



The Buzz

A consolidated federal programs newsletter

Issue 13

October 2004

School Improvement Grant and School Support Team Reviews

As discussed in the April issue of The Buzz, the Title I School Improvement Grant has been redeveloped for the 2004-2005 school year. The first 3 tiers of schools have been funded. We are now in the process of offering the grant to Tier IV, which are new schools entering into school improvement.

To receive these funds, schools must commit to 1) an external review by one of CDE's School Support Teams; and 2) develop a school improvement plan that incorporates the major areas of need as determined by the School Support Team (SST) review.

The funding for this grant will be disseminated in two parts. An initial \$50,000 will be granted to each school to fund a SST review and any costs associated with the review. A School Improvement Implementation Grant ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000 will be awarded to each school in June 2005, after a school improvement plan has been submitted and approved by CDE. If your district has eligible schools and would like more information, contact Laura Hensinger at hensinger_l@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6675.

NCLB REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

AYP and other assessment data needs to be reported annually to a district's public. Districts are required by state law to make their Annual Report to the public (due out December 1st). CDE recommends including the NCLB reporting requirements in your Annual Report.

CDE is working on providing all the data you need to include in your report through the CDE website. Ideally, all the data will be available in a look-up format on CDE's website, similar to how the SARs are currently available on the web. CDE understands that districts need to send their reports to the printers at different times, unfortunately we cannot guarantee that all required data will be available in one place for the 2004 reports. (We are working on it, though!) The following are the NCLB reporting requirements:

- Percent of all students tested on CSAP reading and math, by grade span and disaggregated groups, at the school and district level (AYP participation rate data)
- Percent of ALL students, scoring at each proficiency level, for CSAP reading and math, by grade span and disaggregated at the school and district level, and compared to the district and state average, including two years of trend data (raw CSAP data, no exclusions)
- AYP Performance data for each school and the district compared with the state target and disaggregated by subgroup
- AYP Other Indicator data for each school and the district compared with the state target and disaggregated by subgroup

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- Number and name(s) of Title I school(s) identified for improvement, corrective action, and restructuring
- Percent of schools in the district identified for improvement, corrective action and restructuring
- Professional qualifications of all teachers
- Percent of teachers with emergency or provisional license
- Percent of classes not taught by a highly qualified teacher overall and disaggregated by poverty level of schools

More detailed information and sample reports are available at

www.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/reportcardsguidance.doc.

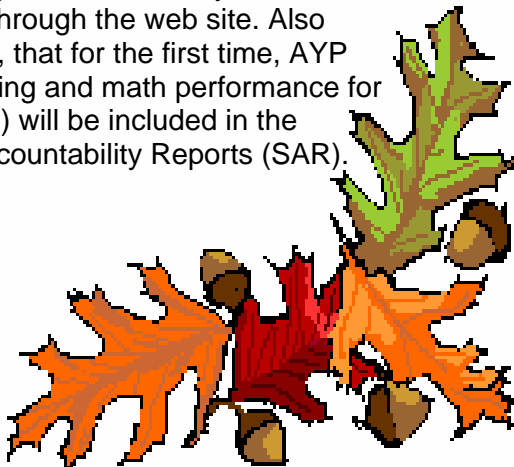


The logo features a stylized American flag on the left, followed by the text "ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS" in a serif font, and "Update" in a larger, italicized serif font below it.

As of October 4th, the ADE AYP project will be closed and all data and determination will be final. If your district never logs-in or accepts data, CDE assumes that you accept the data in the system. There will be no adjustments of any kind made after October 4th.

District appeals are currently being processed. Districts will receive final notification of their appeal status and district status by October 14th.

CDE will make the final determinations for schools and districts public in late October as required by law. Additionally, all data will be available through the web site. Also remember, that for the first time, AYP data (reading and math performance for subgroups) will be included in the School Accountability Reports (SAR).



