



Facility Schools Work Group Meeting Notes

October 3, 2024, 9:00 - 10:30 AM Virtual - Zoom Meeting

Work Group Members Present: Sarah Baumgartner, Laurie Burney, Danny Combs, Wendy Dunaway, Mylynda Herrick, Kathleen Homan, Sonjia Hunt, Erin Osterhaus, Steven Ramirez, Judy Stirman, Ann Symalla, Lindsey Tapp, Barb Taylor, Kevin Tracy, Susan Udenberg, Laura Writebol

Work Group Members Absent: Kari Chapman, Betsy Pepper, Deon Roberts, Robin Singer, Callan Ware

Guest Observers: Allie Miller, Amanda Bickel, Brad Trout, John Duran, Gabriele Jimenez, Lori McClurg, Dave Sevick, Becky Miller Updike

Facilitator & Support: Virginia (G) Winter, Equinox Consultancy LLC

Analysis Team: Nick Stellitano – Dillinger Research & Applied Data

Public Comment: no public comment

1. Specialized Day Schools

- Representatives from the two newly authorized and approved schools provided feedback regarding the process to become authorized and approved as a facility school. Both expressed that they are grateful for the opportunity to be part of the work group's vision for a new school type.
- TACT expressed appreciation for the support from CDE and the learning curve they have experienced.
- ACES expressed appreciation for the guidance and support provided by CDE especially in light of the fact that they are Arizona based and needed to quickly get up to speed with Colorado practices.

2. SB23-219 Implementation and Work Plan

- Work Group members reviewed the timeline for upcoming work and implementation updates on various projects.

3. Third Party Evaluation input

- Work Group members reviewed the current measures noted in statute. They provided input and thoughts regarding various data points to be considered for the evaluation. Comments and suggestions were recorded and for near term Office of Facility School reference. A statement of work for the 'third party' evaluation is under development.

4. Independent National Accreditation

- The list of accrediting entities has been approved by the Facility Schools Board and posted to the Office website.

5. Shared Operational Services Grant - Colorado Association of Family and Children's Agencies

- Dave Sevick and Becky Miller Updike verbally presented an exciting report of recent work under the the grant. This included a description of a successful pilot (using their chosen vendor at a few facility schools) to verify that there will indeed be financial benefits for (bundled) shared purchases. Sites in the pilot period experienced significant savings.

Next Steps - Reminder of upcoming Work Group meetings:

- Next meeting dates: Friday, November 1, 2024
Thursday, December 5, 2024

[Shared work group member folder for meeting notes, reports, etc.](#)

SB 23-219 Facility Schools Work Group



October 3, 2024

Virtual Meeting



Greetings Facility Schools Work Group Members and Guest Observers

A few notes prior to the meeting starting:

- **Work Group Members please have your camera on and relevant documents available at the beginning of the meeting.**
- **If you are a guest observer to our meeting and would like to participate in the public comment portion of the meeting, please submit your name, group or entity you are representing, and public comment topic in an email to: *Darren Serrato Serrato_D@cde.state.co.us***
- ***Note: we request that this is done 24 hours before scheduled meeting times.***
- **The Work Group has allocated time for public comment near the beginning of each meeting. Reference the Agenda, the exact time varies slightly.**
- **The guidelines for the public comment include: 3 minutes per person, with a maximum of 5 people (or 15 minutes total) allowed.**
- **If you are a guest/observer you will be asked to state your name and affiliation at the beginning of the Work Group meeting**

Facility Schools Work Group Guidelines for Interaction, Deliberation and Collaboration

Amended and recertified using consensus decision making - August 24, 2023

- Be open minded; Avoid bringing any hidden agendas to the table.
- Not afraid to express your opinion.
- Listen to understand, not respond.
- Don't be afraid of change. Expect changes.
- Stay mission-focused; being transparent in why we're here.
- Tap into the variety of perspectives and expertise while being respectful of different points of view
- Full understanding of purpose.
- Challenge ourselves to be innovative.
- Consistent attendance, participation, and engagement.
- Focus and stay on track with the agenda and tasks at hand.
- Create a safe environment to discuss disagreements.
- What is the common denominator we go away with? (i.e. Can we agree on a global fix?)
- Allow all voices to be heard
- Focus on the kids. Keep it kid-focused. Kids and family-focused.
- Patience with opposing viewpoints and creative thinking.
- Come to the meeting prepared; adhere to timelines.
- Allow folks that are speaking to finish their comments without interruption.
- Assume positive intention.
- Respect voices for representing constituencies. (Appreciate that members may serve as liaisons to a constituency).
- Good access to materials. Maintain the Google drive with the background information which will help us and aid transparency.
- Critique ideas, not people.

