

# 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 - Sterling**

# Guiding Questions - Postsecondary

- Ability to read, write, math computation skills
- Maturity level → self-awareness, resiliency, coping skills, time management, self-motivation, ability to learn independently
- Problem solving (component of math)
- Drive to succeed
- Technology and computer skills
- Oral communication skills, human relations skills, professionalism (dress, on-time)
- Core values
- Ability to work collaboratively with others

# Guiding Questions - Postsecondary

- Critical thinking – ability to apply content skills; ability to synthesize, analyze, apply, discern, challenge information
- Self-advocacy
- Self-directed learner – ability to make decisions about own education, self-management, initiative
- Career assessment at an earlier age (ongoing from 6<sup>th</sup> grade) – knowing strengths and weaknesses
- Life skills – self management, financial management, learning how to learn on your own

# Guiding Questions - Postsecondary

- Importance of aligning expectations – college alignment with P12 preparation

# Guiding Questions - Workforce

- Work and play well with others, positive can-do attitude, timeliness, appropriate work behaviors/professionalism
- Reading, writing, computation skills
- Technology skills
- Ability to think without the help of technology
- Willingness/ability to tackle likes and dislikes of work
- Ability to take/respond to criticism, understand and accept need for improvement
- Multitasking

## Guiding Questions - Workforce

- Realistic expectations about the workplace, starting at the bottom and work up
- Conflict resolution skills
- Personal hygiene
- Need for positive “ready” role models, modeling of leadership, belief that all students can succeed
- Efficacy as opposed to entitlement; accountability for actions

# Guiding Questions - Workforce

- Special certificates in certain career areas
- Respect for self, family, communities, colleagues

# Guiding Questions - Sterling

- Impact of rural environment and family, expectations for student readiness
- Need ability to transition from small to large settings
- Multiple opportunities for student success, multiple pathways (secondary or postsecondary)
- Changing demographics, blended families – understanding for/responsiveness to diversity, ability to interact with and relate to those with different backgrounds; diversity related to values and learning needs (shift from more homogeneous times)

# Guiding Questions - Sterling

- Need to prepare students beyond small/current settings
- Need for greater exposure and access to more diverse career opportunities; global awareness
- Limited number of entry-level jobs available in some careers
- Challenge in aligning strengths and career goals with local opportunities
- High percentage of prepared graduates (considering opportunities beyond local community)