Regional Workshops for Program Improvement

Districts that failed to make AYP for two consecutive years will be identified for Program Improvement and required to develop a Program Improvement plan by January 14, 2004. CDE will be conducting regional workshops regarding Program Improvement that will cover the Program Improvement plan, background/requirements, parent notification of Program Improvement status, notification contents, timelines, available CDE technical assistance and parent involvement in improving the district. The workshops will be held on the following dates:

Crested Butte

Thursday, October 14th from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
The Grand Lodge
6 Emmons Road

Pagosa Springs

Friday, October 15th from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
The Pagosa
3505 W. Hwy 160

Pueblo

Tuesday, October 19th from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Rawlings Library
100 E. Abriendo Avenue

Denver

Thursday, October 21st from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Adams 12 Training Center
1500 E. 128th Avenue

Greeley

Friday, October 22nd from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Aims College
Corporate Education Center
5590 W. 11th Street

Please R.S.V.P. for the workshop one week prior to the scheduled date to Tina Tamayo at (303) 866-6705 or by email at tamayo_t@cde.state.co.us.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 8th & 13th

LEA Homeless Liaison In-Service
10/8- Adams 12 Five Star District, Thornton
10/13- South Platte Valley BOCES, Ft. Morgan
For more information contact Betty Shopp at
shop_b@cde.state.co.us.

October 14th

Light on Afterschool!
The only nationwide event celebrating afterschool, aims to bring attention to the need for afterschool programs that keep kids safe, helps working families and improves academic achievement.
For more information visit www.afterschoolalliance.org

October 17th – 23rd

Teen Read Week
For more information visit
www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenreading.htm

October 22nd

2004 Colorado Core Knowledge Conference
Jefferson Academy in Broomfield, CO
For more information contact Holly Hensey at
hhensey@aol.com.

October 31st

Halloween

November 9th – 10th

Colorado Principal's Leadership Institute in Mathematics
McCrel, 2550 S. Parker Road, Aurora
For more information contact Susan Adams at
(303) 632-5552.

November 1st

Annual Financial Report due
For more information contact Debbie Wolfe at
wolfe_d@cde.state.co.us.



AskColorado - Anytime!

Just a reminder that you and your students have access to a valuable service offered through Colorado libraries, *AskColorado-any time and just about anything*. Online, day or night, chat with an information expert from Colorado's libraries.

www.askcolorado.org

This is a wonderful resource for you and your students who are investigating those sidebars of classroom content that really get to the heart of the matter.

Students can log on to www.askcolorado.org and receive help with information 24/7 in English and Spanish. New this year, students can also log on to AskColorado to get help from a professional tutor. Tutors are available everyday from 3-10 p.m. for math, science, English and social studies homework help. Students in grades 4th -12th can work one-on-one online live with a tutor. This service is also available in Spanish on Sundays-Thursdays from 3 - 8 p.m. for math and science tutoring. Just logon to www.askcolorado.org and ask for a tutor.

AskColorado is funded by the Colorado State Library under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and funds and staffing from local libraries in Colorado.

School-Home Links

The recent 'trainer of trainers' (TOT) workshops for School-Home Links was a success! There are now over 100 people across the state with the materials and information for sharing this important set of activities with other teachers, parents, and support personnel. The revised School-Home Links and trainer of trainers materials from the workshops are now available on the Colorado Family Literacy Consortium website and may be accessed at <http://coloradoliteracy.net/parents.html#school-home> TOT materials include the PowerPoint slides that help staff and parents understand the purpose and use of School-Home Links, as well as helpful notes and ideas. If you didn't attend one of the recent workshops, check out the TOT materials

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and/or contact Trish Boland regarding the names of individuals who may be available to do a training for your group.

School-Home Links are a set of standards-based activities for grades K-3 that provide parents with reading/writing tasks they can do with their children. These activities also help teachers provide meaningful homework for their students and focus the collective work on the Colorado State Standards. It is strongly recommended that training for both school staff and parents accompany the use of the activities. When everyone understands their purpose and use, these activities have a greater impact on students' achievement. For more information contact Trish Boland at (303) 866-6998 or by email at boland_t@cde.state.co.us.

Even Start Family Literacy Program



The **Even Start Committee of Practitioners** has begun work on developing a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP), to be issued in January 2005 that would award federal funds (should any be approved by Congress and the President) to provide Even Start family literacy services in Colorado communities.

As members of the Committee discuss possible ways in which funds might be awarded, they are reviewing the number of current Even Start programs that might re-apply for funding. Committee members also want to know *how many communities might be interested in applying for Even Start funds for the first time*.

