

## **Disproportionate Discipline Task Force**

*March 12, 2024, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm*

Invitation for Zoom meeting will be shared by Tricia Walz (walz\_T@cde.state.co.us)

### **Meeting Objectives**

- Understand current school finance climate and recommendations from School Finance Task Force
- Understand fiscal policy and how fiscal notes are created when shaping programs
- Identify, draft and provide feedback on potential task force recommendations

### **Agenda**

**3:00 pm: Welcome**

**3:05 pm: Call Meeting to Order**

*Approval of February 27th minutes & March 12th agenda*

- *Call for any Announcements:*
- *Public Comment*
- *Next Steps/Timeline: Task Member Feedback*

**3:15 pm: Legislative Fiscal Note Creation & School Finance Task Force Updates**

*Anna Gerstle, Senior Fiscal Analyst & School Finance Analyst, Legislative Council*

**3:45 pm: CDE Fiscal Note Creation**

*Danielle Ongart, Executive Director of Student Pathways Unit, CDE*

**4:10 pm: Breakout Discussion: Cost Analysis of Preliminary Recommendations**

**4:40 pm: Breakout Discussion Report Out**

**4:55 pm: Public Comment & Next Steps**

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**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Zoe O'Donnell, Chair; Elie Zweibel, Co-Chair; Lisa Schlueter, Sara Peilsticker, Mike Claudio, Floyd Cobb, Dawn Fritz, Angelina Sandoval, Michelle Murphy, Lisa Humberd, Sierra Agens, Laura McArthur

**Public Attendees/Staff:** Anna Gerstle, Danielle Ongart, Johann Lilengren, Jennifer Gallegos, Jewel Sale, Tricia Walz, Amber Minogue, Andrea Wilkins

**Public Comment:** None.

**Opening & Welcome** - Meeting facilitator, Amber Minogue, provided welcome and overview of meeting objectives, reviewed taskforce timeline and recommendation process.

**Meeting Called to Order:**

- Chair Zoe O'Donnell called the meeting to order; confirmed the presence of a quorum
- Chair O'Donnell calls for a motion to approve the February 27 meeting minutes. Motion was moved by Elie Zweibel and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Angelina Sandoval. Minutes were approved.
- Chair O'Donnell calls for a motion to approve the March 12th meeting agenda. Motion was moved by Elie Zweibel and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sara Pielsticker. Agenda was approved.

**Legislative Fiscal Note Creation & School Finance Task Force Updates**

Anna Gerstel, Legislative Council ([presentation slides](#))

Fiscal Note Creation

- Fiscal notes are a nonpartisan analysis of a bill's fiscal impact.
- Costs are determined by looking at a variety of sources, including legislative council staff modeling, discussion with budget committee staff, obtaining information from state agencies and departments regarding costs of implementation, and looking to examples from other states.
- Fiscal notes include standard cost for salaries, operating expenses, mileage, legal hours, etc.
- Key questions that must be addressed are whether additional staff need to be hired to facilitate implementation, whether there are IT costs, and whether technical assistance is needed.
- Consideration is also given to whose responsibility it is to fund the program (school districts or state). If it is the state's responsibility, it is important to identify where the funding is coming from.

### Updates on School Finance Task Force

- New formula recommended by Task Force. Legislature must choose to take action to implement.
- Major changes include:
  - Increase at-risk and ELL funding weight (at-risk includes those eligible for free or reduced lunch)
  - New special education funding weight
  - Change in the cost of living factor (new factor will make adjustments for remote location of districts)

Full report can be accessed [here](#).

### **CDE Fiscal Note Creation**

*Danielle Ongart, Executive Director of Student Pathways Unit, CDE ([presentation slides](#))*

- By law, the Legislative Council Services must consult with the state agencies in the creation of fiscal notes.
- Key questions that must be addressed in the fiscal notes are
  - Can the state budget absorb the cost in a given fiscal year?
  - Is it a priority for legislative leadership and other legislators, in light of existing budget constraints?
- Fiscal notes identify new resources that are needed to support implementation (of policy or program) and fiscal impacts are estimated for 2 fiscal years.

### **Breakout Group Discussion**

Cost Analysis of Preliminary Recommendations (see [Draft Recommendations Spreadsheet](#))

### **Next Steps:**

- Worksheet link shared with Task Force members to allow for additional input and comments
- Task Force subcommittee will meet before the next Task Force meeting on March 26 to refine and finalize recommendations, prepare updated drafts to present to full group for review and voting.

### **Next Meeting:**

March 26, 2024, 9:00 - 12:00 pm  
Douglas County Libraries  
9292 Ridgeline Blvd  
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129