



## PWR Endorsed Diploma Work Group Meeting #2

August 13, 2012

9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

JeffCo Schools, Long's Peak Room, 2nd Floor DLEA  
1829 Denver West Dr. Golden, CO 80401

### MINUTES

#### 1. WELCOME

- Rich Patterson, Aurora Public Schools
- Charles Dukes, Denver Public Schools
- Ron Marostica, RE-1 Valley
- Mimi Leonard, Littleton Public Schools
- Ann Evans, Career and Technical Education, Littleton Public Schools
- Scott Stump, Community College System
- Staff: Emmy Glancy, Tamara White Johnson, Kim Poast, Julia Pirnack

#### 2. REVIEW MINUTES – work group meeting 1, June 12, 2012

Reviewed and approved

#### 3. UPDATES - pilot engagement, CASE presentation feedback, and other news

##### a. Feedback on Communication Needs and Ideas:

- Communication with non-pilot sites
  - Parents/students
  - Schools staff/admin/counselor
- Link PWR E.D. to other district/LEA goals/diverse
- Get clear about conversations about “Mastery” and state and national debates
- Need communication and data to back-up the selection of the criteria and utilize data like Ron sent based on REI valley statistics:
  - 30% would've earned a PWR E.D.
  - 10% with one more class would've earned a PWR E.D.
- Articulate 100% approval of endorsed diploma criteria from higher ed.
- Data element: we need to capture staff time/resources necessary
- Be clear about what IHE's are included in admission (e.g. selective/mod selective)
- Timing and messaging... admittance and grad guidelines
- Messaging between Endorsed Diploma and graduation guidelines requirements

- Provide data to back up criteria; historical & last year/RE-1 – Ron to share data. . . . study population and current rates
- Coherency between HEAR & graduation requirements
- Work with local school boards to encourage setting rigorous graduate requirements (mirror PWR endorsed diploma or 21<sup>st</sup> century skills)
- “V10” seat time vs. mastery (CiC mtg)
- Working within ambiguity of state policy
- Resources/staff time – TBD
- Need to be very clear about the question of “have & have nots”
- Be clear, this is NOT an entitlement but it is the students choice (on and off ramps) & options
- Looking for equity and access, not more barriers
- Edit criteria: must work experiences/internships be aligned with student postsec. goal?

**b. DISTRICT EXAMPLE – Aurora Public Schools Diploma Committee and Planning (SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENTS)**

Rich Patterson, APS read statement of purpose. PWR E.D. is a mechanism to support Vista 21. Increase annually the number of students receiving a PWR ed. Rich has 10 meeting set up this year. APS is interested in differentiated diplomas and hoping to link PWR E.D. to other career pathways. APS feels like the criteria offers options and is not restrictive. APS is talking about the process versus the end result (mastery vs Carnegie units). Conversation and CASE spoke about HED being on the same page as K12 conversation about mastery versus Carnegie units. K12 nervous students will be challenged to get into HED without Carnegie units listed on their transcript.

Ron (RE1 Valley) has a group challenging the progress of this initiative due to school and community politics. All frameworks are built around mastery. Still maintaining defined GPA’s to help student remain successful outside of the district. One district has decided to do the PWR ED with or without the district approval. Teachers are where this started for us. The community believes this PWR ED will not be for FRL students. This is not true. District went through records of last year’s kids and found 30-40% of students would have achieved PWR ED and another 10% only need one more class to get it. At least one student had an IEP. This negates the feedback that this is not for all kids. There was also the question about all diplomas’ being endorsed. Ron explained the philosophy of an endorsed diploma versus a “regular” diploma. At graduation time a kid chooses which diploma they want (they could decide between and honor’s diploma or regular). Often kids would not stand up for it. The flexibility is appreciated.

**c. REVIEW PUBLIC FEEDBACK: Ray Ann Brammer (Sterling)**

**Group discussion and recommend changes to criteria? Key points:**

- **CRITERIA:** Question: Academic criteria do we mean a C or B in high school course and academic momentum? (*See APS model*)
- Share initial data on students to back up the criteria. (Sterling stats)
- + Perception that this is setting up a less than diploma (i.e. one district has 22 credits vs 26 credits).

- + Coherency between HEAR and grad guidelines requirements
- + Work with local school boards to encourage setting vigorous grad requirements (mastery of PWR ED or 21<sup>st</sup> century skills)
- + "U10" seat time vs. mastery (aka attendance)
- + Working within ambiguity of state policy
- Resources/staff time
- We need to be really explicit and clear in our "haves and have not's"
- This endorsement is not an entitlement. This is an earned endorsement and a student's choice (on ramps, off ramps and options).
- + Looking for equity and access not more barriers
- + Work experience/internships aligned with goals

#### **4. RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION - review revised document**

DHE is working on MOU for pilot sites

#### **5. PILOT SITE SUPPORT - Build timeline and key activities for pilots**

##### **a. Pilot toolkit brainstorm:** (see attached spreadsheet)

Question and Discussion: What do you as a pilot need to be successful with this pilot?

- Use CiC timeline
- Use College Board timeline
- Use Actions for ICAP
- Target audience for those responsible for implementing the PWR E.D.
- Creating a timeline for that targeting audience
- Cut points (activities) won't change
- Mimi we need to narrow our focus.
- Scott – narrow to seniors. 1700-1800 high school seniors
- Board approval
- District approval
- MOU
- Get data from last year's class
- Articulate that the pilot is not mandated - voluntary

#### **6. NEXT MEETING AND STEPS:**

DHE staff will send out notes, Rich's district tools, and schedule a meeting time in late September and early October. Staff will send out a meeting doodle. Location, TBD, but will likely be at DHE or APS. Staff will meet with Communication consultant and start work on marketing and communication documents. Staff will meet with all potential pilot sites to confirm participation. Develop FAQ document, based on initial feedback from field. Make tracked changes to criteria based on work group feedback and Ray Ann Brammer (Sterling) comments.

Schedule Next Meetings – meeting 3 at APS on October 3 from 12:30 – 3:00 PM and Winter Pilot Site Webinar date TBD.