



Facility Schools Model Work Group Meeting Notes

August 4, 2022, 9:00 - 12:00 PM Virtual - Zoom Meeting

Work Group Members Present: Kari Chapman, Michele Craig, Stacey Davis, Wendy Dunaway, Paul Foster, Becky Miller Updike, David Molineux, Kelly O'Shea, Eryn Osterhaus, Betsy Pepper, Deon Roberts, Steven Ramirez, Robin Singer, Carolena Steen, Judy Stirman, Ann Symalla, Barb Taylor, Kevin Tracy, Callan Ware, Laura Writebol

Work Group Members Absent: Laurie Burney, Samantha Garrett, Doug Hainley, Sonjia Hunt, Elizabeth Lucier, Sandy Malouff, Germaine Meehan, Brandon Miller, Maureen Welch

Guest Observers: Amanda Bickel, Isabel Broer, Annie Haskins, Lori Kochevar

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

Analysis Team: Nick Stellitano – Dillinger Research & Applied Data

Reviewed agenda, zoom features, and the [Guidelines for Interaction, Deliberation and Collaboration](#).

Public Comment: no public comment

Accountability:

- Pre-read - Summary information to-date and further information regarding the expansion of the educational continuum and facility school capacity.

1. Recap - Weaving together the goals of SB21-274 with workgroup recommendations

- 1) The Work Group reviewed their purpose, goals, and vision
- 2) An overview of the work plan through December was provided by Dillinger RAD, along with a review of the systems model and the associated recommendations to-date

2. Recommendations for increasing facility school system capacity

- 1) The workgroup reviewed and discussed the information gathered by Dillinger RAD from non-facility organizations
- 2) The Work Group reviewed, discussed the draft recommendations, and made final edits.
- 3) The following recommendations were approved by the Work Group using a consensus decision making process

Recommendation 4 - CDE shall reinforce current standards while expanding the definitions of facility schools to allow for more diverse organizations serving various student populations to provide direct specialized instruction and related services to address the current gap between school districts and approved facility schools, on the educational continuum.

Recommendation 5 - CDE Office of Facility Schools shall explore revisions, clarifications, and additional support of the approval process in accordance with current and future legislation.

3. Tracking Outcomes to Evaluate the Results of Recommendations

- 1) The Work Group reviewed, then moved to breakouts to discuss the proposed ways to track outcomes presented by Dillinger RAD - during report outs Staff recorded notes of a few revisions and new ideas

4. The Road to December: Work Group report, meetings, member roles, and scenarios

- 1) The Work Group reviewed a timeline for the completion of the report
- 2) Future meeting and member role information was shared (slides 24-26)
- 3) A forecast for possible legislative actions and scenarios were shared
 - a) Amanda Bickel, K-12 Education - JBC analyst, shared possible responses and timelines

Next Steps

- Post Meeting Slides and distribute Meeting Notes.
- Next meeting is Friday, September 9, 2022, 9:00 to TBD
- Should you be unable to attend a regularly scheduled Work Group meeting, PLEASE remember to access and review all post meeting slide decks, meeting notes, and supporting materials to stay abreast of the Work Group's progress meeting to meeting.

Greetings Facility Schools Workgroup Members and Guest Observers

A few notes prior to the meeting starting:

- **Workgroup 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: *Quinn Enright* (Enright_Q@cde.state.co.us) *Note: we request that this is done 24 hours before scheduled meeting times.*
- The Workgroup 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.

Facility Schools Model Workgroup



August 4, 2022

Virtual Meeting



Our Guidelines for Interaction, Deliberation and Collaboration

- 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.
- in why we're here.
- Tap into the variety of perspectives and expertise available.
- Full understanding of purpose.
- Giving everyone a chance to be heard
- Challenge ourselves to be innovative.
- Be respectful of different points of view.
- Consistent attendance, participation, and engagement.
- Focus and stay on track with the agenda and tasks at hand.
- What is the common denominator we go away with? (i.e. Can we agree on a global fix?)
- Leave room for all voices.
- 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.

