAKER: Right.
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And depending on where
- 11 those multi-district online schools fell with their at-risk
- 12 populations and that -- that would -- that would designate
- 13 how they would serve their schools. So, it's not an
- 14 automatic, we're going to pull from Aurora and give it to an
- 15 online school. It's -- it's district to district.
- MALE SPEAKER: Okay. So, what, you're not
- 17 looking for action today or you are looking for some
- 18 direction or what's -- where are you?
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you. Madam Chair?
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: If we can -- we can go
- 21 either way. If you all want to take this month and think
- 22 about it and we can come back to you with a proposal and an
- 23 action item next month. Districts would absolutely love it
- 24 if we could tell them, yes, this is the direction we're
- 25 heading because we are going to be striking those

- 1 allocations, so that they can be preparing their budget.
- 2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: To plan.
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And, yeah to plan and
- 4 everything. So, if they had an inkling -- if they had kind
- 5 of an idea of which way, we were leaning prior to the June
- 6 board meeting where you would adopt it, they would
- 7 appreciate that, but we can also be sense-makers for them
- 8 also. That you all haven't taken formal action.
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- 10 Board member Mazanec.
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I'm wondering what kind
- 12 of reporting does -- do districts do normally on these Title
- 13 I Funds, on the use of them, and what- what kind of
- 14 reporting do we see?
- 15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.
- 16 MALE SPEAKER: They have to submit an
- 17 application at the beginning of the year and this far they
- 18 have they're Title I reporting. There is Title II reporting,
- 19 there's Title III reporting; there is reporting for all the
- 20 programs, so they have to submit end-of-year reports. They
- 21 submit an end-of-year financial report, and so this doesn't
- 22 increase the level of reporting.
- This -- this process doesn't increase the
- 24 level of reporting for the district. The school that if --
- 25 if one of these multi-district online schools is served,

- 1 then that means that they have to provide something to their
- 2 district.
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: The districts are
- 4 already reporting on --
- 5 MALE SPEAKER: Yes.
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: -- the ones that are --
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: If they're Title -- if
- 8 they're Title I districts.
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That are already taking
- 10 advantage of this.
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: If they're Title I
- 12 Districts.
- MALE SPEAKER: If they're Title I.
- 14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: If they're districts
- 15 that get Title I.
- MALE SPEAKER: Which is, oh, I think all but
- 17 one or two.
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Are you sure?
- 19 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah.
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Because not all
- 21 districts --
- MALE SPEAKER: It's all, but one or two.
- 23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: But if they're getting
- 24 them for their multi-online then they're reporting, right?
- 25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you. They -- the

- 1 -- that is correct. The level of the effort from their
- 2 reporting standpoint is going to be the same. The only
- 3 thing that would change is let's say, I'll use Falcon again
- 4 because they're a big winner. So, what might happen in
- 5 Falcon, is that maybe they have three schools right now that
- 6 are receiving Title I Funds. Maybe, this would allow them
- 7 to serve six Title I Funds in Title schools and expand their
- 8 offering in that regard. So, they would -- they're going --
- 9 still be submitting budgets, they're still going to be
- 10 submitting their plans for how they're going to spend their
- 11 money and things like that.
- MALE SPEAKER: So, they might be doing it on
- 13 behalf of six schools as opposed to three schools.
- 14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Right. I guess what I'm
- 15 really wondering is I'm sure this is old hat to you but it's
- 16 not to me. What does the reporting look like? Do they -- do
- 17 districts report what the Title I Funds are being used for
- 18 and --
- 19 MALE SPEAKER: They --
- 20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: -- and their efficacy
- 21 or?
- 22 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah. So, for example if they
- 23 might prepare a target at the school level, they would,
- 24 might be a school wide school. So that they would have a
- 25 school wide plan. So, there is that planning component.

