Colorado 21:
Building a World-Class Education System

Agenda

I. Introductions and Do Now (10 min.)
II. Where We’ve Been & What We’ve Heard (5 min.)
III. Where We Are (10 min.)
IV. Where We’re Headed (5 min.)
V. Discussion (30 min.)
Do Now: Think-Pair-Share

- Name and Organization
- What are you most hopeful for? What are you most anxious about?

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Where We’ve Been

- 2 Years of Meetings and Feedback
- 100 Public Events
- 2,000+ Stakeholders Reached

What We’ve Heard: Adequacy
What We’ve Heard: Adequacy

(In Alphabetical Order)

• Early Childhood Education
• Full-Day Kindergarten
• Gifted and Talented
• SPED

What We’ve Heard: Equity

• Regressive Financing
What We’ve Heard: Equity

- At-Risk and English Language Learners

![Figure 11](image)

**Growth in Share of Majority Hispanic and Majority Low Income Schools in Colorado**


What We’ve Heard: Equity

- Mill Levy Overrides
- State and Local Share
What We’ve Heard: Fiscal Sustainability

- State and Local Share

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Avg Mill</th>
<th>State Share</th>
<th>Local Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 94-95</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 12-13</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>With Ballot Revenue</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>29%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A Widening Gap: State General Fund Revenues vs. Expenditures
FY 2011-12 to FY 2024-25

- Schools, Health Care & Prisons
- SB 09-228*
- Other Agencies
- Net General Fund Revenues**
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Where We Are

Modernize the Formula AND Seek New Revenue
School Finance: How It Works Now

1. **Base Funding**
   - **Step 1:** The state starts with base per-pupil funding for
     - Limited Slots for ECE
     - Half-Day K
     - 1-8 Students
     - 0.5-1.0 for 9-12
     - Online and ASCENT Students

2. **Weights**
   - **Step 2:** The state adds weights for
     - Size
     - Cost-of-Living
     - At-Risk

3. **State & Local Share**
   - **Step 3:** Local districts tell the state how much they have raised from local taxes, and the state backfills the difference
     - Limited Slots for ECE
     - Half-Day K
     - 1-8 Students
     - 0.5-1.0 for 9-12
     - Online and ASCENT Students

4. **Categoricals**
   - **Step 4:** The state covers some costs for categorical programs
     - SPED
     - ELL
     - Gifted and Talented
     - Transportation
     - Vocational Ed
     - Health Ed
     - Small Attendance Ctrs

School Finance: Our Proposal

1. **Base Funding**
   - **Step 1:** The state starts with base per-pupil funding for
     - Half-Day ECE for 4-year-olds
     - Full-Day Kindergarten
     - Grades 1-8
     - Full FTE for 9-12
     - Online/ASCENT

2. **Weights**
   - **Step 2:** The state adds weights for
     - Small Districts
     - At-Risk
     - English Language Learners

3. **State & Local Share**
   - **Step 3:** The state uses AV/Pupil, Median Income, and Concentration of Poverty to calculate the state share of Total Program
     - Special Education
     - Gifted and Talented Education

4. **Categoricals**
   - **Step 4:** The state increases funding for...
     - Mill Levy Match
     - Innovation Fund
     - State Education Investment

5. **Additional Supports**
   - **Step 5:** The state offers additional supports for...
Where We’re Headed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Next Week</td>
<td>Newsletter Sent to Distribution List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Release Bill Draft on our Website with Online Feedback System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/18</td>
<td>Post Data Runs on our Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/20</td>
<td>Public Forum 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/21</td>
<td>Bill Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/28</td>
<td>Public Forum 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/7</td>
<td>Senate Committee Hearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/28</td>
<td>Bill Passage and Ballot Campaign</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Discussion

• What are we missing?
• How can we fix it?

How to Reach Us

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