Final report to the JBC was submitted to CDE on September 30!



Special Thank You!

to Kate McDonald,
Dillinger/RAD; this Work Group;
the Office of Facility Schools
and CDE's Policy office



Our Purpose & October 2024 Agenda Items

The Facility Schools Work Group shall monitor the implementation of changes to the facility school system and educational services for students with exceptionally severe or specialized needs.
The Facility Schools Work Group's role is to advise the State.

1. Specialized Day Schools - Danny Combs/Lori McClurg (TACT) and Brad Trout/Lori McClurg/John Doran (ACES) - share perspectives on the process of authorization and approval from the applicant's side.
2. Standing item: SB 219 work plan review & implementation update
3. October data snapshot and update on data collection processes for this SY
4. Moving ahead with Third Party Evaluation - a requirement of SB 23-219
5. Update on the independent national accreditation organizations list for the consideration by Facility Schools and why its available.
6. Shared Operational Services Grant - David Sevick, CAFCA, Director of Development & Member Services

Specialized Day Schools - Both sides now...

Danny Combs, Lori McClurg- Teaching the Autistic Community Trades (TACT)

Brad Trout, Lori McClurg, John Doran- Austin Centers for Exceptional Students (ACES)

➔ *Learning by listening about the experience of applying for authorization and approval as a Specialized Day Facility School*

Monitoring - Key Work Plan Events

2025 Priorities, Deliberations & Decisions:

1. Implement legislation with fidelity
2. Collect/develop metrics to assess impact
3. Identify concerns and questions raised through the implementation process and problem solve solutions
4. SY25-26 baseline funding updates

Ongoing Actions

Priority	Action	Owner	Timeline
2	Month/Annual Data Collection	DillingerRAD	On Going
1	Buildout of Technical Assistance	Allie	On Going

Future/Planned Actions

Priority	Action	Owner	Timeline
2	Review scope of work & timeline for 3rd Party Evaluation	CDE	Fall 2024

Aug 2024 - Feb 2025

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

Jan

Feb

Preparing for Annual Report

Annual Report Review

Shared Operational Services & Technical Assistance Step Back

Preliminary Data review for SY2425

Draft potential measures for RFP

Annual Data Reporting and Data Collection

Annual Data Analysis and multi-year trend analysis

Annual Data Analysis and multi-year trend analysis

Monitoring & Implementation Dashboard

Data Collection

Action	Status
Collecting all Baseline Data from Facility Schools	In Progress
Standardize Facility School Data Governance Model	In Progress
Analysis of Monthly Data	In Progress
Develop SOW for 3rd Party Evaluation	Measure input from WG Internal CDE meeting

Baseline Funding Model

Action	Status
Funding for 2024-25	In progress

Shared Operational Services

Action	Status
Baseline Assessment by CAFCA	In progress

Technical Assistance Center

Action	Status
Information gathering	In progress

Revision & Support of Licensing/Authorization

Action	Status
Draft Interagency Resource Guide	Posted to CDE website and linked to CDHS and HCPF
Specialized Day School Process	Under review

Third Party Evaluation Measures

Review - [Third party evaluation information and measures](#)

- What data or information do we need to have to know if we have been successful?
- What is missing from our list?

Independent National Accreditation List

The Facility Schools Board approved the list of independent national accreditation organizations at their September 12 meeting.

School districts are required to consider placements in approved facility schools, then eligible facilities that are accredited by an organization from the approved list, prior to placing in an unapproved and unaccredited site.

[Approved Independent National Accreditation List](#)

Wrap Up

Our next meeting is - Friday, November 1, 2024 @ 9:00 AM



Tip: use your shared Google folder archive and the OFS website as tools to stay up to date as a member of this Work Group.