



COLORADO
Department of Education
Commissioner of Education

201 East Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203-1799

March 23, 2021

Dear Superintendents and BOCES Directors,

I know you are hearing from us a lot lately and I know you have too much on your plate already. Let me get one thing out of the way—We have not yet heard back from the US DOE on our assessment waiver request. I will let you know the minute we do. We have reached out saying that time is of the essence.

However, there are a lot of other things happening right now too. I'm just sorry that it is all happening at once! This is one more thing I need to make you aware of—something I know a lot of you care a lot about.

Consistent with state statute, last spring CDE was scheduled to release a request for proposals (RFP) for the Colorado High School College Entrance Suite of Assessments (9th, 10th, and 11th grade exams). When COVID hit, the release was postponed. As previously announced, we released the RFP on March 10, 2021. Prospective contractors have until April 12 to submit proposals.

The CDE Assessment Division is currently seeking educators to participate in the evaluation committee that will review the vendor proposals received and make a recommendation for final contract award. All committee members must be willing to sign a non-disclosure agreement and commit to attend all meetings.

Meetings are scheduled for April 15 (90 minutes after 3:00 pm), May 10 (all day), May 13 (all day), and May 14 (all day, as needed).

Please consider nominating qualified candidates to be considered as evaluation committee members. The level of effort associated with being a member of the committee is relatively high, but we are hoping to find field representation in each of the areas identified below:

- Assessment administration experts (ex. District assessment coordinators).
- Content experts familiar with the high school span of English language arts and/or mathematics Colorado Academic Standards.
 - Please specify the content area (ELA or math) of expertise when nominating a content expert.
 - ELA and Math content experts must also be available to participate in additional meetings the week of April 19-23, schedule TBD.
- Individuals with expertise in educating high school students with disabilities.
- Individuals with expertise in educating high school English learners.
- Individuals with psychometric expertise.
- High School guidance counselors.



If you would like to nominate a qualified candidate, including yourself, for committee participation, please include the name of the candidate(s), his or her email and phone number, current position, and the individual's area of expertise from those listed above. **Nominations for qualified candidates should be sent to Will Morton at [Morton_W@cde.state.co.us](mailto:W@cde.state.co.us) by Friday, April 2, 2021.** We will connect with the nominees to get additional information as needed.

Consistent with the review completed in 2015, we are hoping that the majority of the reviewers will represent the field. We also know that educators are incredibly stretched this year and we may need to adjust that expectation accordingly.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katy Anthes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Katy Anthes, Ph.D.
Commissioner

