



The Buzz

A consolidated federal programs newsletter

Issue 24

November 2005

Congratulations

The following Title I schools made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two consecutive years even with increased targets. They are no longer on School Improvement.

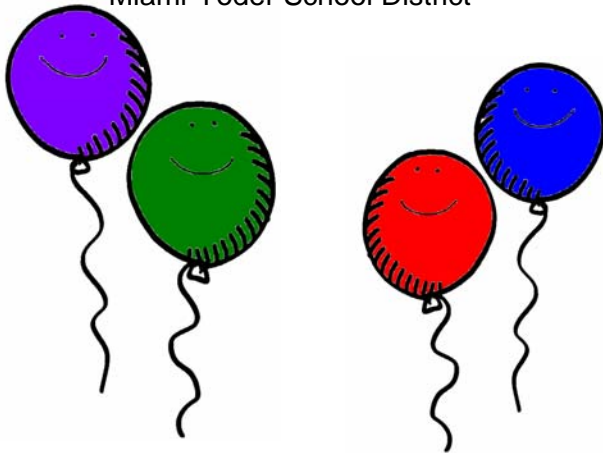
Barrett Elementary School
Denver Public Schools

Centennial Junior High
Costilla County

Fort Logan Elementary
Sheridan School District

Ignacio Intermediate School
Ignacio School District

Miami-Yoder Elementary
Miami-Yoder School District



No Child Left Behind Report Card The Annual Report to the Public

Both Colorado's Accreditation system and *No Child Left Behind* require districts to report about the status of the district and schools annually to the public. While some of the reporting requirements apply to both laws, there are some different requirements. CDE has created a requirements list that combines all reporting requirements. The department urges districts to combine the information into a single Annual Report to the public.

Reporting Requirement	Legislation
Assessment Data	
Percent of ALL students, at each proficiency level, for reading and math CSAP and CSAPA, by grade span, and disaggregated ¹ , at the school and district level, and compared to the district and state average, including two years of trend data	NCLB ² / Accreditation
Trend data for science and writing assessments, aggregated by grade and subject area, and disaggregated by all student groups; compared with the state averages	Accreditation
Accountability Data	
Percent of all students tested on reading and math CSAP and CSAPA by grade span and disaggregated groups at the school and district level (use AYP participation rate data)	NCLB/ Accreditation
Accreditation of schools: - Number and identity of schools in each accreditation category; i.e. accredited, watch, probation, not accredited	Accreditation

¹ Disaggregated groups include: race/ethnicity, English language learners, economically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, gender and migrant.
² Only district receiving Title I funds must report NCLB requirements.

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Accountability Data (continued)	
AYP Performance data disaggregated for each school and the district compared with the state target	NCLB
AYP Other Indicator data disaggregated for each school and the district compared with the state target	NCLB
The number and name of Title I schools identified for Improvement, Corrective Action and Restructuring	NCLB
The percent of schools in the district identified for Improvement, Corrective Action and Restructuring	NCLB
Teacher Quality Data	
Professional Qualifications of all teachers	NCLB
Percent of teachers with emergency or initial license	NCLB
Percent of classes not taught by a highly qualified teacher: overall and disaggregated by poverty level of schools	NCLB
Other Data	
The districts' high achievement goals and their plan to improve achievement	Accreditation
Evidence of a safe, civil, learning environment	Accreditation
Attendance rates	Accreditation
Number of expelled and suspended students	Accreditation
Drop-out rate	Accreditation
Graduation requirements and rates	Accreditation
District assessment results for the other state model content standards not measured by CSAP	Accreditation
Advanced Placement information	Accreditation

These requirements are also posted at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/NCLB/reportcard.asp>. The website also provides links to some of the other required elements.

For districts with a multitude of schools, school data can be reported just to the parents in the individual schools. However, all schools' data should be available to the public through the web and/or the district office. CDE will be reviewing all Annual Reports to check for compliance with state and federal law this winter. We would like to provide any necessary technical assistance while districts work on these reports. CDE will be available to review a draft of the report to ensure it meets the requirements before going to print. For review assistance and feedback email the report to Alyssa Pearson at pearson_a@cde.state.co.us.

TRANSLATED ORAL SCRIPTS

The Colorado Department of Education will be providing Translated Oral Scripts for the 2006 CSAP administration to school districts in order to standardize this allowable accommodation. **In order to be eligible to receive a Translated Oral Script, a student must have been instructed and assessed in their native language in the specific content area, for at least three months prior to the assessment.** For more details refer to the CSAP Procedures Manual at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/csap/index.htm>.

This accommodation is only available for the math, science and writing assessments. Since NCLB requires math and science assessments, CDE will prioritize translations for the Math CSAP first, as these scores are used for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) calculations and then the science translations. CDE is unable to translate the writing scripts, as federal funds cannot be used for this purpose. However, districts may do their own translations of the writing Oral Scripts, as in the past.