If your community might be interested in applying next year for *initial* Even Start funding, please send an e-mail to Frank Fielden fielden_f@cde.state.co.us that contains the names of the community and potential partners (programs must include at least one local school district and one local non-profit agency). The **Even Start Committee of Practitioners** would appreciate hearing from interested potential applicants by *Friday, October 8th*.

A response to this request does not constitute an application for funds and in no way obligates any community partnership to apply for funds in the future.



Where can I find information about the requirements for schools on improvement and districts on Program Improvement?

CDE has developed two new web pages that provide detailed information regarding the requirements of schools at each level of improvement and LEA Program Improvement. There are also resources listed that can assist districts and schools in meeting the requirements. These pages can be accessed at the following links:

School Improvement

www.cde.state.co.us/cdeunified/schimp.htm

Program Improvement

www.cde.state.co.us/cdeunified/leaimp.htm

When will the district receive final approval on our Consolidated Federal Programs Application?

After the review of each Consolidated Federal Programs Application, districts are sent a comment log that details the issues by Title program that must be resolved prior to final approval.

Once the district has revised the complete application, the district must submit the revisions to consolidatedapplications@cde.state.co.us.

The contact person for each Title will review the resubmission and contact the appropriate district person to resolve any remaining issues. If the resubmission contains an adequate response to each issue raised by the readers, then final approval will be granted.

To assist in the speedy approval of your application, 1) respond to all issues discussed in the comment log within 30 days, 2) send a complete revised application to the revision mailbox consolidatedapplications@cde.state.co.us, 3) respond to any request from CDE for information as soon as possible, and 4) contact the appropriate person listed under each Title on the comment log with any questions you may have.



UPDATES

The Office of Special Services has posted a position for **Senior, Title I Consultant**. If you know of someone who is a team player, self starter, knowledgeable of Title I and NCLB, and would be interested in an exciting and rewarding position at CDE, please encourage them to apply. Applications are due by October 11th. For more information visit

www.cde.state.co.us/cdemgmt/HR/jobs.htm.

As discussed in the September issue of The Buzz, CDE is forming a **Schoolwide Development Workgroup** for the purpose of producing Colorado guidelines, policies and procedures for all schoolwide schools. The group will consist of 8 to 10 members who have experience with school reform, data analysis, systemic planning and other areas of expertise. The group will produce resources for Title I Directors and other district personnel working in schoolwide schools. Members of the workgroup will be paid a stipend of \$300 per day-long meeting, and will be reimbursed for mileage. Additional costs will be covered as needed. The following are the scheduled meeting dates for the workgroup:

2004	2005	
November 5 th	January 7 th	April 1 st
December 3 rd	February 4 th	May 6 th
	March 4 th	June 3 rd

The deadline for interested participants has been extended to October 15th. To apply, complete an application at www.cde.state.co.us/cdeunified/download/tia_sch_widedevwrkshp.doc.

We would like to thank each person who took time out of their busy schedule to attend the Title I Director's Meeting on September 22nd. The Office of Special Services would like to give a special thanks to Trish Boland, Clara Algiene, Tina Tamayo and Desiree Sutter for their work in organizing the event.



Congratulations to the sixteen new 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) grantees! They join nineteen other grantees that currently offer extended learning opportunities throughout our state. The 21st CCLC grant is a five year grant that ranges from \$50,000-150,000 per year. Annual funding is contingent on a successful, annual progress report and congressional funding. Schools that are served in these grants must be high poverty and low-performing. Grantees may consist of Local Educational Agencies, Community Based Organizations and Faith Based Organizations. A new grant competition is anticipated for spring 2005. For further information contact Valerie Bass at bass_v@cde.state.co.us or visit the 21st CCLC website at www.cde.state.co.us/cdecomp/21stCentury.htm.

The new grantees that will serve their identified, eligible schools are:

- Adams County School District 14
- Adams Arapahoe School District 28J
- Adams County School District 50
- Agate School District
- Boys and Girls Club Inc. of Pueblo
- Center School District 26 Jt
- Denver County School District 1
- Jefferson County School District R-1
- Montrose County School District Re 1J
- Morgan County School District Re-3
- Poudre School District R-1
- Pueblo School District 60
- Summer Scholars
- Trinidad School District 1
- Weld County School District 6
- YMCA – Fountain Valley

Colorado Department of Education
Office of Special Services
201 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203



Did you miss the last Buzz? Visit 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