- 1 They do submit information about the types of services that
- 2 they will be providing through Title I; how often, to whom,
- 3 what assessments they might be using, how they go about.
- 4 They would be submitting to us the tables of which schools
- 5 will be served by the rank-order. So, they have to look at
- 6 their average poverty for the district and then identify the
- 7 poverty level of each of the schools. I'm sorry I'm losing
- 8 my voice.
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: But it's a district.
- 10 MALE SPEAKER: This always happens on the
- 11 report day.
- 12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: But it's a district
- 13 report not the multi-online.
- 14 MALE SPEAKER: There is some obligation on
- 15 the part of the school to provide information to the
- 16 districts so the district can provi -- fulfill its reporting
- 17 requirements.
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay.
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And the school board
- 20 president has to sign off on it.
- MALE SPEAKER: Correct.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah. Thank you.
- MALE SPEAKER: Thank you.
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: So, there is just a
- 25 whole process.

- 1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Well, I'm inclined to be
- 2 in favor of it.
- 3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Makes sense.
- 4 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah.
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Makes sense, yeah.
- 6 MALE SPEAKER: As I understand it it's easier
- 7 to administer for you, if we do it this way as opposed to
- 8 the way we've been doing it.
- 9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We haven't been doing
- 10 it.
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes, sir.
- 12 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah. We've been doing on a
- 13 pilot basis as far as-
- 14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Pilot only but we
- 15 haven't been doing it for all.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, that's true.
- 17 MALE SPEAKER: That's harder to administer
- 18 than just doing it in block.
- 19 MALE SPEAKER: Yeah.
- MALE SPEAKER: Yeah.
- MALE SPEAKER: Yes.
- MALE SPEAKER: Okay.
- UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: And we have the program
- 24 that allows you to do this now because I think one of the
- 25 restrictions we felt before was that it was going to be a

- 1 mathematical nightmare.
- 2 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes. And then we got
- 3 our thinking hats on and we came up with a -- with a more
- 4 elegant solution.
- 5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's a math programming
- 6 problem.
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Math is elegant.
- 8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: If you love it. I love
- 9 it.
- 10 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: The 'v's and 'm's and --
- 11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: V's and M's.
- 12 MALE SPEAKER: Okay.
- 13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Do you guys want to?
- 14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I would move to approve
- 15 it.
- 16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Generally speaking I'm
- 17 not in favor of voting on a meeting date that something is
- 18 introduced. However, if we are unanimous in our wish to
- 19 address this now, then, are we unanimous or did -- are some
- 20 folks want to ponder and maybe check with your districts?
- 21 MADAM CHAIR: Okay. Then maybe bring it back
- 22 next time, please.
- COMMISSIONER: Okay. Thank you.
- MALE SPEAKER: Thank you.
- 25 COMMISSIONER: Thank you very much.

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1
                   MADAM CHAIR: We're going to take a quick
2
    break.
3
                   (Break)
                   MADAM CHAIR: So, if we may, I'd like to move
4
    back to item, I think 13.11 or 13.12. However, we -- whoe -
5
6
    - whoever is doing the numbering?
                   UNIDENTIFIED VOICE:
7
                   MADAM CHAIR: Consent item. Commissioner,
8
    could you help us with that please?
9
                   COMMISSIONER: Yes. Thank you. Madam Chair, I
10
11
    believe Board Member Durham had a question about that
    culturally and linguistically diverse standards that being
12
13
    embedded throughout the program. And I worked with staff
    over the last day to find out that, in fact, there are three
14
    very specific, separate courses that focus on those areas in
15
16
    addition to elements being embedded throughout the program.
17
                   So, there are three courses, there's plenty
    of paperwork to back that up if you would like. Board Member
18
19
    Durham did not want the volumes of information re- related
20
    to that, so.
21
                   MADAM CHAIR: Board Member Durham you want to
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- MR. DURHAM: Thank you, Madam Chair. I think
- 24 we've killed enough trees just moving. I -- I move -- I move
- 25 the adoption of item 14 --

make a motion?

