

# Colorado's Preschool to Postsecondary Alignment Act, SB08-212 (CAP4K)

Commissioner Dwight Jones, Colorado Dept of Education  
Executive Director David Skaggs, Colorado Dept of Higher Education

## **THEMES - Pueblo**

# Guiding Questions - Postsecondary

- Proficiency in multiple languages from a young age
- Work ethic – professionalism, being on time, able to work independently and unsupervised
- Self-starter
- Citizenship
- Communication skills, reading comprehension, analysis and evaluation/ability to discern
- Information literacy (analysis, synthesis)
- Writing

# Guiding Questions - Postsecondary

- Basic math skills – broad range of mathematical skills and competencies (algebra, problem solving)
- Transition to independence – time management
- “Soft skills” – communication, collaboration, interview techniques, study skills
- College readiness class, relevance – including 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Strong technical (computer) skills

# Guiding Questions - Postsecondary

- Opportunities in tech fields (career ed) – understanding/exposure to both postsecondary and workforce opportunities
- Critical thinking and problem solving – across multiple content areas
- Same skills needed for workforce readiness
- Ability to thrive in new world economy, jobs not yet created today (communication, high-level critical thinking skills)

## Guiding Questions - Workforce

- General, technical and career tracks/pathways (9-12 system in Pueblo) – early exposure to various opportunities
- Skills of “adulthood 101” – interpersonal skills, academic skills
- Skills are same as postsecondary ready
- Global competencies/competitiveness
- Work maturity – punctuality, teamwork, attention to task, independence in task completion, understanding for how business works/your role in business, self quality control

## Guiding Questions - Workforce

- Training ready, ability to learn and be trained
- Readiness and willingness to learn (a skill that needs to be developed)
- Career development skills – ability to self-assess

## Guiding Questions – Regional Needs

- Link between education, workforce development and economic development – linking training programs to growth areas
- Children raised by grandparents, different relationships with schools and technology
- Need for training beyond region
- Teacher prep programs and continuous professional development/improvement
- First generation... socioeconomic challenges that isolate students, poor exposure to broad opportunities postsecondary and workforce

## Guiding Questions – Regional Needs

- Ability to make a living without aspiring to higher education – culture of low expectations in community
- Focus on family
- Lack of certain opportunities
- Lack of human resources, teachers skilled in certain areas, counselors, leadership (resulting from lower pay)
- Need for more funding

## Guiding Questions – Regional Needs

- Lack of funding and resources → shared funding and resources (strong leadership to make this happen)
- Difference between “skills” and “degrees” needed for success in local workforce