

Dyslexia Working Group Meeting Summary December 1, 2023

TIME AND LOCATION

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Zoom

DWG Attendees: Brian Rose, Dyann Powell, Laura Swanson, Michelle Qazi, Sierra Loar, Cindy Kanuch, Jess Yost, Marcie Eichmann, Sarah Huffman, Jenny Imel, Patrick McGinty

CDE Attendees: Ellen Hunter, Anji Gallanos, Paul Foster, Rachael Lovendahl, Floyd Cobb, Joanna Bruno

Members Public: Kayla Tibbals, Kristina Thompson and one more individual (JM)

MEETING SUMMARY

- 1. Updates** - Participants shared updates from dyslexia-related groups they are involved in, including concerns around identifying dyslexia and using targeted assessments. Paul Foster and Ellen Hunter provided guidance on the use of dyslexia in IEPs and eligibility for special education services. The group discussed the role of MTSS and RTI in the identification of dyslexia and the need to address the specific needs of each child.
- 2. Universal Screening** - The group participated in a brainstorming exercise to identify everything that would be needed to be in place (supports, resources, services) to successfully support students identified as having dyslexia through the screening process.
- 3. Dyslexia Handbook** – Ellen Hunter (CDE) explained the purpose and organization of the Colorado Dyslexia Handbook, which includes eight chapters covering various aspects of dyslexia. The handbook provides information on dyslexia definition, assessment, identification, school-based supports, community and home-based supports, and special populations and comorbidity with dyslexia. It also offers resources for parents, teachers, and educators. She also provided an opportunity for DWG members to share feedback on the handbook that could be incorporated into upcoming revisions.
- 4. Small group work:** The DWG agreed to focus its work for the year on two overarching areas: 1) Quality research/resources and dissemination; 2) Pool of experts/rubric/standards. They formed 2 small groups to begin identifying realistic wins in 2024 related to the topic (and within the scope of the DWG).
- 5. Closing** - Attendees identified the following topics to cover at the next meeting: Get more information on the Dyslexia Pilot results and continue small group work.