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1
                   MADAM CHAIR:
                                 Thirteen --
2
                   MR. DURHAM:
                                13-point 0 --
3
                   MADAM CHAIR: -- point 11.
                   MR. DURHAM: Point 11. Thank you
4
                   COMMISSIONER: And that's to approve the
5
6
    Noropa University Authorization request of its initial and
7
    added endorsement programs as set forth in the proposed
    agenda.
8
9
                   MR. DURHAM:
                                Correct. And I'm presuming that
10
    this is an otherwise qualified program as the others that
11
    were approved.
12
                   COMMISSIONER: Correct.
13
                   MR. DURHAM: Okay. That's the motion.
                   MADAM CHAIR: There is a second.
14
15
    objections? Great. Item 8.01, the State board will now
16
    consider and adopt to final Written Determination for the
17
    Accountability Recommendation concerning Westminster Public
    School, Case Number 17-AR-08. Public testim -- public --
18
19
    public testimony will not be heard at this time.
                   However, department, staff district staff and
20
    legal counsel are available only to answer any final
21
    questions which we may have. Neither the department nor
22
    district may provide any additional information unless
23
24
    requested by the State Board. Colleagues do you have any
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questions? Board Member McClellan?

- 1 MS. MCCLELLAN: Thank you Madam Chairman. I
- 2 understand this doesn't foreclose any further discussion or
- 3 questions, but I did want to put a motion out on the floor.
- 4 I move to approve the final written determination as
- 5 proposed by the department and district to direct
- 6 Westminster Public Schools to implement its management
- 7 pathway plan as filed with the State Board on May 10th,
- 8 2017.
- 9 MS. FLORES: I second it.
- MR. DURHAM: Madam Chairman. I'm trying --
- 11 MADAM CHAIR: Questions? Board Member
- 12 Durham.
- 13 MR. DURHAM: -- to make a substitute motion
- 14 that the board instruct the department to re -- prepare the
- 15 necessary documentation to remove the accreditation from the
- 16 district.
- 17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Second.
- 18 MADAM CHAIR: So now, we have two motion?
- 19 MR. DURHAM: No. We have a substitute.
- 20 MADAM CHAIR: Is there a second?
- 21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, we have a second.
- MS. MCCLELLAN: Have -- point -- have a point
- 23 of border and just for my own understanding. Am I not
- 24 correct that my motion must be voted upon first as the
- 25 proper motion, with a second?

1 MR. DURHAM: No. 2 MADAM CHAIR: I don't know. 3 MR. DURHAM: You can make substitute motion if it fails the you're back to the main motion. 4 MS. MCCLELLAN: 5 I see. 6 MADAM CHAIR: All right. Let's call the second motion, but we still would like -- I still like to be 7 able to have a lot of documented questions. Is it okay? Can 8 we get rid of this one, and then -- can we vote on this one, 10 and then go to the questions? Ms. -- Ms. Cordial? 11 MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Durham? MR. DURHAM: Yes. 12 13 MS. CORDIAL: Board member Flores? MS. FLORES: 14 No. MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Goff? 15 16 MS. GOFF: No. 17 MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Mazanec? 18 MS. MAZANEC: No. 19 MS. CORDIAL: Board Member McClellan? 20 MS. MCCLELLAN: No. MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Rankin? 21 22 MS. RANKIN: Yes. MS. CORDIAL: Board Member Schroeder? 23 MS. SCHROEDER: No. Am I allowed to have a 24

