



# The Buzz

A consolidated federal programs newsletter

Issue 9

May 2004

## got time?

CDE is implementing school support teams as a way to provide assistance to Title I Schools on corrective action or improvement. This is an exciting opportunity for schools to receive a diagnostic review of all facets of their operation, including an analysis of their practices in curriculum, assessment, instruction, school culture, family and community involvement, professional development, leadership, school organization, and comprehensive planning.

The department is looking for experienced educators to serve on school support teams. School support team positions are part time consultant positions. Team members are paid \$300 a day in addition to expenses.

At a minimum individuals selected for school support teams should have the following knowledge, skills, and abilities:

- Knowledge of and/or experience in the K-12 system;
- Knowledge of the Colorado Model Content Standards;

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## Requirements of the Principal Attestation

In accordance with Section 1119(i) of No Child Left Behind, each school that receives Title I, Part A funds must have on file at the school and district office an assurance signed by the principal that he/she is complying with the highly qualified teacher, highly qualified paraprofessional and professional development provision. This principal attestation must be updated and signed every year and available to the public upon request. The Principal Attestation must state that

1. All teachers teaching in core academic subject areas, hired after the first day of the 2002-2003 school year and working in a program supported by Title I, Part A funds, are highly qualified and that the school has included strategies in the School Improvement Plan to ensure that all teachers teaching in core academic subjects will be highly qualified no later than the end of the 2005-2006 school year.
2. All teachers supported by Title I, Part A funds are receiving high quality professional development to enable teachers who are not highly qualified to become highly qualified and successful classroom teachers.
3. All Title I, Part A paraprofessionals with instructional duties hired after January 8, 2002, and teaching in a program supported by Title I, Part A funds, have a high school diploma or its equivalent and meet the Title I, Part A qualifications based on their (1) completion of 2 years of education at an institution of higher education, or (2) earning an associate's (or higher) degree, or (3) having met a rigorous standard of quality through a formal local or nationally developed academic assessment.

A sample attestation will be available on the State and Federal Grants page of the CDE website by the middle of May. For more information contact Bush White Ed.D. at [white\\_b@cde.state.co.us](mailto:white_b@cde.state.co.us)

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- Knowledge of the Colorado Student Assessment Program
- Ability to work effectively as part of a team;
- Willingness and ability to participate in Colorado Department of Education (CDE) training and the willingness to follow CDE's organizational mission and directives; training scheduled for August 10-13, 2004.
- Willingness to travel; and
- Ability to commit to work between late August of 2004 and February 2005.

In addition to the minimum competencies listed above it would be preferred if applicants had experience or knowledge in the following:

- Experience in data analysis, use of data for decision making, and the development and implementation of school improvement plans;
- Knowledge of comprehensive reform models and strategies;
- Extensive knowledge in one or more of the following areas: school leadership, curriculum, instruction, classroom management and discipline, Title I schoolwide programs, school reform and improving educational opportunities for low achieving students;
- Knowledge of scientifically based research strategies and practice on teaching and learning;
- Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing;
- Experience in allocating resources to support school reform and/or an understanding of the budget allocation process; and,
- Using technology, particularly Microsoft Word or Excel.

Interested individuals should complete an application, submit a letter of interest, a resume, and a completed recommendation form to Anita Foxworth. Materials may be emailed to [foxworth\\_a@cde.state.co.us](mailto:foxworth_a@cde.state.co.us) Interviews will be held to determine the final selection of school support team members.

All application materials are due by May 28, 2004. For a copy of the application contact Desiree Sutter at (303) 866-6715 or by email at [sutter\\_d@cde.state.co.us](mailto:sutter_d@cde.state.co.us) after May 3, 2004.

## ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

CDE will be hosting Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) trainings in June. The trainings will provide a detailed description of the process for making 2003-2004 school AYP determinations. This year we will have AYP data automated and accessible through the Automated Data Exchange (ADE). Districts will need to log-in to the system to access their data and make changes. The training will illustrate the process for checking and updating data, as well as for making appeals.

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| June 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Lamar<br>Lamar Community Building<br>6 <sup>th</sup> and Pearl                           |
| June 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | Akron<br>Akron Event Center<br>Akron Fairgrounds Highway 34                              |
| June 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Greeley<br>University of Northern Colorado<br>5590 W. 11 <sup>th</sup> Street, Room 129C |
| June 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Steamboat Springs<br>Northwest BOCES   |
| June 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Montrose<br>Best Western<br>1702 E. Main Street (U.S. Hwy. 50)                           |
| June 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Durango<br>Recreation Center<br>2700 Main Avenue   |
| June 9 <sup>th</sup>  | Pueblo<br>Pueblo School District<br>Specific location TBD                                |
| June 14 <sup>th</sup> | Denver<br>Wheatridge Recreation Center   |

To register contact Clara Algiene at [Algiene\\_c@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Algiene_c@cde.state.co.us)



