

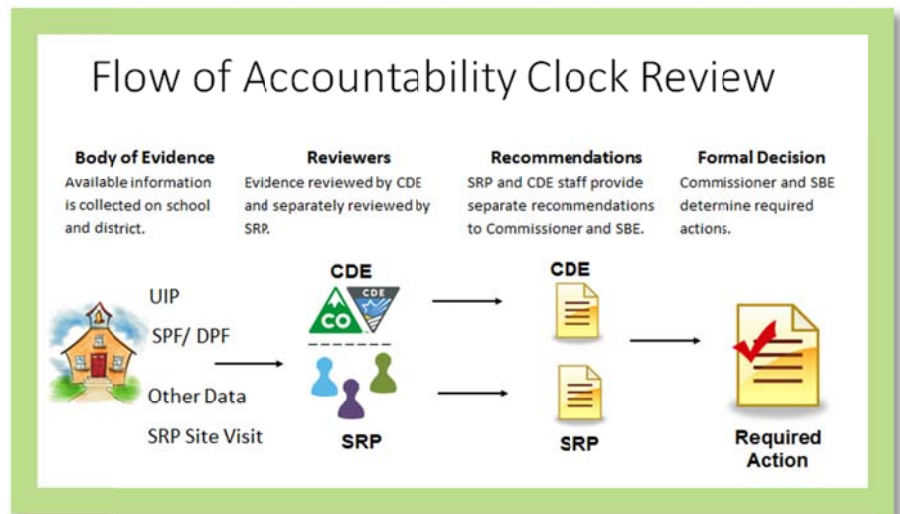
Overview of the State Review Panel

With the passage of Colorado Educational Accountability Act (SB 09-163), the state has embarked upon a comprehensive process to ensure an aligned and balanced accountability system. The underpinning philosophy of the accountability system is that schools and districts that meet basic state expectations hold increased autonomy; whereas, schools and districts not meeting those expectations will be eligible for increased support, as well as increased monitoring. To support a system of checks and balances, SB 09-163 created the State Review Panel.

State Review Panel Responsibilities

When considering schools and districts with Priority Improvement and Turnaround plan types, the State Review Panel is tasked with:

- Providing a critical evaluation of the Unified Improvement Plan (UIP), including capacity of school/district to engage in dramatic change. The Panel “shall” review Turnaround plans and “may” review Priority Improvement plans.
- Providing recommendations to the Commissioner and State Board of Education on potential actions when a school or district remains on the accountability clock for more than five consecutive years or earlier upon request.



Composition of the State Review Panel

The Commissioner is expected to appoint a panel representing broad educational expertise with approval by the State Board of Education. To date, the Panelists have provided expertise in school and district leadership, curriculum, assessment, instructional data management, program evaluation, teacher leadership, school and district governance. Special attention has been paid to geographic representation and recruiting representatives with knowledge of online programs and charter schools. An outside partner, SchoolWorks, has been hired through a competitive process to coordinate the Panel’s work. A list of the most current Panelists is included on the last page of this document.

Recommendation Process

Panelist recommendations are based on document review (a paper-based evaluation) and site visits (document review plus interviews and classroom observation). To date, the Panel has conducted document reviews including a review of the UIP. Recently, limited funds were made available to enable Panelists to participate in site visits. This site visit process was piloted during the 2013-14 school year and is being rolled out this year for schools and district entering Year five on the accountability clock. Through the document review and the site visits, the State Review Panel is expected to



consider the following criteria about the school or district’s leadership and capacity to implement the needed change for rapid improvement (C.R.S. 22-11-208 through 210).

- Whether the public school’s/school district’s or institute’s leadership is adequate to implement change to improve results;
- Whether the public school’s/school district’s or institute’s infrastructure is adequate to support school improvement;
- The readiness and apparent capacity of public school and school district or institute personnel to plan effectively and lead the implementation of appropriate actions to improve student academic performance within the district public schools or the institute charter schools;
- The readiness and apparent capacity of public school and school district or institute personnel to engage productively with and benefit from the assistance provided by an external partner;
- The likelihood of positive returns on state investments of assistance and support to improve the public school’s/school district’s or institute’s performance within the current management structure and staffing; and
- The necessity that the public school/school district or institute remain in operation to serve students.

In making their recommendations to the Commissioner and the State Board of Education, the Panel must select one of the following interventions:

Type of Required Action	Districts (C.R.S. 22-11-209)	Schools (C.R.S. 22-11-210)
District Reorganization	That the school district be reorganized pursuant to article 30 of this title, which reorganization may include consolidation	n/a
Change in Management	That a private or public entity, with the agreement of the school district, take over management of the school district or management of one or more of the district public schools	<p>With regard to a district public school that is not a charter school, that the district public school should be managed by a private or public entity other than the school district</p> <p>With regard to a district or institute charter school, that the public or private entity operating the charter school or the governing board of the charter school should be replaced by a different public or private entity or governing board</p>
Charter School Conversion	That one or more of the district public schools be converted to a charter school	With regard to a district public school, that the district public school be converted to a charter school if it is not already authorized as a charter school
Innovation Status	That one or more of the district public schools be granted status as an innovation school pursuant to section 22-32.5-104 or that the local school board recognize a group of district public schools as an innovation school zone pursuant to section 22-32.5-104	With regard to a district public school, that the district public school be granted status as an innovation school pursuant to section 22-32.5-104
School Closure	That one or more of the district public schools be closed	That the public school be closed or, with regard to a district charter school or an institute charter school, that the public school's charter be revoked



