The Board allocated $3.4 million in each year of the biennium for the establishment of three College Access and Opportunity Centers to increase the college readiness and college participation rates of underrepresented students. Board members have requested regular updates on the progress of the three centers.

Scheduled Presenters:

Dr. Robert Johnson, Director, Pre-College Pipeline Programs, St. Cloud State University
Dr. Julia Espe, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, School District 742, St. Cloud
Mr. Henry Galloway, Access and Opportunity School Coordinator, School District 742, St. Cloud
Mr. Phil Schroeder, Vice President of Student Affairs, St. Cloud Technical College

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

Dr. Johnson will provide an overview of the St. Cloud Access and Opportunity Center. Dr. Espe and Mr. Galloway will describe the partnership between the school district, the university and the technical college. Mr. Schroeder will speak about the technical college’s role in the center.
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<th>INFORMATION ITEM</th>
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<td>St. Cloud College Access and Opportunity Center</td>
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**BACKGROUND**
Following a competitive Request For Proposal process, the three College Access and Opportunity Centers were funded beginning in fiscal year 2008. The centers provide quarterly updates on their progress to the Office of the Chancellor. Summaries have been provided to the Board at previous meetings, and the center jointly operated by Century College and Inver Hills Community College provided an in-depth report at the November meeting of the Board. This month, the St. Cloud College Access and Opportunity Center will provide a comprehensive overview of its operation. A report from the third center, at Minnesota State Community and Technical College, is scheduled for May.