Today's Objectives -

1. Weaving Together The Three Overarching Goal Areas Of SB 21- 274 With The Workgroup Recommendation Decisions Made This '21-22 Session
2. Completing 1 or more Recommendations for Increasing Facility School System Capacity. Work Group Decision(s).
3. Feedback Requested: Outcomes We Want to Track to Evaluate the Results of Recommendations During Implementation
4. The Road to December: Work Group Report, Work Group Meetings, Member Role(s) and Scenarios for Multiple Eventualities

Fall Work Plan

Plan overview through the end of 2022...

August	September (may be shorter meeting)	October	November & December
<p>Review How We Got Here and Finish Recommendations</p> <p>Come to consensus on the recommendations regarding expanding the Facility School Continuum</p>	<p>Review Recommendations</p> <p>Approve final text of the recommendations to be submitted to the State through the CDE report to the Commissioner</p>	<p>Finalize Report</p> <p>Discussions as needed to finalize CDE report to the State ensure the goals stipulated in SB 21-274 have been satisfied</p>	<p>Meet as Needed</p> <p>Convene the work group as needed to address and discuss any questions or issues that may arise</p>

Our 'Mission': Facility Schools Model Work Group*

The **purpose** of the Senate Bill 21-274 work group* is to develop and implement a sustainable model with the capacity to meet the educational needs of children and youth in or at risk of out-of-home placement and children and youth who are at risk of educational failure due to the challenging behavior, mental or behavioral health needs, or disabilities, regardless of the child's or youth's eligibility for special education services.



COLORADO
Department of Education

Our Goals

Work Group was tasked with making informed decisions around the objectives for SB 21-274



Continuum

Goal 1: Develop a comprehensive continuum of educational, physical, behavioral, and mental health needs of children and youth served in residential or day treatment, hospital settings, home-bound environments, or other specially designed district programs.



Capacity

Goal 2: Consider/explore adequate educational options that include, but are not limited to, eligible and approved Facility Schools, school districts, boards of cooperative services, multi-district cooperatives, multi-agency partnerships, and the division of youth services as places on the continuum of services.



Funding

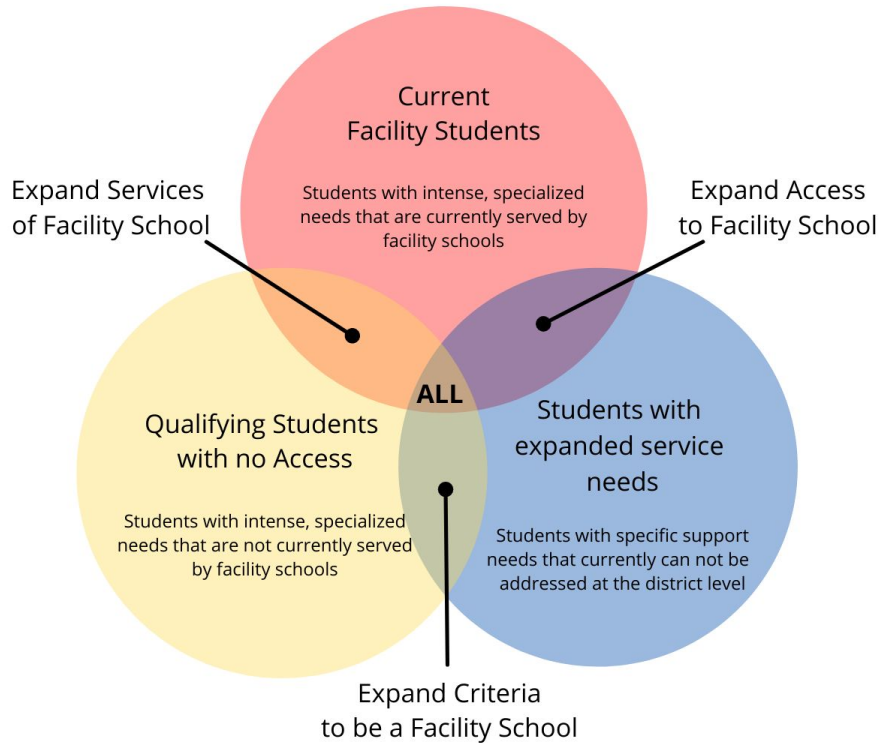
Goal 3: Ensure the development of a sustainable funding structure that supports a high-quality educational continuum intended to meet the educational needs of children and youth requiring advanced services.