State Review Panelists in 2015

Panelist Name	Title	Organization/District
Alan Dillon	Superintendent	Debeque School District 49JT
Amanda Heiney	Teacher	Bolder Pathway School, Broomfield
Amber Whetstone	Executive Director of Learning Services	Falcon School District 49
Amy Valentine	Executive Director	K12 Inc.
Andee Ham	Executive Director	Pueblo City Schools
Biaze Houston	Assistant Principal	Rangeview High School, Aurora Public Schools
Brenda Randel	Education Consultant	Brenda Randel, LLC
Charles Kevin Romero	Former Chief Officer of Student Support and Community Services	Pueblo City Public Schools
Cheryl Finley	Principal Consultant	Creative Solutions for Education
Chris Jenkins	Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership	University of Northern Colorado
Cindy Shane	Assistant Principal	Jenkins Middle School, Colorado Springs District 11
Daniel Archuleta	Research and Evaluation Analyst	Cherry Creek School District #5
Dean Titterington	President	Peak Property Management of Colorado, LLC
Elizabeth Davis	Principal	Colorado Calvert Academy
Helen Ryley	VP Education Services	Benchmark One
Jami Boarman	Educational Consultant – Leadership Coach	Educational Odyssey
Janet Dinnen	Director of Quality Assurance and Accountability	Colorado Charter School Institute
Janet Filbin	Director of Student Achievement	HOPE Online Learning Academy, Douglas County School District
Jason Seybert	Director of Assessment and Technology	Weld County School District RE-5J
Jennifer Klein	Educational Consultant	School Leaders to the Core
Jessica Radford	Academic Support Team Director	Liberty Common School, Poudre School District
Johan VanNieuwenhuizen	Assessment and Support Team Coordinator	Poudre School District
Jon Reinhard	Vice President of Learning and Teaching	Generation Schools Network
Karen Harvey	Consultant	Gemini Consulting
Katie Gonzalez	Writing/Development Consulting	Self-Employed
Ken Haptonstall	Superintendent	Garfield County School District No. 16
Kenlyn Newman	Director, Student Engagement Initiatives	Adams 12 Five Star Schools
Kevin Pyatt	Associate Professor STEM Education	Regis University
Kristen Olsen	Director, Tools for Teaching	Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)
Laura Gorman	Grant and NCLB Coordinator (ESEA), Personalized Learning Department	Douglas County School District
Leah Saieg	Project Manager	Golden Community Commons
Lisa Escarcega	Chief Accountability/Research Officer	Aurora Public Schools
Lisa Gjellum	Principal	Carbon Valley Academy Frederick, Co
Mark Payler	Self Employed	Formerly Weld County School District RE-8, Fort Lupton
Mary Jarvis	President	Jarvis consulting, LLC
Mike DeGuire	Executive Coach/Principal Evaluator; Inspector	Denver Public Schools; Teacher Preparation Inspectorate
Molly Leamon	Adjunct Professor	University of Colorado at Denver and University of Denver



Panelist Name	Title	Organization/District
Nancy Sanger	Education Consultant	Nancy Sanger, LLC
Nicole Paxton	Director	Colorado Springs Charter Academy, Charter School Institute
Oliver Grenham	Chief Education Officer	Adams County School District 50
Paul Coleman	Independent Consultant	Coleman and Morgan Consulting, LLC
Polly Breit	Independent Consultant	Teach for America
Rachel Gurian	Special Education Associate Partner	Denver Public Schools
Ryan Marks	Performance Management Implementation Specialist	Colorado Charter School Institute
Sabrina Hodges	Consultant	Specially Designed: A K12 Education Consultancy
Sally Sherman	Consultant	RaeConsulting, LLC
Sam Humphrey	Teacher Intern Supervisor	Colorado Mesa University
Sandy Hall	Education Consultant	Sandra Hall, LLC
Sara Spanier	Associate Campaign Director	STRIVE Preparatory Schools
Starla Pearson	P-20 Learning Community Director	Aurora Public Schools
Tacy Killingsworth	Instructor	University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Thomas Gregory	Chief Financial Officer	Academy School District #20
Troy Lange	Executive Director	Mountain BOCES

Where can I learn more?

- Additional information about the State Review Panel may be found in the Priority Improvement and Turnaround Supplement to the Accountability Handbook at: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability>.
- For additional questions, contact Lisa Medler, Executive Director of Improvement Planning (medler_l@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-6993).
- To view all CDE fact sheets, visit: www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/factsheetsandfags