question? Okay. I have questions. So, my question is for -

- 1 is this letter that you provided us in an attempt to
- 2 answer our request? Is that a part now of blue pathway
- 3 plan?
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes.
- 5 MADAM CHAIR: So that we can officially say
- 6 these two are --
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes. We worked very,
- 8 very hard to try to answer the questions from the state or
- 9 from our last meeting.
- 10 MADAM CHAIR: And essentially -- the answers
- 11 are in here do some referencing into here?
- 12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah.
- 13 MADAM CHAIR: And you've made some changes in
- 14 here?
- 15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes.
- 16 MADAM CHAIR: I have to say it's confusing.
- 17 Here and there with red, and other places it wasn't. So --
- 18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Well, I tried to provide
- 19 the cover letter so that it would be --
- 20 MADAM CHAIR: It did refer us.
- 21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, yeah it did.
- 22 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you. I wanted to make
- 23 sure that was going to be a part of the documentation.
- 24 Board member Rankin, your question.
- 25 MS. RANKIN: Thank you, Madam Chair. I have a

- 1 question to Dr. Swanson. I read in your letter. Things will
- 2 clarify to pages 17 and 18, and pages 56 through 60. I read
- 3 it, and reread it, and reread it and I had a difficult time
- 4 in my own mind coming up with an answer to my question, when
- 5 we came before you.
- 6 My question was, who is management? And I
- 7 would like to reference again, dictionary definition of
- 8 management, 'As the ex- executive, administrative and
- 9 supervisory direction of', and couple that with the law that
- 10 says, 'The management must be performed by an entity other
- 11 than the school district.
- I really wanted that to be clear on these
- 13 pages and I went through it many times and couldn't find it.
- 14 I see a couple of, maybe consultants, to the district. In
- 15 our last meeting, I felt it might be the president and the
- 16 board. I- I wasn't very clear on it and I have to say I'm
- 17 sorry, but I am not clear on this issue right now, as I read
- 18 this. So, I'm having trouble with Section 22-11-09 Colorado
- 19 Revised Statutes, whether it's district or school, it's the
- 20 outside management that is the responsible party. Can you
- 21 help me with this? Help me to understand it.
- 22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We believe that our
- 23 management partnership, they really do have a legitimate and
- 24 very authentic role in our school district with legitimate
- 25 responsibilities, where they can take actions. Our local

- 1 school board is ultimately the -- the school board that does
- 2 for example, the hiring in our school district or the
- 3 firing, for that matter. But both of our partners, both
- 4 Avanset and Dr. Marzano, they have specific roles and that
- 5 was what I was trying to clarify in the letter.
- 6 Because when we started working with Avanset
- 7 even before the hearing here or putting the plan together
- 8 here, it was very clear to us that if we want to maintain a
- 9 five-year accreditation with them, there are certain actions
- 10 that they can direct or else that won't happen in our school
- 11 district. We will not retain that. And so, they still are
- 12 able to direct very specific actions and evaluations in our
- 13 school district, just as Dr. Marzano will have control of
- 14 all the operations of the Laboratory School.
- 15 And our hope is that, we'll be able to learn
- 16 from that Laboratory School so that we can build capacity
- 17 across the whole district.
- 18 MS. RANKIN: So is your answer, the ultimate
- 19 responsibility for this plan is your local Board of
- 20 Education?
- 21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Ultimately, the local
- 22 Board of Education is elected by our co- our community and
- 23 they've already voted unanimously to approve our plan. And
- 24 in that plan, that's where we have what we believe are
- 25 legitimate partners who have very, very real roles.

- 1 MS. RANKIN: Thank you.
- 2 MADAM CHAIR: Board Member, Durham.
- 3 MR. DURHAM: Thank you, Madam Chair. I think
- 4 a couple of observations. One, I think it's also -- it's
- 5 always difficult to interpret the intent of the legislature
- 6 and I think you just periodically need to look at plain
- 7 reading the statutes.
- 8 The statute on this -- on this relative to
- 9 district says that, this board shall not allow a school
- 10 district or the institute, referring to the Charter School
- 11 Institute, to remain accredited with Priority Improvement
- 12 Plan or below, for longer than a total of five consecutive
- 13 years.
- MALE SPEAKER: And I think, what they're --
- 15 what they're telling us beyond the plain reading of the
- 16 statute, is that, you know -- the kids who are in sixth
- 17 grade today, started and have been in this- they've been in
- 18 the school district from the beginning, have been in the
- 19 school district that is by any objective measure, a failing
- 20 school district. We don't- nobody likes the harsh use of the
- 21 term, that just happens to be a fact.
- 22 And the kids are going to graduate sometime
- 23 here, I would guess in this coming month, have been in this
- 24 situation since sixth grade. And what really shakes my
- 25 confidence, is that when we had the hearing, it was- and I-