Our 'Vision' of Success - October 2021

- Finding long-term - not Band-Aid- solutions;
- Addressing rates and the rate-setting process;
- Creating state-wide sustainable options;
- Resources are more accessible for all students;
- Providing services without limitations;
- Increasing capacity and having sustainable capacity;
- Improvement in residential programs goes hand-in-hand with improvement in educational programs;
- There are quality programs everywhere;
- Simplify processes to minimize red tape;
- Sustainable without having to rely on other systems and/or stakeholders in order for facilities to continue providing services.



Facility School Systems Model



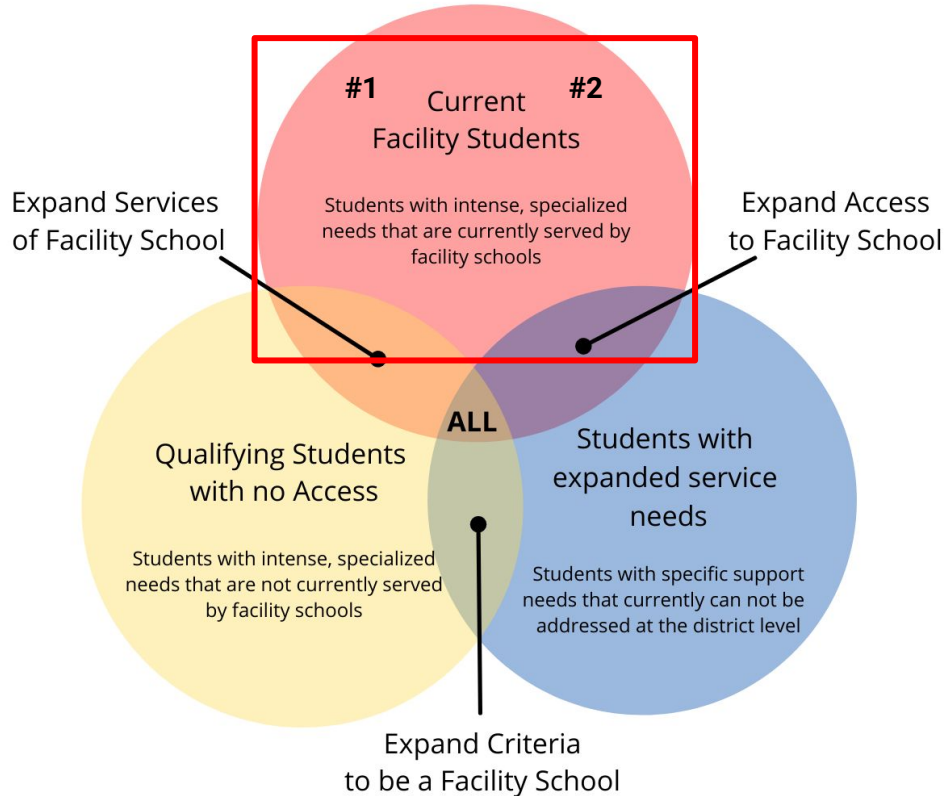
Key things to remember:

- Each circle represents a piece of the **student continuum** that the workgroup must address through recommendations
- Each recommendation must attempt to support specific components of the model to help **simplify and focus** recommendations
- Each recommendation must be designed to address the **specific problem** facing the students within that specific area

Facility School Systems Model - Current Facility Students

#1 April Decision: Baseline

The baseline funding model **creates a benchmark minimum funding level for all facility schools** to help ensure a sufficient and reliable revenue stream. Baseline funding levels are created based on an identified list of critical components for school operations. This model will help close the gap that currently exists between expenses and revenues at many facility schools. Addresses Goal 3- Funding