In order to provide the necessary translations, CDE needs to know the languages which districts use for instruction and assessment. District Assessment Coordinators will be asked to complete a survey, with the assistance of the district's English Language Acquisition Coordinator in the next few weeks, in order to collect the necessary languages and grade levels. If you have any questions contact Morgan Cox at cox_m@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-6784.

A New Resource from the Department of Education

The U.S. Department of Education has released a new brochure ***Opportunities for Private Schools to Provide Extra Academic Help to Disadvantaged Students*** to assist private schools that are considering providing SES or interested in learning more about it. To order up to 100 free copies visit the ED Pubs On-Line Ordering System at <http://www.edpubs.org>. The Publication ID for the brochure is EU0149H. A PDF version of the brochure is available at <http://www.ed.gov/admins/comm/suppsvcs/privschools/opportunities.pdf>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November – December

NCLB Committee of Practitioners Work Sessions
Cherry Creek's Student Assessment Resource
Center, 14188 E. Briarwood Ave., Centennial
For additional information contact Trish Boland at
boland_t@cde.state.co.us or (303) 866-6998.

November 15, 2005
November 27-28, 2005
December 5, 2005

September – May

The 8-Step Process: Responding to Struggling
English Language Learners with Exceptional
Needs. For more information on the following
regional conferences visit
www.cde.state.co.us/cdeedcon/index.htm.

Montrose - November 8-11, 2005
Pueblo - November 15-18, 2005
Greeley - January 10-13, 2006
La Junta - January 17-20, 2006
Glenwood Springs - February 28-March 3, 2006
Pagosa Springs - April 18-21, 2006
North Metro - May 2-5, 2006
Frisco - May 9-12, 2006

November 3rd – 5th

Parents Encourage Parents (PEP) Conference in
Glenwood Springs. Other PEP Conference dates
include February 23-25, 2006 in Estes Park and
April 6-8, 2006 in Pueblo. For more information visit
www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/PEP.asp.

November 9th – 13th

52nd Annual Conference of the National Association
for Gifted Children
Louisville, Kentucky
For more information visit www.nagc.org.

January 27th – 31st

National Title I Conference
Dallas, Texas
For more information visit www.titlei.org.



- Schools on Improvement interested in participating in the Title I School Improvement Grant should contact Laura Hensinger, hensinger_l@cde.state.co.us.
- Supplemental Educational Services (free after school tutoring) should begin at eligible schools by November 15th.
- Title I School Improvement and Corrective Action plans or revisions to previous plans must be submitted by December 12th to Brad Bylsma at bylsma_b@cde.state.co.us.
- Determine districts AYP status. Districts new to Program Improvement must submit a plan addressing the targets missed by January 2, 2006. Districts presently on Program Improvement must revise their plan only if there were new targets missed or if their plans have changed. Revised plans are due November 15th. Contact Brad Bylsma at bylsma_b@cde.state.co.us with any questions.
- Schools intending to move from a Targeted Assistance program to Schoolwide program for the 2006-2007 school year must submit an intent form by December 1st. Contact Russ Masco with any questions at (303) 866-6306 masco_r@cde.state.co.us.
- Comparability Worksheets are due December 15th. Send assurance form and completed worksheets to Laura Hensinger at 1560 Broadway, Suite 1450 Denver, CO 80202-5149
- Annual Report to the Public including both Accreditation and NCLB requirements must be sent parents by the end of December.



PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY AND PLAN EVALUATION WORKSHOP



The ***Parent Involvement Policy and Plan (PIPP) Evaluation Workshop*** will be offered in 4 locations around the state: Metro Denver, Colorado Springs, Glenwood Springs, and Greeley. Registration for these workshops will be available on-line by November 11, 2005. Check CDE's Calendar at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeedcon/index.htm>.

The workshop is designed to help you begin thinking about how you will meet the NCLB requirement that districts must evaluate the effectiveness of Parent Involvement Policies and Plans.

The following scheduled PIPP Workshops have two primary components:

- Introduction to Evaluation
- Developing an Evaluation Plan

November 30th - Greeley

1:00 -4:30, 5590 W. 11th St., Room 129C

December 2nd - Wheat Ridge

1:00-4:30, Wheat Ridge Rec Center
4005 Kipling St. (Carnation Room)

December 6th - Colorado Springs

1:00-4:30, Pikes Peak BOCES (Training Room)

December 12th - Glenwood Springs

8:30-Noon, Roaring Fork S/D (Training Room)

Introduction to Evaluation

This section will briefly review:

- The purpose of evaluation
- Various types of evaluation
- Data collection
- Data analysis and reporting
- Key components to effective evaluation
- Building and sustaining support for evaluation

Developing an Evaluation Plan

- What is a logic model (evaluation plan)
- Components of a logic model (goals, objectives, inputs/activities, outcomes, measures)
- Group work – building a logic model based on a Parent Involvement Policy and Plan

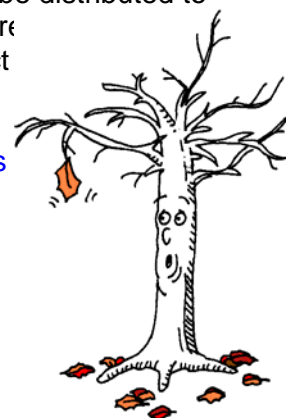
At the conclusion of the workshop, you will be given an Evaluation Toolkit – materials to help design Districts' Parent Involvement Policy Evaluation Plans.