- 1 I think, I made a reference to the 12-step program, if
- 2 you're going to solve a problem, you first got to admit you
- 3 have one.
- 4 And there didn't appear to be much admission
- 5 particularly on the part of the board, that there was a
- 6 problem. And there is certainly -- there is clearly a
- 7 problem.
- 8 There's no question that there's a problem.
- 9 But I don't think it -- I -- I don't know that this is true
- 10 of the management but clearly of the board, I characterize
- 11 their comments as almost a denial that they had a problem,
- 12 and I hope none of the taxpayers of that district were
- 13 paying any attention to that denial, because the evidence is
- 14 incontrovertible.
- 15 And so, if this problem is going to get
- 16 fixed, you know, it requires -- I think more important, the
- 17 first thing it requires is for the adults who were involved
- 18 in this, to give up something if necessary, for the benefit
- 19 of the children. Give up control, if in fact the management
- 20 plans and that's in place right now, and the ma- and the --
- 21 and the board that's in control can't seem to get the job
- 22 done.
- Maybe it's time to -- for -- for them to --
- 24 to do a little self-reflection. So, I don't see that the
- 25 adults in the room are giving up very much. Now, will this

- 1 program work? That was put in front of us. Well it -- it
- 2 might. I hope so. But, I don't think it's the kind of
- 3 change necessary to ensure that things are going to be
- 4 better six years from now than they are today.
- And so, that's why I made the first motion.
- 6 I'm sorry at lost because I think -- I think there are not
- 7 many, but I think there are several districts in the state
- 8 that -- that are in this spot, that it's -- it's really time
- 9 to try significantly different things. And whether or not
- 10 this is significantly different in this proposal, I guess
- 11 we'll find out. I'm going to vote against this -- the
- 12 motion, because I believe it's -- provides inadequate
- 13 protection for the children of the district.
- 14 MADAM CHAIR: Anybody else? Board member
- 15 Rank -- Mazanec? I'm sorry.
- MS. MAZANEC: My concern is in -- seems to --
- 17 the plan seems to be that we look again through the survey.
- 18 We will -- we'll be deployed. We'll utilize data.
- 19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It turned you off,
- 20 automatically.
- 21 MS. MAZANEC: So, I'm a little concerned
- 22 about the lack of detail. And in -- in -- and in fact in
- 23 your plan, you -- your timeline seems to involve a lot of
- 24 gathering of data and analyzing data. It seems shocking to
- 25 me, after years of having knowing that things are wrong,

- 1 that now we're going to began to look at -- we're going to
- 2 begin collecting and begin to look at it. Do you have any
- 3 answer for that? I mean, do -- would you agree that you've
- 4 had years to do that, and it seems -- I'm not sure that it
- 5 serves your students, or your community to start now.
- 6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, I don't think that
- 7 we're starting from scratch now. I think we had a four-year
- 8 mark of continual upward improvement. Currently, we do not
- 9 have any schools that are facing sanctions. It's the
- 10 district as a whole.
- 11 And so, the two partners we have, part of the
- 12 day that we want to take a look at now, so when we get the
- 13 latest results, that we just took tests, so we want to get
- 14 the latest results from those assessments, so that then when
- 15 we apply more intentional focus at particular schools that
- 16 had a bump last year, if those are still the same schools
- 17 that have the bump. That's where we want to be able to
- 18 apply particular -- particular intervention, if you will.
- 19 MS. MAZANEC: What I'm referring to is on
- 20 your pages 56 through 59. Year one, you're going to analyze,
- 21 your two and three, you're going to conduct follow up. Year
- 22 three, you're going to analyze and follow up. That's -- it
- 23 sounds like a lot of analysis, but not a lot of action.
- 24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, I think we have a
- 25 lot of action. I -- I -- I respectfully don't agree with