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### May 4<sup>th</sup>

Regional Workshop for Consolidated Federal Programs Application in Denver  
For more information

[www.cde.state.co.us/cdeunified/regionalwrkshps.asp](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeunified/regionalwrkshps.asp)

### May 24<sup>th</sup>

School Improvement Grant Progress Report due from 2003-2004 award recipients

For more information contact Laura Hensinger at [Hensinger\\_l@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Hensinger_l@cde.state.co.us)

### May 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>

24<sup>th</sup> Annual Parent Involvement Conference and the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Institute in Keystone

For more information contact Richard Garcia at (720) 890-0123 or [spccolo@aol.com](mailto:spccolo@aol.com)

### June 1<sup>st</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>

AYP Trainings

See page 2 for specific dates and locations

### June 15<sup>th</sup>

Supplemental Services Networking Day

See page 5 for specific details

### June 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>

2004 National Charter Schools Conference  
Miami Beach, FL

### June 30<sup>th</sup>

Consolidated Federal Programs Application due  
Application materials available at

[www.cde.state.co.us/cdeunified/consapp\\_063004.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeunified/consapp_063004.htm)

### July 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>

National Forum on Education Policy  
Sponsored by the Education Commission of States  
Orlando, FL

Register online at [www.ecs.org/NationalForum2004](http://www.ecs.org/NationalForum2004)



Colorado Reading First (CRF) is gaining momentum with almost two years of work behind us and four more years to go. Local grant sites are finishing Year One with core reading programs in place, experience using new screening and progress monitoring tools, a year of coaching for teachers, and a lot of professional development to ensure that teachers have the knowledge base to meet the reading needs of all their K-3 students. At the same time, state leadership is scaling up the Reading First program with its outreach efforts.

Right now, K-3 teachers in all 42 CRF school sites are attending *spring training* - the last of four foundational level reading academies given throughout the year. At this final session, teachers are digging into the linguistic basis for how children learn to read, identifying roadblocks they've encountered in their own classrooms, and working with colleagues to improve their instruction with high need students. Year Two intermediate level training begins this summer with a three-day training for all K-3 staff. CRF schools are also focused right now on getting results from two key assessments - the BEAR K-2 outcome assessment and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading CSAP. Everyone is eager to get the data to celebrate gains and identify where we need to focus student interventions.

Access to state level training is being opened up to additional high need LEAs and schools. For more information, contact Lynn Bamberry [bamberry\\_l@cde.state.co.us](mailto:bamberry_l@cde.state.co.us); (303) 866-6813]. At the same time, we're initiating a Trainer of Trainers program. The intent is to recruit local literacy experts and train them to replicate CRF professional development in more locations. Information on the Trainer of Trainers option is available at

[www.cde.state.co.us/cdecomp/rf\\_prodev.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdecomp/rf_prodev.htm)

Make sure to visit our website toward the end of the summer to find out about the second round of CRF local grant funding. Grant training will occur in the fall to prepare for the April 2005 application due date.

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY TOOLKIT WORKSHOPS

The Colorado Parent Information and Resource Center (CPIRC) and CDE would like to thank those of you that attended the 8 Regional District Parent Involvement Policy Toolkit Workshops presented earlier this year for your participation and the feedback you provided regarding your technical assistance needs.

Thirty-seven Title I districts responded with an array of requests for assistance. The identified needs are being incorporated into an action plan. The primary needs expressed by Colorado's school districts are as follows:

- Parent involvement training for staff
- Strategies for recruiting parents for meetings/decision-making activities
- Training on coordinating Title I with other programs
- Help with written portions of district parent involvement policies
- Parent information/knowledge/understanding of Section 1116

CPIRC is contacting districts that attended workshops, and will continue to provide periodic technical assistance and training updates via email in the future. If you did not attend a Toolkit Workshop, but would like to be added to their listserv please contact them at [HernandezN@gwclayton.org](mailto:HernandezN@gwclayton.org). All Title I district and school staff are welcome to participate in the policy development and implementation training. Visit their website [www.cpirc.org](http://www.cpirc.org) for more information on NCLB, Schools in Need of Improvement, and Parent Involvement.



### **How does a school or district get placed on Improvement Status?**

A school will be placed on School Improvement if 1) it is a Title I funded school, and 2) the schools has missed the same content area AYP targets (reading or math) for two consecutive years. For example, a school that missed math participation targets in 2003 and missed reading "other indicator" targets in 2004 would not be placed on improvement. However, if the school missed math performance targets in both 2003 and 2004, then it would be placed on School Improvement, if it receives Title I funds.

A district is placed on Program Improvement in a parallel way. The district must receive Title I funds and miss targets in the same content area for two consecutive years. No districts are currently on Program Improvement. However, 40% of Colorado districts did not make AYP in 2002-2003, and all of those receiving Title I funds could potentially be on Program Improvement if they do not make AYP in 2003-2004 in the same content area targets that were missed in the previous year.

