Concurrent Enrollment Advisory Board Meeting

September 20, 2012 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

President’s Room, Colorado Community College System

Present:

Cliff Richardson

Dan Jorgensen

Vaughn Toland

Chelsy Harris

Chahnuh Fritz

Geri Anderson

Misti Ruthven

On Phone:

Jill Toussaint

Sunny Schmitt

Not in attendance:

Mark Rangel

Tracey Lovett

Richard Maestas

Scott Stump

Guest: Tamara White Johnson, Dr. Matt Gianneschi

Introductions and Minutes Approval-Cliff Richardson

* Cliff officially welcomed Misti Ruthven as the new Secondary Initiatives Manager.
* Dan moved to approve minutes. Chelsy seconded. All members signaled approval. Minutes were approved.

General Update-Misti Ruthven

* Education Success Taskforce: Misti Ruthven, Tamara White Johnson and Scott Stump provided an update to the Education Success Taskforce regarding concurrent enrollment and ASCENT. Discussed the concurrent enrollment legislative report, highlights include:
	+ 12 colleges and 243 local education providers have concurrent enrollment cooperative agreements.
	+ All totaled, in 2010 over, 20,000 students participated in some type of dual enrollment program.
		- This number includes students who participated in Concurrent enrollment programs (as defined in HB-09-1319), PSEO, Fasttrack, ASCENT and other concurrent enrollment programs.
* The Education Success Task Force seemed particularly interested in the difficult timeline for ASCENT, since students do not find out if they have been selected until after their senior year of high school. There was discussion around this making other decisions difficult around admissions, financial aid and scholarships. Two of the legislative members briefly discussed the possibility of initiating a separate fund for ASCENT students where they could possibly know if they are funded before the end of their senior year.
* In partnership with DHE & CDE, Jobs for the Future conducted a study of early colleges and concurrent enrollment activities in Colorado. Part of the study was convening a committee of practitioners and policymakers to discuss the history and current direction of activities in Colorado. The final report will be released in late October/early November 2012. The Concurrent Enrollment Advisory Board will be apprised of the report’s findings.

Program History-Dr. Matt Gianneschi, Deputy Executive Director, Colorado Department of Higher Education, provided a program history about how the concurrent enrollment policies have evolved and are now in place to promote access for all students to college experiences while in high school. Additionally, the policies are receiving national recognition for their flexibility in implementation.

Advisory Board Terms:

* Per Matt Gianneschi, board members are only obligated to one 3 year term, but can re-apply
* The board discussed the potential of members wishing to re-apply and requested that an application be completed, possibly utilizing the the Governor’s Application
* Misti will send the information to members whose terms are ending

Statute Review and ASCENT Process and Deadlines:

* Deadlines were initially built into the legislation based on Colorado’s fiscal and budgetary calendar.
	+ Dr. Gianneschi mentioned the possibility to request two years of ASCENT funded in a single year in order to create a forward-funding model so students might be able to know about the possibility of receiving funding earlier.
* Can the September count date be updated?
	+ One possibility would be to submit the previous year’s numbers plus increases based upon historical figures and increases.
	+ Actual numbers could be captured in the February/March count and student information provided to CDE.
* Rural educators have a rich opportunity for students to take advantage ofASCENT
* Use concurrent enrollment to help “turn around” schools get better
* Action Item: Board members please review the statute and send revisions or questions to Misti at Ruthven\_m@cde.state.co.us by October 5, 2012

Department of Higher Ed Update-Tamara White Johnson

* Tamara White Johnson provided an update on the status of the Remedial Policy Review , the Admission Policy Review, graduation guidelines and the PWR endorsed diploma. All work is moving forward and aligning with other policies and initiatives ASCENT Process & Deadlines – Misti Ruthven
* Misti provided an update on the districts that provided a count for ASCENT on September 1st.
* 37 districts submitted counts for 1,785 students for 2013-14 funding.

Evaluation and Research-Dan Jorgensen

* Dan offered to initiate a research project around the effectiveness and education outcomes associated with concurrent enrollment and ASCENT participation. Dan requested assistance from the board in compiling a list of research questions to be addressed, such as
	+ When students participate in concurrent enrollment, how do students perform in the future?
	+ How do we show proof of successes?
	+ How do we show cost savings?
	+ What are the educational benefits to students while still in high school?

Advisory Board Recommendations

* Each December the board submits a memo to the Senate and House education committees, CCHE and the State Board of Education. Recommendations to be addressed in the memo will be discussed at the November board meeting.
* Misti will assist in drafting the recommendations
* Suggestions were made that the December memo include:
	+ 6th year waiver process
	+ Legislative cleanup suggestions
	+ Update September 1st count deadline for ASCENT

New Legislation Update

* Dr. Geri Anderson, Provost, Colorado Community College System, provided an overview of legislation that passed from the more recent session, which included:
* High promise students that are at risk of dropout from the ages of 16 to 21 have programs available to them at Pueblo Community College and Front Range Community College to catch-up on credits through concurrent enrollment options. These courses are taken at the community college site and not available at the high school.
* There was also discussion and clarification around the bill to expand concurrent enrollment. Its final form was much different from how it began and passed with a requirement that students be notified earlier in their education journey of the concurrent enrollment opportunities that exist.

Committee Updates

* Chelsy will leverage the forms subcommittee, which is a group of community college concurrent enrollment practitioners, to review and recommend updates to the application and forms.
* FAQ’s need to be in Spanish.
	+ FAQ’s need to be updated first. After they are updated, Cliff will assist in getting them translated through CCD.

Public Input

* Clarification for auditors. Look into inviting auditors to speak re: what they look for in an

Action Plan

* Look through Concurrent Enrollment statutes and send suggested changes to Misti
* Send research questions to Dan
* November meeting:
	+ Program auditors
	+ Finalize December memorandum
	+ Geri will recommend a new Board Member to replace the vacancy through State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education
* Possibility of CEAB traveling for meetings. Overland IST building a possibility for the November meeting

Meeting Adjourned