- 1 that characterization at all.
- MS. MAZANEC: So, tell me about the lot of
- 3 action you see happening.
- 4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I think when Dr. Hurst
- 5 was here and Dr. Marzano at the last meeting, part of the --
- 6 the questioning that we got from the state board, that I
- 7 think they were attempting to ask him, we also tried to
- 8 answer my cover letter, is that the two partners will also
- 9 be working together. That part is different, because up to
- 10 now, it's been Dr. Marzano as an instructional partner along
- 11 the way.
- But opening a lab school's are different
- 13 ballgame. As far as advance Ed goes, they're looking at the
- 14 entire system, and part of their role as partners is to be
- 15 able to analyze all of our data, make suggestions, make
- 16 recommendations, even direct, if necessary, different
- 17 interventions, so that as a whole system, not just school by
- 18 school, but certainly all of our schools, we move to a
- 19 better improvement category.
- 20 MADAM CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. Board member
- 21 Rankin?
- 22 MS. RANKIN: Dr. Swanson, I just want to say
- 23 thank you for what you're -- you're doing. But again, our
- 24 focus here is on students and the parents. And I'm not
- 25 saying that yours isn't either. I'm just saying that our

- 1 job here is to follow the law, and direct what it is the
- 2 legislature told us to do. So, I just want to state it one
- 3 more time. Section 22-11-209 CRS: That a public or private
- 4 entity with the agreement of the school district, consent to
- 5 take over management of the school district, or management
- 6 of one or more of the district public schools.
- 7 So it -- I feel focus is directly on the
- 8 district. But with that said, I wish you the very best of
- 9 luck. I hope you are off this clock in one year. I would
- 10 love to see that happen. That's the direction. I -- I'm
- 11 really hoping for you. Thank you.
- 12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay.
- 13 MADAM CHAIR: Any other questions? Ms.
- 14 Cordial, would you please call the roll.
- 15 MS. CORDIAL: And this is for board member,
- 16 McClellan. Yeah. Okay. Board member Durham?
- MR. DURHAM: No.
- 18 MS. CORDIAL: Board member Flores?
- MS. FLORES: Yes.
- 20 MS. CORDIAL: Board member Goff?
- MS. GOFF: Yes.
- 22 MS. CORDIAL: Board member Mazanec?
- MS. MAZANEC: No.
- 24 MS. CORDIAL: Board member McClellan?
- MS. MCCLELLAN: Yes.

1	MS. CORDIAL: Board member Rankin?
2	MS. RANKIN: No.
3	MS. CORDIAL: Board member Schroeder?
4	MS. SCHROEDER: Yes.
5	MS. CORDIAL: The motion passes for the
6	three.
7	MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, all. Board members,
8	do you have any requests for future items to be on the
9	agenda? Any closing comments? My sincere thanks to staff
10	again for your incredible amount of work. Stay tuned till
11	June.
12	Guys, anything? All right. We'll hammer.
13	(Meeting adjourned)
14	
15	CERTIFICATE
16	I, Kimberly C. McCright, Certified Vendor and
17	Notary, do hereby certify that the above mentioned matter
18	occurred as hereinbefore set out.
19	I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT the proceedings of such
20	were reported by me or under my supervision, later reduced
21	to typewritten form under my supervision and control and
22	that the foregoing pages are a full, true and correct
23	transcription of the original notes.
24	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand

and seal this 25th day of October, 2018.

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