

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 - Limon

THEMES – Postsecondary

- Maturity, with respect to commitment, organization, problem-solving skills; professional and personal maturity not distinguished, they go hand in hand
- Social skills – different in environment than one is used to leads to a shock; learning how to respond to a new setting

THEMES – Postsecondary

- Set realistic goals to your skill set and capabilities; tapping your passion with realistic goals; know your possibilities
- Problem-solving skills
- Technical reading & writing skills
- Math skills (disconnect with teachers taking 3 hours of math and then teaching in elementary and not knowing how to teach – need qualified math teachers at elementary level)

THEMES – Postsecondary

- Writing, math
- Work ethic – responsibility; self-discipline; working independent sans supervision; staying to limited break time; initiative
- Interpersonal skills – being to relate to others; take direction; team work

THEMES – Postsecondary

- Communication skills – listening & speaking;

THEMES – Workforce

- Recognize that learning & education have just begun; will be an ongoing processes; lifelong learner – college is just one step in the process; being willing to learn and not be intimidated by learning
- Taking pride in job and self in doing one's job – commitment to task; showing up on time, staying late, appearance; loyalty; being present / focused on task (don't be texting while working); be pleasant with others; like work ethic; followership – need to be able to accept another's supervision, listen to supervisor; respect towards others

THEMES – Workforce

- Part of work ethic idea: Being self-initiated; efficiency; (these ideas used to be taught by parents); what is the purpose/role of educators/education system – are we first, second or third dam (depends on the kid) – what we should be and what we are, are two different things; educators will pick up where parents have left off

THEMES – Workforce

- Being proficient with technology; know how to use it; continue to learn in technology area – keep up with all the advancements; be aware of new tools
- Determination & desire

THEMES – Regional Needs

- Wide-open spaces – must be overcome; must utilize/invent ideas not considered in urban areas – geography is our necessity – distance learning, collaboration (w/ CDOT and universities – internet infrastructure) to get the connections; sharing of teachers/resources for HE level

THEMES – Regional Needs

- Lack of availability of CEO/upper-level type jobs (to bring kids back to the community)
- Lack of funding – doesn't allow having administrative staff for paperwork that comes with programs; employees must have multiple skills – one wears many different hats in a rural district

THEMES – Regional Needs

- Rural districts – declining enrollment in students but must provide same services regardless
- Technology with agriculture environment (GPS, etc) – machinery has lots of computers; need for local training to meet local need re machinery technicians
- Training for prison employees (MCC offered local courses specific to area needs) – wind farms would be another example

THEMES – Regional Needs

- Need for entrepreneurial opportunities and training; with inspiration one can return home and create jobs