

December 11, 2023 @ 2:00 PM	Zoom Meeting
<i>Attendees</i>	<p>Career Pathway Workgroup Members: Ken Beach, Aaron Chastain, Justin Holt, Lisa Hotsenpiller, Markous Jewett, Christie Lewis, Stacey Southerland, Jasmine Wilson, and Kim Wilbanks.</p> <p>Career Diploma Workgroup Members: Dr. Jared Cleveland, Aaron Duvall, Dr. Shelia Jacobs, Anne Martfeld, Mandy McIntyre, Kevin Tipton, Jennifer Turner, and Donald Westerman</p> <p>ADE: Dr. Tina Moore and Ross White</p> <p>Education Strategy Group: Casey Haugner Wrenn and Kristin Baddour</p>

Draft Rule/Policy Component	Work Group Feedback
<i>Introduction & Framing</i>	<p>Meeting began at 10:00 AM. Review of Agenda and meeting norms with participants. LEARNS Act Reviewed. "R-Readiness" Identified as core focus. Work Group Purpose & Charge reviewed. Update on Career-Ready Diploma and Career Pathways working groups were given.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student voice kick-off <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The sentiments shared feel disheartening ○ Sentiments are discouraging considering how the work of career coaches ○ Responses may depend on "how" pathways are presented to students
Objective 2: <i>Arkansas LEARNS Vision & "Success Ready" Arkansas Graduate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback on Vision statement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Keep <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Durable employability skills resonate -- will people recognize this as what has often been referred to as soft skills? Transferable skills? ▪ "Clear understanding of the learning pathways" is an important piece ▪ Family-sustaining wages ▪ Academic *and* technical knowledge ▪ Love the highlighted AND ▪ "With options" is critical ▪ Clear understanding of what constitutes opportunity ○ Add/Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Define durability skills ▪ Ensure we have industry support/feedback on what durable skills are ▪ It might be worth mentioning industries/sectors, or a broad statement that covers a wide range of the economy. ▪ It is important to keep the specific language around enlisted, enrolled, employed. ▪ I wonder if the vision statement could be shorter ▪ Suggest additions towards timing/urgency. If 2025 is the implication of starting, steps that can be implemented now could/should be highlighted. As an employer, "the sooner the better" for any/all of the new paths. ▪ Bullet points are also helpful towards the attention span aspect. ▪ Ensure a way to track post-secondary completion of education or employment ▪ Will this be defined for districts or defined by DESE (Division of Elementary and Secondary Education)? ▪ Define technical knowledge

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Define engaged citizen
<p>Objective 3: <i>Framework for Career-Ready Diploma</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback on “Success Ready” Arkansas Graduate Diploma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Agree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consistent requirements for all ▪ Grad Requirements for all ▪ Capstone Experiences, Postsecondary Credits, Credentials, etc. should be viewed as the “value-added” pieces for a Success Ready Diploma ○ Argue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All tied to an H3 pathway - are those going to adjust throughout the time a student is enrolled in HS? ▪ Always must consider regional demands ▪ Stuck on the “capstone” terminology. For a broader audience, could it be simplified with WBL, PBL or language that our audience is already familiar with? ▪ The CSL piece really needs to be fleshed out and some across the board standards set for what qualifies as CSL, quality CSL, etc. ○ Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ That parents and students know what a capstone experience is ▪ Would the Diploma+ be required in the sequence of elective courses or could it be outside of those selected by students? ie: what about fine arts? ○ Add <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Definition of Diploma Plus designations ▪ Credentials of value defined (i.e., not just IRCs) ▪ Remember that it must also need a Diploma+ for students who are following an enlisted pathway ○ Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do we have the H3 pathway document released yet? ▪ Question about H3--will this be statewide or regional? • Changes to Current Graduation Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The state is discussing quantitative literacy as a third choice for a math <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feedback: Quant Reasoning is much more relevant to students who are entering the workforce and not college bound ○ Need to be clear about how courses match up and the sequencing – start discussing early (ties to ECE workgroup) ○ What are the on and off ramps? ○ What do schools need for master schedules and for IRCs? ○ This does not solely live in K-12, this will also go to the higher-ed coordinating board ○ More information on college math pathways: https://dcmathpathways.org/sites/default/files/resources/2018-01/Forging%20Relevant%20Mathematics%20Pathways%20in%20Arkansas%5B1%5D.pdf • Feedback on CR diploma framework - Casey Haugner Wrenn (ESG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Should CCR assessment(s) be required for Diploma+ designations? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to think about what educators are delivering for the experiences – what are students leaving with? ▪ Concerns that ACT does not measure career readiness ▪ Balance of providing options vs. minimum requirements ▪ Encouragement to add some form of economics into this career diploma. The basics that a college business degree would teach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Supply & Demand -Consumer behavior -Communication -Marketing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Personal finance -Budgeting -Economic indicators (GDP, inflation) -Workforce options -Interview skills <p>All of these can be important tools as a student researches a company or field.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Should CCR assessments be required for graduation? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Give students the option to do more than one, but at least require one that aligns with their postsecondary plans ▪ In favor of giving options – offer several CCR options ▪ ACT junior year is a challenge for students already struggling in schools ○ Fine arts could be a pathway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do you measure employability skills consistently? ○ Capstones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In favor of capstone experiences for capstones for designations, not for graduation ▪ Capstones, if properly outlined, can give a better understanding of knowledge and application than a written test. ▪ They are a viable alternative to CCR assessments. ▪ What would qualify? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rigorous and robust experience closely integrated with career opportunities • Set minimum requirements for these projects that are rigorous and are directly tied to the pathway the student is completing • A quality capstone experience will require students to demonstrate that they know how to do things i.e., interview skills, literacy skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening), design a product, etc. • Questions about what phase-in and phase-out for programs looks like <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How should we address year-to-year changes in “the list” of programs meeting threshold? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Allow for a “bridge” for students who are in a program when the annual list removes that program ▪ Grandfather in – let students finish if they started; not locking them in but do not change the requirements/expectations halfway through
<p>Objective 4: <i>Stakeholder Engagement</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on current plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two student groups meetings planned <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State Officers via Zoom ▪ Student groups in surrounding areas of presentations are welcome to attend and provide feedback. • Asks of workgroup: Student engagement (What materials do you need?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No asks
<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>Notes and dates for the next meeting will be shared as soon as they are available.</p>