

**MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM:**

**August 2020**

**TASK FORCE FOR LEARNING ACCELERATION**

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:**

Sections 160.518.1, RSMo

Consent  
Item

Action  
Item

Report  
Item

**PRIORITY AREAS**

Success-Ready Students & Workforce Development

Safe & Healthy Schools

**SUMMARY**

In May, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) formed the *Task Force for Learning Acceleration*, made up of stakeholders from across Missouri to address the sweeping impact of extended school closures in spring 2020. Members of the Task Force worked collaboratively to develop recommendations and tools that address assessment of learning loss, acceleration of learning, and reaching all students. This presentation will review the make-up of the Task Force and its recommendations.

**PRESENTERS**

Blaine Henningsen, Assistant Commissioner; and Lisa Sireno, Standards and Assessment Administrator, Office of College and Career Readiness, will assist with the presentation and discussion of this agenda item.

*Office of College and Career Readiness*



**Task Force  
for  
Learning Acceleration**

August 18, 2020

*State Board of Education*

## Why establish a task force?



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- **March 19, 2020 – All school buildings elected to close**
  - ❑ Safety of students and staff
  - ❑ Remote learning opportunities for students
  
- **Planning for the re-opening of schools in the fall**
  - ❑ Safety of students and staff
  - ❑ Quality instructional programming

# Participating Educational Organizations



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American Federation of Teachers	Kansas City Public Schools	Missouri Council of Administrators of Special Education	Central Regional Professional Development Center at UMC
Area Supervisors of Instruction – Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)	Missouri Association of Elementary School Principals	Missouri Association of Teachers of English	Kansas City Regional Professional Development Center at UMKC
Commissioner’s Advisory Council	Missouri Association of Rural Education	Missouri School Boards’ Association	Northeast Regional Professional Development Center at Truman State University
Charter School Association	Missouri Association of School Administrators	Missouri School Counselor Association	Show Me Curriculum Administrator Association
Cooperating School Districts of Greater Kansas City	Missouri Council for Social Studies	Missouri State Teachers Association	St. Louis Area Curriculum Coordinators Association
DESE Curriculum and Special Education staff	Missouri Council of Teachers of Mathematics	North Kansas City Public Schools	St. Louis Public Schools
EducationPlus	Missouri Literacy Association	Pattonville Public Schools	Southwest Missouri Curriculum Directors Association
Foreign Language Association of Missouri	Missouri National Education Association	Springfield Public Schools	
Fort Osage Public Schools	Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals	Science Teachers of Missouri	

## Task Force Work Groups



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- **Assessment of Learning Loss**

This group provided recommendations for assessing learning loss as a result of the extended school closures in spring 2020.

- **Acceleration of Learning**

This group provided recommendations for accelerating learning with a focus on the 2020-21 school year.

- **Reaching all Students**

This group provided recommendations for reaching **all** students with strategies to accelerate learning.

## Recommendations for All Educators and Staff



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- The Task Force members placed a high priority on attending to the social and emotional needs of all students and staff.
- The Task Force recommended that educators and staff members
  - ❑ be sensitive to the impact of trauma,
  - ❑ remain flexible, and
  - ❑ recognize that equity is not the same as equality.

<https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/ccr-learning-acceleration-recommendations-0720.pdf>

## Recommendations for Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)



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- Determine student needs through assessment
- Accelerate student learning aligned to student needs
- Create communication plans for curriculum and instruction
- Develop flexible, alternative scheduling and staffing models
- Support the physical and social-emotional needs of students, families and educators
- Prioritize inclusion, equity and excellence

<https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/ccr-learning-acceleration-recommendations-0720.pdf>

## Recommendations for DESE



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- Provide assessments to support LEA evaluations of learning
- Help districts identify essential standards in each area
- Offer professional development on key topics
- Create mechanisms for sharing resources among LEAs
- Emphasize students' physical and social-emotional needs
- Foster continued collaboration on acceleration of learning

<https://dese.mo.gov/college-career-readiness/curriculum/task-force-learning-acceleration>

## Why assess students when they return?



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- **Why should districts assess “where students are” when they return?**
  - ❑ Northwest Evaluation Association
  - ❑ International Center for Leadership in Education
  - ❑ Council of Chief State School Officers
  - ❑ The Collaborative for Student Success

# Missouri Learning, Engagement and Preparation



# MO LEAP



- **MO LEAP Assessments**
  - ❑ Designed for instructional purposes – not for accountability
  - ❑ Highly aligned to priority standards
  - ❑ Quick turnaround of results
  - ❑ No cost to districts
- **MO LEAP Blocks**
  - ❑ Curriculum-focused tools with thematic instructional resources
  - ❑ Materials to support and accelerate learning
  - ❑ Contain multiple stimulus materials to support lessons

## Next Steps



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- MO LEAP Assessment
- MO LEAP Blocks
- Guide for Acceleration of Learning  
<https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/ccr-acceleration-of-learning-0720.pdf>
- Continue collaborating with Missouri education stakeholders

## Task Force Member Feedback



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*“This was such a positive, collaborative experience and I feel the results will be beneficial resources for districts around the state. Even as an educator with many years of experience in the field, I gained new information and learning to take back and apply-thank you!”*



## Thank you!

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