A school or district is removed from Improvement Status by making AYP targets for two consecutive years in the content areas that led them to be placed on improvement.

### **Where can I find an electronic copy of the Consolidated Application and other supporting materials?**

The consolidated application, data tables, instructions and other documents distributed at the workshops are now available on CDE's website at

[www.cde.state.co.us/cdeunified/consapp.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeunified/consapp.htm)

The electronic budget is under revision and will be posted no later than the beginning of June.

As mentioned at the workshops, CDE will be sending a disk to each district with a copy of the application. Disks will be sent the first week of May. Remember, all applications must be submitted electronically to

[consolidatedapplications@cde.state.co.us](mailto:consolidatedapplications@cde.state.co.us). If unable to submit the application by e-mail, mail a copy of the application saved to a PC-formatted disk or CD-ROM to the address in the application.



## UPDATES

CDE will be hosting a **Networking Day for Supplemental Service Providers and District Personnel** on June 15<sup>th</sup> at Adams City Middle School in Commerce City, 4451 E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. This day will be an opportunity for providers to better understand the process of contracting with districts and the overall implementation process. In addition, district personnel will have the opportunity to interact with the providers that service their district to better understand their program. We highly encourage a representative from your district attend the event. For more information contact Laura Hensinger at [Hensinger\\_l@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Hensinger_l@cde.state.co.us)

The CDOT Division of Aeronautics, Civil Air Patrol and the National Space Biomedical Research Institute are sponsoring a **Science of Flight Teacher Workshop** at Walker Field Airport in Grand Junction on June 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> for K-12 Educators. The workshop will focus on ways to use aviation to capture students' imagination and illustrate math and science concepts.

These two exciting days of aviation education will consist of a variety of sessions including Integrating Aviation Into Science, Physics of Flight (including pre-flight inspection of an actual aircraft) and Physiology of Space Flight. All participants will leave with a classroom set of supplies for each of the activities they learn.

Friday night, participants are invited to visit the Art & Jazz Festival in downtown Grand Junction. A great rate has been negotiated with the Adams Mark Hotel, if you're coming from out of town.

On Saturday, educators will participate in an Aviation Fair including a tour of the airport, hands-on activities, "make-and-take" centers and even the opportunity to take a flight! Lunch is provided both days and door prizes will be awarded throughout the workshop.

Re-certification through the Colorado Department of Education and science credit through Adams State will be available to all participating teachers. You can even earn a science credit towards becoming a Highly Qualified educator under NCLB.

The instructor of record for the workshop is Crystal Bloemen, A. Scott Crossfield National Aerospace Teacher of the Year. Ms. Bloemen's enthusiasm for aviation and space education are contagious and guarantee an experience that will be fun as well as educational.

For more information, registration and hotel information, contact Darci Wert at (303)261-4418 or [darci.wert@dot.state.co.us](mailto:darci.wert@dot.state.co.us) or visit the Division of Aeronautics website at [www.colorado-aeronautics.org](http://www.colorado-aeronautics.org)

# Distinguished Schools

The next school to be highlighted in The Buzz's Distinguished School series is Dos Rios Elementary in Mesa County Valley School District which was selected as the Distinguished Title I School for the West Central Region.

After reviewing school data, the staff and school leadership attributed their gains to the quality and continuity of the programs offered. Below highlights initiatives we feel have made a difference in our school program.

### *All Day Kindergarten*

Dos Rios started offering all day Kindergarten 12 years ago and the data indicates that students in the program have done better on CSAP and NWEA tests. The question would be is the difference a result of lack of mobility for the kids in the 5-year study or was the all day kindergarten the factor. Our study did not include children that moved to another school. Generally, we have only 30% to 50% of 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> graders still at Dos Rios from kindergarten.

### *Family Resource Center*

A Family Resource Center was initiated six years ago and the results have been encouraging (on CSAP and NWEA). The Center assists families in obtaining resources to help them raise healthy children which in turn will help them academically.

### *Staff Development*

Three years ago Dos Rios received a Read to Achieve Grant which had a large staff development component. We continue to provide staff training in multisensory and structured language.

### *Literacy Lab*

This was also part of the Read To Achieve Grant. The lab worked with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade ILP, IEP and ELL students. The results indicate a reduction of the number of ILP students each year for the first two years.

Dos Rios Elementary is extremely excited about being selected as a Title I Distinguished School and will continue to strive for excellence. This is just the beginning!



Colorado Department of Education  
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**Did you miss the last Buzz? Visit [www.cde.state.co.us/index\\_funding.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_funding.htm) for a copy.**

**Concerns!!**

**Questions??**

**Comments**

*Do you want to be on the mailing list?*

**Contact Laura Hensinger at (303) 866-6675 or [hensinger\\_l@cde.state.co.us](mailto:hensinger_l@cde.state.co.us)**