Can administrative units (AUs) begin to use 15% of their IDEA funds to provide early intervention services prior to Special Ed interventions?

Currently, there is no mechanism within CDE's data management system to track funding separately for early intervention services. The final regulations for IDEA 2004 which allow for this flexibility will not be in place until at least December 2005. Our best thinking at this point is that AUs would be better off to use general education funding until a decision is made about whether or not Colorado wants to move in this direction. There is no additional IDEA funding that comes with this requirement; however, many schools have been doing pre-intervention models for awhile. There is nothing that precludes this, but in using special education staff there needs to be an assurance that students with IEPs continue to receive the services as stated on their IEPs and that their needs are met within the instructional model. Many districts are moving ahead with Response to Intervention (RTI) approaches and CDE is providing a great deal of technical assistance around the model. Candy Myers is the lead on RTI and can be contacted at myers_c@cde.state.co.us (303) 866-6883.

When will Program Improvement letters be sent to districts for distribution?

Districts on Program Improvement for the 2005-2006 school year will receive the letter from CDE notifying parents of the district's improvement status by late November/early December. Letters should be distributed to parents immediately upon requests regarding District Improvement contact Brad Bylsma at bylsma_b@cde.state.co.us (303) 866-6937.





COMPARABILITY REPORT

Consider the question: If federal funds were extracted from the budget of all schools at each grade span, would all children receive essentially the same per-pupil expenditure from state and local sources? Furthermore, would the pupil/instructional staff ratio be the same for all schools in the district? Comparability exists when an LEA uses State and local funds to provide services in participating schools that are "at least comparable" to the services provided in schools that are not receiving Title I funds. Moreover, if an LEA serves all of the schools in its district with Title I funds, the LEA must use State and local funds to provide services that, taken as a whole, are "substantially comparable" in each school.

In accordance with the comparability requirement, LEAs must 1) develop procedures that ensure services provided with state and local funds in Title I schools are comparable to those provided in non-Title I schools in the LEA; and 2) implement those procedures annually. Districts with only one building at each grade span do not have to demonstrate comparability; however, they must submit an assurance form.

An LEA is only required to document compliance by completing a report for the State every other year. We are presently in a year where documentation must be made available to CDE. The updated comparability worksheets and instructions will be available by November 8th on our website at http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/nclb/tia_comprpt.asp. The worksheets are for your convenience. If the district has its own process, it does not need to use the worksheets. Assurance form and completed comparability worksheets are due to CDE on December 15th. Worksheets must be mailed to:

Laura Hensinger
Office of Special Services
1560 Broadway, Suite 1450
Denver, CO 80202-5149

Distinguished Schools

WALSH ELEMENTARY AND SALIDA MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARDED FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The Colorado Department of Education is pleased to award Walsh Elementary School and Salida Middle School with the National Title I Distinguished School Award.

Every year, two Title I-A schools in Colorado are chosen for the National Title I Distinguished Schools Award. The award is distributed into two categories. Category 1 is the award given to the Title I school that shows exceptional academic performance in reading and/or math for two or more consecutive years. CDE makes this determination based on the percentage of students scoring Partially Proficient, Proficient and Advanced. The school chosen for Category 1 is Walsh Elementary School in Walsh School District RE-1.

Category 2 is the Title I school that makes the most progress in closing the achievement gap between students eligible for free and reduced lunch as compared to those students who are not eligible. For closing the income achievement gap award, the school must also have made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) achievement targets for two or more consecutive years. The school chosen for Category 2 is Salida Middle School in Salida School District RE-32J.

"These two outstanding Title I schools demonstrate that regardless of the income of students' families, the staff in these schools are able to meet the needs of students in an exemplary manner through the effective use of limited resources," said Commissioner of Education William Moloney.

As recipients of these awards, each school will receive a \$10,000 award and an expense paid trip for two people to the National Title I Conference in Dallas, Texas in January 2006.

Several other factors were considered in identifying the schools this year. First, the awards were based on performance in the 2004-2005 school year. In addition, schools needed to have a poverty rate (defined by the percentage of students eligible for free and reduced lunch) of 40% and the school must have made AYP for the past two years in reading and math.

Colorado Department of Education
Office of Special Services
1560 Broadway, Suite 1450
Denver, CO 80202-5149



Did you miss the last Buzz? Visit www.cde.state.co.us 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