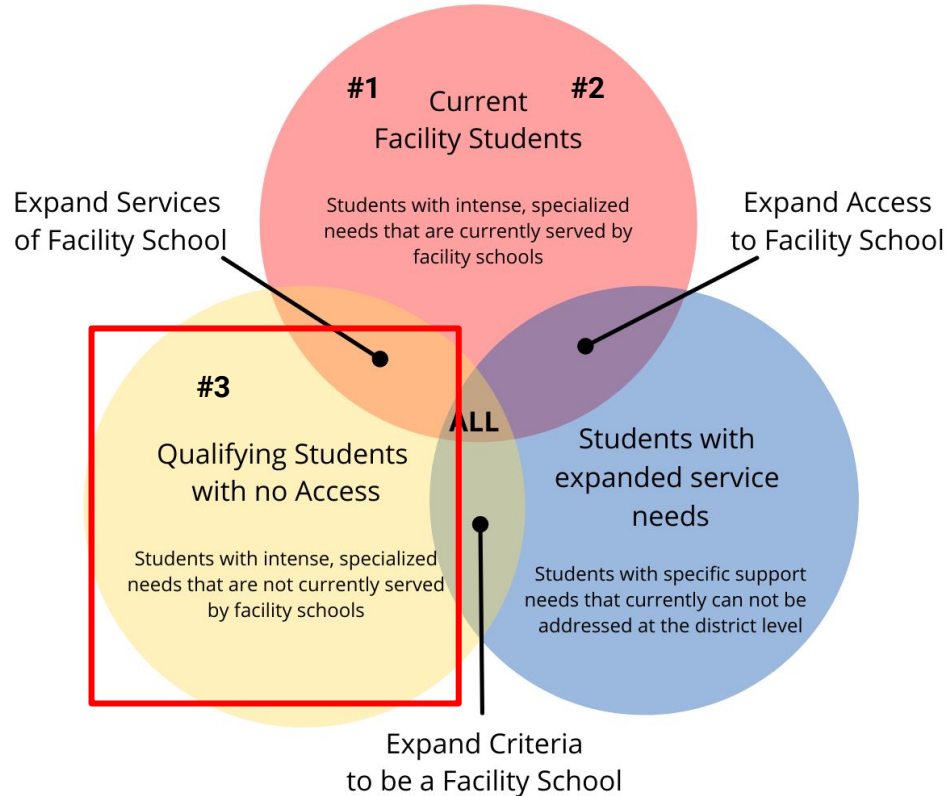
#2 May Decision: Shared Operational Services

A Shared Operational Service Model **would not be** student-facing but would help to reduce operational costs that can impact the level of support available to students at Facility Schools. Addresses Goal 3- Funding

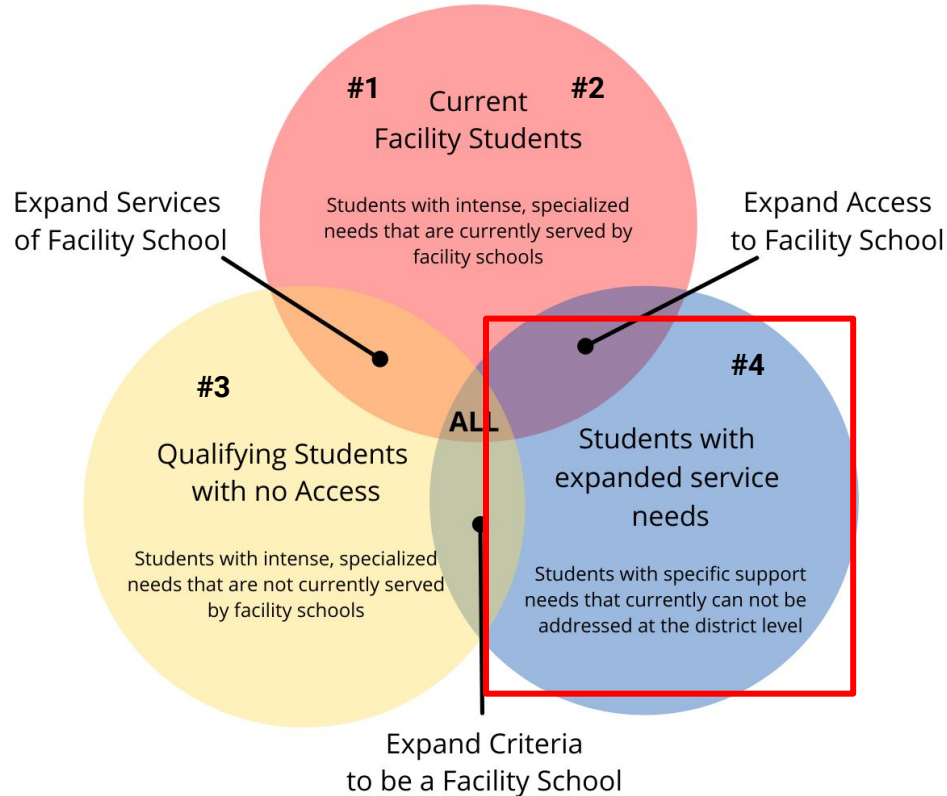
Facility School Systems Model - Qualifying Students with No Access

