

SB08-212: Colorado's Alignment Bill
Co-convened Regional Meeting: Gunnison, CO
November 10, 2008

REPORT – RAW DATA

NOTES:

Guiding Question #1 – **What do students need to be successful once they leave high school?**

Responses:

- Math & computer skills
- Oral & written communication
- Ability to work with others
- Problem solving
- Locate information
- Writing skills
- Math skills
- Technology
- Meet a deadline
- Creativity
- Basic communication skills
- Curiosity
- 3 Rs – reading, writing, arithmetic
- Thinking & writing
- Ability to adapt & learn to learn
- Ability to communicate – including interpersonal skills – don't use email in lieu of personal contact
- Need well-rounded personality
- Independence
- Self-reliance
- Self-confidence
- Curiosity
- Creativity
- Work ethic
- Ethics
- Communication – writing & technology
- Willingness to learn – lifelong learners
- Creativity
- Story-telling
- Artistic point of view
- Creative thinkers
- Innovators

- Confidence
- Problem solvers
- Work force literacy – read & write
- bilingual
- math
- civics – what it takes to be an engaged citizen
- working with others
- basic business, finance & life skills
- cultural literacy – appreciation for cultural arts
- innovation
- work ethic
- responsibility – show up on time
- motivation
- reading skills
- synthesize information
- basic geography & other content
- writing skills
- basic math
- where to go to find information
- follow instructions
- ethical systems
- tech skills
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Themes:

- Higher-order thinking skills
- Ability to communicate ideas / knowledge
- Literacy & reading comprehension
- Work skills
- Communication
- Critical thinking
- Training
- Work ethic
- Creativity / thinking / problem-solving
- Accountability / ability to fail
- Literacy / communication
- Persistence
- Give opportunity to discover what they will like
- Communication
- Creativity
- Innovative problem-solving
- Scientific method
- “throw away your TV set”

- Communication – take in and convey, ability to interpret & analyze information
- Take initiative
- “They are being taught what they need to learn, but what do they do with it?”
- Instill a passion for learning
- Curiosity
- Vision – “they’re doing what they’re doing for a reason”
- Self-responsibility
- Character attributes
- Personal ambition
- Broad liberal arts & sciences foundational content

Guiding Question #2 – What are the 21st century skills that an employer needs to see, or the competencies a college instructor expects?

Responses:

- Oral & written communication
- Analytical thinking
- Collaboration skills
- Work ethic / discipline
- Technology skills
- Independent learner / self-motivation
- Time management skills
- Self-advocacy skills – get help if needed
- Leadership skills
- Humanities
- Decoding & comprehension skills
- Math skills
- Technology
- They need to know how to use oral communication skills to connect with a group/community
- Problem solving
- Self-direction
- Independent learning
- See question #1
- Problem-solving collaboratively
- Ability to apply information
- Know how to learn
- Ability to synthesize
- Be able to sort through information
- Persistence
- Politeness
- Civility
- Logic

- Work ethic – persistence, active participation, showing up to work on time, taking challenges
- Competent communication skills – reading, writing, speaking
- Good listening skills – asking questions
- Commitment to education
- Commitment to healthy life styles
- Critical thinking
- Creativity
- Basic writing skills
- Basic math skills
- Higher Education – students who can succeed in GE skills
- Reading comprehension
- Basic background in civics literacy
- Scientific literacy
- Reading
- Writing
- Basic math
- Finding information
- Analyze information
- Synthesize information
- Work ethic
- What you produce is who you are
- Ownership in own actions
- Responsibility
- Internal motivation
- Critical thinking
- Tech skills

Themes:

- “3 Rs lead to the 3 Cs”: Communication, Collaboration, Confidences
- Accountability
- Responsibility
- Work ethic
- Self-directed learner
- Refined critical thinking
- Work ethic
- Communication skills – all areas
- Commitment to lifelong learning & excellence
- Basic skills & reinforcing those skills
- Appreciation of life-long learning
- Self-responsibility
- Character attributes
- Personal ambition
- Broad liberal arts & science foundation content

Guiding Question #3 – Are there special considerations for the workforce or higher education in your region of the state?

Responses:

- Flexibility (many residents hold more than one job)
- To put people in categories according to ethnicity is not quite correct – a difference, for example, between English-speaking and non-English-speaking Hispanics
- We have Cora population which is Indian, but Mexican.
- There are also socio-economic issues.
- The skills articulated in questions 1 & 2 transfer as a response to this question.
- Customer service – workforce
- More of an innovator
- Changes in agriculture
- Flexibility
- Weather considerations
- How to function in a small community – town or college
- Figure out the balance in your life – entertainment is lacking so what are they going to do
- You need to be active and can engage in ...
- Western slope – students should be aware of their resources
- Leadership skills
- Initiative
- Engaged
- Responsible
- Entrepreneurial
- Bilingual
- Multi-cultural
- Sustainability
- Recreation industry
- Public lands management
- Ranching – mining (in the past)

Themes:

- Flexibility
- We have some skepticism about this question.
- Flexibility – high degree of transience in Gunnison Valley.
- Technological innovation.
- 4-6 jobs in a person's work life.
- Engaged in community
- Social interactions
- Sense of environments & surrounding
- Flexibility
- "Understanding of our unique place [Gunnison/Western Slope]"