

# Colorado's State Literacy Plan

*Leveraging the Education Reform  
Agenda to Improve Literacy  
Outcomes*

# Unique Features of Colorado's Literacy Plan

- Colorado's education reform landscape
  - New standards and assessment system
  - Unified accountability system
  - Educator effectiveness initiative
- Literacy capacity within the department
- Focus of department and support of State Board
- Context of Governor Hickenlooper's Literacy Initiative

# State Literacy Plan Purpose

## ***State Literacy Guidance and Resources:*** **Providing State Leadership to Districts and Communities**

CDE's plan to guide and support districts and communities

**Purpose:**  
Support statewide literacy efforts aligned with Colorado's Strategic Priorities

## ***Colorado Comprehensive Literacy Plan:*** **Aligning Department Strategic Priorities to Impact Literacy Achievement**

CDE's strategic planning document

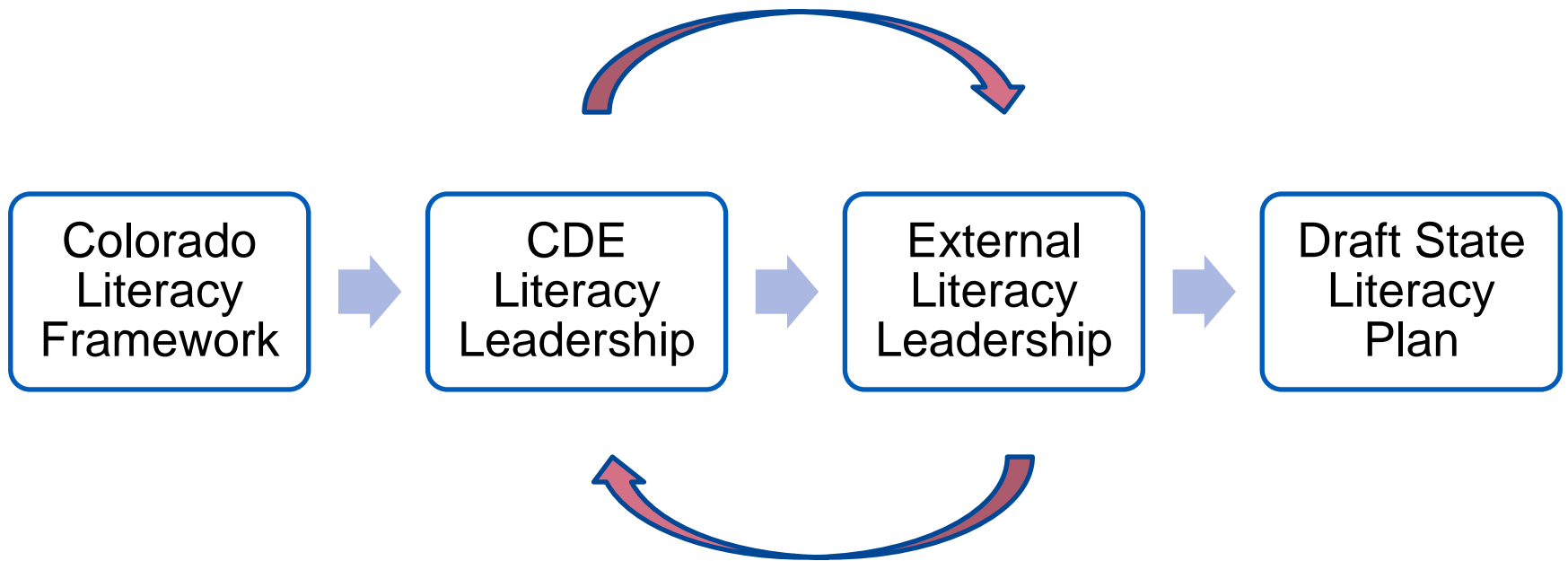
**Purpose:**  
Provide a comprehensive plan to guide all literacy related initiatives at CDE

## ***Colorado Literacy Framework:*** **Establishing a Common Vision**

CDE's vision statement

**Purpose:** Articulate a common vision for literacy instruction for CDE

# State Literacy Plan Development Process



# Timeline

**Winter 2010** Formed internal and external literacy leadership teams

**April 2011** Created outline; conducted External Team informational webinar

**May** Convened External Team and completed Striving Readers grant application

**Summer** Developed full outline of plan

**Winter 2011** Completed draft plan; seeking public and expert feedback

**Feb.- March 2012**  
Anticipation revision

**April 2012** Anticipated adoption of state plan by State Board of Education

# Plan Goals

1. Ensure all children have literacy support beginning at birth.
  - Supporting literacy from birth prevents gaps later.
2. Close the literacy achievement gap where it exists.
3. Ensure all Colorado students have the literacy skills to meet the growing demands of knowledge-based global society.
  - All students must be sophisticated in their use of language and literacy skills to be productive and contributing members of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

# Essential Elements

1. Standards-Based Curriculum
2. Instruction and Intervention
3. Comprehensive Assessment
4. Leadership
5. Family and Community Partnerships
6. Educator Preparation and Professional Development

# Plan Development Impact

- Collective work and responsibility of all units within the department
- Common vision of how department's strategic priorities coalesce around literacy