

Dyslexia Working Group
December 9, 2022
Meeting Summary

TIME AND LOCATION:

December 9, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Zoom

ATTENDEES:

Working Group: Jamie Brackney, Jenny Urback, Selena Roth, Jessica Yost, Sierra, Sarah Huffman, Michelle, Jay Mayer, Patrick McGinty, Laura Santerre-Lemmon, Lauren Swanson, Jenny Imel, Laura Mitchell

Public: Jo Martell, Lindsay

CDE: Floyd Cobb, Rachael Lovendahl, Joanna Bruno, Ellen Hunter, Paul Foster

Facilitators: Kara Schmitt, Betsy Kummer

MEETING OBJECTIVES

- Revisit group norms/ agreements for how we effectively work together in the virtual space
- To identify activities to support priorities for DWG 2022-2023
- Deepen understanding of how to leverage the DWG role (while staying within the scope)

MEETING ACTIVITIES

Update/Discussion on Assessment Recommendations to the Board of Education

Floyd Cobb (CDE) provided an update on his meeting with the State Board of Education in November of 2022 to present a list of interim assessments for the Colorado READ ACT. (In a previous meeting, the Board had expressed a desire to limit the number of assessments on the list. As a result, the DWG created a letter summarizing its assessment-related recommendations, which was shared with the Board in early November.)

- In choosing approved interim reading assessments, the following criteria are considered:
 - (1) the assessment must be rated highly by the Department's external evaluator;
 - (2) whether it must meet all statutory criteria;
 - (3) whether indicators that screen for the characteristics of dyslexia are imbedded into the assessment;
 - (4) whether there is a Spanish version of the assessment that is normed for the performance of students who speak Spanish as their native language; and
 - (5) whether there is a paper and pencil version.
- Upon taking feedback from members of the State Board of Education, staff took the following steps to create the list for board member discussion:

- Reviewed the assessments that met review criteria and included an assessment normed for speakers of Spanish.
- Reviewed the assessments most frequently used by schools and districts in the state of Colorado.
- The Board of Education asked for frequency of use of assessments based on READ Act
- The Board of Education wanted to make a recommendation based on those frequently used. CDE staff took feedback from State Board and reviewed assessments (Spanish version, paper/pencil)
- These assessments will be used beginning 2024. CDE is beginning the process to communicate this to school districts.
- All assessments include dyslexia screen but not all the same way. The Board did not want to further narrow the list.

High Level Priorities for 2023

During the October DWG meeting, the group generated a list of questions about each of the four priority areas identified in the most recent annual report. (The four priority areas include: teacher training, educator prep, assessments, and the dyslexia pilot). The DWG revisited the list of questions from October and, at a high level, identified ways to focus the work in 2023 so that it aligns with the scope of the DWG and can maximize impact.

Working Time

Attendees formed small groups, (for the priority areas of teacher training, educator prep, and assessment).

Each small group addressed these questions:

1. Within the scope of the DWG, what are some realistic wins you might achieve in 2023?
2. What are the key activities that will help you achieve those wins?
3. When do those activities need to happen?
4. Are there any essential tasks that this small group needs to complete prior to the January meeting? Or any support you need from facilitators (or info from CDE) to set you up for success?

January Meeting:

- It will be held on Friday, January 20th (10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.) on Zoom
- The DWG recommended that the agenda include time for committee work so that they can start tackling the tasks identified today