



Educator Opportunity

Focus Group Feedback Opportunity for the CO Teacher Rubric Revision Process
Monday, Feb. 6 from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

This is a chance for educators to hear about the rubric review process, learn about the proposed changes and to provide feedback. Participants will be provided resources to review at the start of the meeting. Focus group discussions will be recorded and participants expected to sign release forms. CDE will share recordings with WestEd, an independent, non-profit organization, for analysis. Information gathered will be used for decisions regarding the revised rubric and its implementation.

Register now! Space is limited to 15 participants per session.

Registration closes on Feb. 2.

To register go to the following link:

West (Cortez):

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SJBOCESWestFeb6>

CDE Standards Review

Overview

Colorado state law requires a review and revision of the Colorado Academic Standards every six years, with the first review to be completed by July 2018. CDE is currently developing a plan to guide the upcoming standards review and revision process, and the department is actively seeking input from all interested parties to inform its planning process.

The initial survey was conducted in December 2016 to gather public opinion and general perceptions about the Colorado Academic Standards. The survey report is available on the CDE website. In addition, an online system is open to gather Statewide input until February 17, 2017. The input will inform CDE's plan for the standards review process. The link to the survey can be found on the CDE website, <https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/casreview>

In early 2017, CDE will provide comprehensive information about the timeline and phases of the standards review and revision process as well as information about how to become involved. Sign up to receive communications regarding the standards review and revision process **through a link on the CDE website.**

Message from the Superintendent

As we begin the second semester, those of us in education realize that there are many issues being discussed on both a State and Federal level that have the potential of changing the landscape of education as we currently know it. It is important for us, as a District, to keep a pulse on these topics.

However, our first priority as we complete our second semester, must be the high quality instruction and support our students receive in the classroom on a daily basis. My mission is to stay focused on classroom instruction and our students' progress because that is what we have the power to control and what I deem is still our highest priority.

I realize that the seemingly changing vision in education right now is creating anxiety and questions in the minds of many. It will be important for myself and my administration to keep informed about proposed changes and certainly to share information as I receive it with staff and community members.

District Accredited for Priority Year 6

We have written an Accreditation Pathways Plan to be submitted to the Colorado Department of Education. Carol Mehesy and I are working on a document to present to the State Board of Education on March 8, 2017. The Board will allow us 30 minutes for the presentation and 2.5 hours for questioning from State Board Members.

Dr. Jack Schuenemeyer and I will be responsible for answering their questions. Carol and I plan to visit each district school site to explain the process and the possible outcomes. I expect the State Board of Education to make a motion to approve our Accreditation Pathways Plan in April.

Three year strategic plan

Beginning in March, I plan to work with the Board to outline a strategic planning process to define our direction and strategy for the next three years. My goal is to bring the staff and community together to define our vision of the school district and key goals and priorities for the next three years. The Board and I will be soliciting input from staff and the community to define what they feel the education of our children should look like and what we hope to accomplish together. We will share more information on the process for getting involved in this planning process shortly.

Potential Mill Levy for November

I commend our Board of Education members for their vision and support to our students and educators and wanting to explore a mill levy for the November, 2017 election. Having a mill levy in place for our district is a way to provide much needed funding for our educational system. One can expect discussions around this topic in the upcoming months.

District Receives TIG and Math/Science Grant

Our district recently received two new grants from the Colorado Department of Education: a Tiered Intervention Grant (TIG) and a Math and Science Grant. Both of these grants will build upon the good work that is already taking place in the district as well as providing new resources to strengthen and expand this work.

TIG: Manaugh was awarded a Tiered Intervention Grant (TIG) to support dramatic improvements in achievement and growth. The grant will support exciting work for Manaugh's school team and community and provide an opportunity to re-envision the school and create a comprehensive

2-year redesign plan for Manaugh. The grant will support:

- A design team made up of representatives from school staff and community to develop a 2-year vision and plan for the school with input from the staff;
- Site visits for teams of Manaugh teachers and staff to high performing schools across the state and region;
- Upgrades to the Manaugh building including new signage to reflect the school's mission, vision, values; and
- Stipends to support extended PD and planning time for teachers at the beginning of the year and an extra week of instruction for students.

Math and Science Grant: The district also received a Math and Sciences Grant to strengthen our efforts to recruit, support, and retain math teachers in grades K-8. This grant will serve several districts in the region including: Cortez, Dolores, Ignacio, and Pagosa Springs. The grant will also include key partners such as BOCES, Boettcher, and Fort Lewis College. The grant will support:

- Expanding our teacher recruiting efforts locally and nationally;
- Strengthening induction programs including providing more training and support in effective math instruction for new K-8 teachers; and
- Providing training and stipends for math "mentors" for new teachers in our K-8 schools.

If you have any questions about either of these grants please contact Carol Mehesy or Jeanette Allen.

District Administration

Lori Haukeness, Superintendent
Dan Porter, Assistant Superintendent
Carla Hoehn, Director of Finance
Jeanette Allen, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Carol Mehesy, Director of School Improvement & Grants
Mark Knox, Director of Technology
Sandi VanHouten, Director of Food Services
Lena Galloway, Director of Transportation
Ray Lopez, Director of Maintenance

BRIEFLY...

District Health Fair—This year's health fair is scheduled from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Friday, April 28th at the Administration Building in the gymnasium. As in the past, there will be various vendors attending and drawings for prizes. Amy MacBean, HR Secretary, will be emailing out a schedule of time slots for employees to come in and have their blood drawn, if they wish.

Carla Hoehn, Director of Finance, **advised that the mid-year budget review is underway.** Carla will be reaching out to individual school administrators to set up budget review appointments in February. Carla and Superintendent, Lori Haukeness, will be attending a finance workshop sponsored by CASE on February 1st to learn more about the latest legislative issues and state/federal economic outlook.

Wellness Works Program Kickoff February 1st!

Our district's strength and success depends on you, our employees, and on your health. As previously announced, in an effort to help all of us increase our knowledge about health matters, we are instituting a worksite wellness program through Pinnacle (our work comp carrier) and Virgin Pulse. This program is completely voluntary, but we hope you'll find activities that inspire you to participate. Please click the following link for an introductory video: [recorded webinar on the worksite wellness program](#). Amy MacBean will be emailing out additional information on how to register and take the health assessment, along with the link. Our District kickoff date is Wednesday, February 1st. Ready, set, go!!

Boettcher Information Session: Teach in Montezuma County! You are invited to join Colorado's largest teacher residency and alternative licensure program, for an information session on Thurs. March 9th from 5:30-6:30 in the Board Room at the Administration Building. Please join us to learn more about our residency program and opportunities to become a teacher in your community.

[Click here to register to attend.](#)

Board Appreciation Month...We all appreciate each board member and their dedication to our District.

Mr. Eric Whyte
Dr. Jack Schuenemeyer
Mr. Brian Balfour
Mr. Pete Montano
Ms. Sherri Wright
Ms. Sheri Noyes
Ms. Kara Suckla