#3 May Decision: TAC

A Technical Assistance Center **would work directly with school districts** to provide services and support that could address the needs of these qualifying students. Addresses Goal 1- Continuum



Facility School Systems Model - Students with Expanded Service Needs



#4 June Decision: Expanded Facility School Reach

By changing the process by which a program becomes a Facility School and/or changing the qualifications required to become a Facility School, ***students with specific support needs that can not currently be helped at the district level can be supported*** through the Facility School continuum. Addresses Goal 1 & 2- Continuum & Capacity

Setting the Stage for Recommendations on Tap Today

Recommendation #4 / 5 Expand Facility School Reach

During the June meeting the work group came to consensus that the reach of Facility schools needed to expand. Expansion will address the specifics of Goals 1 and 2 stated above. And today's recommendation(s) #4/5 are our response to the Senate Bill tasks below -

Objective 5(2)(e) addresses **"Evaluating other effective evidence-based options that currently existing in Colorado... that may be incorporated into the model to ensure the necessary capacity to serve students in the target population in the state"**.

Objective 5(2)(f) addresses **"Identifying barriers and developing solutions to address the development of additional capacity in educational programs in meeting the needs of students in the target population"**.

Objective 5(2)(g)(l) addresses **"Identifying and analyzing the State's current capacity to provide appropriate instruction, support, and services to students in the target population"**.

Expanding the Continuum

At the June Work Group meeting you came to consensus regarding further development of both approaches

Qualification Solution

Changes and/or recommendations to provide "space" within the continuum to include organizations that are providing exclusive programming and related services to help support students with disabilities that are currently beyond the capacity of their home district.

Process Solution

Changes and/or recommendations to application process to help encourage more organizations to apply and further support those organizations that do choose to apply.

Design Thinking: Empathize - Focus Group Feedback

During July, DillingerRAD spoke with non-eligible programs* to better understand their current challenges

Identified Qualification Challenges

- **Day care requirements for licensure is a huge barrier**
- Need to create a place of convergence that allows for the
 - Redefining of what **direct specialized academic instruction** means for CDE
 - Redefining what treatment means for CDHS
- Changes should be grounded in **evidence based practices**

Identified Process Related Challenges

- **Current process feels very rigid with a one-size-fits-all approach which is not grounded in the current needs of the student population**
- **It would be immensely helpful if the process was centralized under one state entity instead of multiple departments**

* Non-eligible programs include Teaching the Autism Community Trades (TACT), EVOKE Behavioral Health, Jeffco Public Schools, Advanced Behavioral Resources

Draft Recommendations for Consideration

	Qualification	Process
Approach	<i>Recommendation that suggests changes to a Statute or Rule that would provide "space" within the continuum to include organizations that currently don't qualify as a facility school but still provide federally mandated educational support and services.</i>	<i>Recommendation to improve the application process to become a state approved facility school through the development of a centralized streamlined process - not a one size fits all.</i>
Draft Recommendation	<i>Recommend Colorado Department of Education revise current statute/rule with regard to the definitions and rules associated with facility schools.</i>	<i>Recommend the Office of Facility Schools explore revision of the approval process in accordance with current or future legislation.</i>
Update	<i>Recommend Colorado Department of Education reinforce current standards while expanding the definitions of facility schools that allow for more diverse organizations serving various student populations to provide direct specialized instruction and related services to address the current gap between districts and facility schools</i>	<i>Recommend the Office of Facility Schools explore revisions, clarification and additional support of the approval process in accordance with current or future legislation.</i>

Work Group Decision Time

1. Decision is needed. Recommendation stated
2. Clarifying questions
3. Unresolved concerns (Y/N)
4. (Re)state consensus decision & record



**Do you support the recommendation (s) to expand the Facility School Continuum?
(previous slide)**

BREAK



Evaluating Recommendation 'Outcomes'

Senate Bill 21-274 Objective 5(2)(h)- *Identify the outcomes that are to be evaluated*

How do we best monitor or verify that our recommendations are having the desired impact?

