Draft NOTES

In attendance: John Anderson, Chair; and Tom McGimpsey. (CDHE staff: Jennifer Sobanet, Russ Meyer, Carl Einhaus and Ian Macgillivray.)

1. Approve notes from last two meetings [see handouts: SS&AA Standing Committee Notes 10-29-15.docx and SS&AA Standing Committee Notes 2015-12-03.docx]
   No quorum so notes were tabled until next meeting.

2. P-Tech Update – Carl Einhaus, CDHE [see handout: PTech update 2 1 16.docx]
   St. Vrain Valley School District (with Front Range Community College and IBM) and James Irwin Charter School in El Paso District 49 (with Pikes Peak Community College and Bal Seal Engineering and Building Association of Colorado Springs) have been approved to operate P-Tech schools beginning fall 2016. Two additional applications are currently being reviewed also for a fall 2016 start date (if approved). The partnerships are: Adams 12 (with Front Range Community College and Level [3]) and Eagle County (Colorado Mountain College and Colorado Mountain Medical).

   An update regarding Concurrent Enrollment was requested. A Lean process was just held for CE that examined CE from top to bottom. One finding is that CE is underfunded. School districts use their per pupil revenue (PPR) to fund it, which is a burden on the district. The goal is to make CE more efficient, truly accessible to all school districts and students, and properly funded. Chairman asked for an update on CE to CCHE that includes the Lean process findings.

3. Assessment test updates: SAT and GED - Carl Einhaus, CDHE
   Colorado 11th graders will take SAT instead of ACT starting 2017. The Admission Policy accommodates both exams, so no changes are necessary.
CDE is considering two other additional high school equivalency exams in addition to GED. The GED cut score changed from 150 to 145. That cut score is set by GED, not the state. The change will be retroactive to when the new GED test began (January 2014). GED will contact students in the 145-149 range informing them that they now have a high school equivalency score. The Admission Policies will need to be updated to reflect this new score.

Chairman Anderson asked for a demo of this tool at a CCHE meeting. A representative of UCD raised the point that HEAR math requirements are easily abused because one cannot tell by the title of a high school math course what the content is. Competency-based transcripts would help. A commissioner asked, “How is the 50% range trending over time?” Answer is, “Not changing significantly from year to year but over a 10 year span we may see a bigger change.” The new Admissions policy reflects institutions’ move to consider more rigor of the high school curriculum and extra-curricular activities rather than just GPA. The new policy and this tool reflect current practice.

5. Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Update – Ian Macgillivray, CDHE

This revision is a technical cleanup for this policy which has not been revised since 1995. Colorado Mesa University wants to expand the service area for its CTE programs through its 2-year statutory role and mission. The department is beginning collecting feedback from the institutions.

7. How can CDHE staff help you engage in the work? How much do you want to be involved? – CDHE
Tabled until March.
Commissioners requested to have these meetings held via webinar, besides phone conference.