What 'outcomes' do we want to be evaluated?



Measuring Impact of Recommendations

Recommendation #1- Baseline Funding

- Compare Revenue Spending before and after Baseline Funding implementation
- Identify items prioritized with approved Supplemental funding
- Track whether prioritized Supplemental funding items continue to be accessible to Facility Schools with Baseline Funding
- Track average teacher salary before and after implementation of baseline funding

Recommendation #2- Shared Services

- Year 1
 - RFP filled
 - A plan developed to identify and operationalize one shared service
- Year 2
 - RFP filled to operationalize service
 - Track spending in Facility Schools before and after Shared Services

Recommendation #3- Technical Assistance

- Position to lead and manage the Technical Assistance Center is filled
- Identify statewide priorities and resources to enable implementation when position filled
- Track to ensure professional development was designed, provided, and utilized

Recommendation #4/#5- Expanding Reach

- The Office of Facility Schools made revisions to the application process
- The definition of facility schools expanded from its current definition

Measuring Impact of Recommendations (Edited Version)

Recommendation #1- Baseline Funding

- Compare Revenue Spending before and after Baseline Funding implementation
- Identify items prioritized with approved Supplemental funding
- Track whether prioritized Supplemental funding items continue to be accessible to Facility Schools with Baseline Funding
- Track average teacher salary before and after implementation of baseline funding
- **Before and after vacancy rate for student facing staff**

Recommendation #2- Shared Services

- Year 1
 - RFP filled
 - A plan developed to identify and operationalize one shared service
- Year 2
 - RFP filled to operationalize service
 - Track spending in Facility Schools before and after Shared Services
 - Track effectiveness of shared service

Recommendation #3- Technical Assistance

- Position to lead and manage the Technical Assistance Center is filled
- Identify statewide priorities and resources to enable implementation when position filled
- **Track the number of requests by districts filled by the TAC team?**
- **Satisfaction Survey**

Recommendation #4/#5- Expanding Reach

- The Office of Facility Schools made revisions to the application process
- The definition of facility schools expanded from its current definition
- Track # of approved facility schools since inception of changes
- **Satisfaction Survey around process**

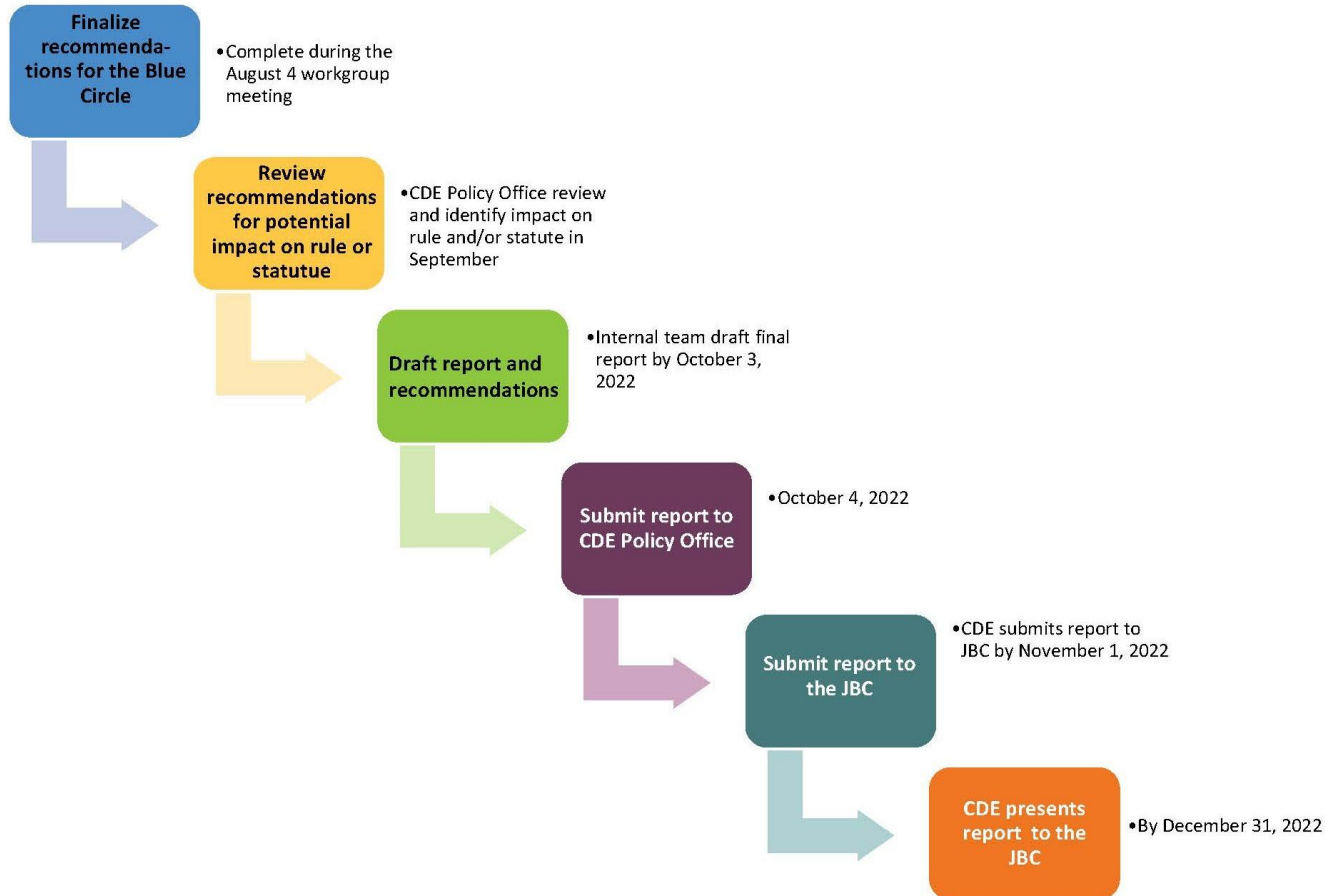
Discussion of Methods



Are these the correct outcomes to track in order to evaluate our recommendations?

Approx. 8 minutes in Breakout Groups...
Reconvene for 1 minute Report-Outs

The Road to December For Work Group Recommendations



Raising Awareness - Knowns and Forecasts - slide 1 of 2

- ❖ Known: the SB 21-274 **Report** must be completed by Internal Staff/Work Group, moved to CDE Policy Office, Commissioner, then on to a presentation to Joint Budget Committee of the State Legislature.

Forecast: No guarantees JBC will take any action based on the report. JBC may support report recommendations by sponsoring associated bills. We hope to have indication of their response in December.

- ❖ Known: SB 21-274 **Work Group meetings**, calendared for October, November, December.

Forecast: Length of meetings may vary, may need to activate an informal, ad hoc feedback loop. Example: email notification to all for quick turnaround requesting Work Group Member input or feedback. Participate if available NO reply or RSVP needed.

- ❖ Known: **Member role(s)** - your valued commitment and readiness to engage through the upcoming legislative session '22-23.

Forecast: Potential for a reduction in size, not breadth of Work Group, commitment to meet on an irregular basis or every other month. Work Group members may be asked to testify in support of bills.

Raising Awareness - Forecasting - slide 2 of 2

It's challenging at best to forecast the multiple **legislative or financial (fiscal note) scenarios that will play out from January through May 2023**



- No guarantees JBC will take any action based on the report.
- JBC may support Report recommendations by sponsoring associated bills. We hope to have an indication of their response in December.
- Based on CDE experience, legislators typically “take” the recommendations from stakeholders (e.g., this Work Group).
- The JBC may reach out to CDE with additional logistical and research questions.
- The process may move quickly; it may not.
- Multiple hearings (both House and Senate) will take place and several iterations can be expected.

Closing

Follow up from today: meeting notes and visuals distributed and archived

**Next Meeting: September 9th is our next scheduled meeting (*originally scheduled September 8th)
Plan on a shorter meeting, 90 minutes, from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.**



Thanks for your contribution of time & energy to move us toward completion of the next major milestone of SB 21-274 – the Report to the Commissioner of Education, which in turn gets presented by the end of the year to the Joint Budget Committee.