



# The Buzz

A consolidated federal programs newsletter

Issue 33

October 2006

## Buzz Index

*The Buzz* has entered its fourth year of publication. The Consolidated Federal Programs (CFP) unit believes that the newsletter has improved our ability to communicate with the field in an ongoing and timely manner.

With the 33<sup>rd</sup> issue, came the need to organize the vast topics that have been covered during *The Buzz's* life. Over the summer, the CFP unit created an index of Buzz articles by NCLB topics for example Adequate Yearly Progress, Highly Qualified and Consolidated Application. The index allows a reader to easily identify the articles written on a particular topic.

The index is available on *The Buzz* webpage at [www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/Buzz/index.asp](http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/Buzz/index.asp). Simply click on *Categorical Index - Search for Buzz Articles by Subject*. *The Buzz* webpage can also be accessed by clicking on *The Buzz* link on CDE's homepage at [www.cde.state.co.us](http://www.cde.state.co.us). *The Buzz* will continue to deliver timely and accurate information. We appreciate your readership and any assistance or feedback you may have as a reader. Forward any comments to

Laura Hensinger  
1560 Broadway, Suite 1450  
Denver, CO 80202  
[hensinger\\_l@cde.state.co.us](mailto:hensinger_l@cde.state.co.us), (303) 866-6675

## TITLE I SCHOOLS SHOW GAINS

Nine Title I schools showed significant academic improvement and were removed from the Title I School Improvement list, based on 2005 and 2006 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) determinations.

**Coronado Hills Elementary School**  
Adams 12 Five Star Schools

**Federal Heights Elementary School**  
Adams 12 Five Star Schools

**Vaughn Elementary School**  
Adams-Arapahoe School District

**Spangler Elementary School**  
St. Vrain School District

**Rocky Mountain Elementary School**  
St. Vrain School District

**Monaco Elementary School**  
Adams 14 School District

**Fairview Elementary School**  
Denver Public Schools

**McGlone Elementary School**  
Denver Public Schools

**Roosevelt Edison Charter School**  
Colorado Springs District 11

In addition to the nine Title I schools which came off Improvement, twenty Title I schools on improvement made AYP this year. If those schools make AYP next year, the schools will be removed from improvement status.

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# UPCOMING DESK REVIEWS

## “Parents Right to Know”

All districts that receive Title I, Part A funds must notify parents of the NCLB requirement "Parents Right to Know" [section 1111(h)(6)(A) ]. This section of the NCLB legislation requires that parents of students in Title I schools be notified that they have the right to be provided with the qualifications of their students' classroom teachers. This notification can be sent as part of a newsletter, Back to School Night packet, individual mailing, etc. Copies of the district's "Parent's Right to Know" notification must be submitted to Trish Boland by November 30, 2006. Districts that send the same notice to all parents need only submit a single copy of the notification.

## “4 Week Rule” Letter

Title I schools must also provide all parents “timely notice that the parent’s child has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by, a teacher who is not highly qualified” [Section 1111(h)(6)]. A copy of the letter that was sent to inform parents must be submitted to Trish Boland by January 31, 2007.

For both notifications evidence may be submitted electronically [boland\\_t@cde.state.co.us](mailto:boland_t@cde.state.co.us), by fax (303) 866-6637 or through the mail 1560 Broadway, Suite 1450, Denver, 80202.

## AYP 2005-2006

- **75% of Colorado schools made AYP in 2006, the same percentage of schools that made AYP in 2005.**
- **85% of schools made 90% or more of their AYP targets. Schools can have a maximum of 54 targets, depending upon the demographics of the student population.**
- **60% of districts in Colorado made AYP compared to 59% in 2004-2005.**
- **91% of districts made at least 90% of their targets.**
- **7 of the 9 schools that exited improvement received a School Support Team visit.**

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The following chart shows the school improvement progressions **for Title I schools.**

| <b>AYP Status</b>    | <b>School Improvement Status</b> | <b>Sanctions</b>   | <b>Number of Schools in Colorado</b> |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Miss 2 years         | School Improvement - Year 1      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Improvement Plan (SIP)</li> <li>• Public School Choice</li> </ul>  | 36                                   |
| Miss 3 years         | School Improvement - Year 2      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SIP</li> <li>• Public School Choice</li> <li>• Supplemental Education Services (SES)</li> </ul>                                 | 25                                   |
| Miss 4 years         | Corrective Action                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revise SIP</li> <li>• Public School Choice</li> <li>• SES</li> <li>• District must take one of 7 corrective actions.</li> </ul> | 21                                   |
| Miss 5 years         | Restructuring-Planning           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public School Choice</li> <li>• SES</li> <li>• District must make a plan to restructure the school</li> </ul>                   | 16                                   |
| Miss 6 or more years | Restructuring-Implementation     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public School Choice</li> <li>• SES</li> <li>• Implement Restructuring Plan</li> </ul>  | 14                                   |

Only schools that receive Title I funds (federal funds for supplemental education in reading and/or math) are responsible for the consequences attached to AYP determinations. For detailed information on the performance of specific schools and a complete copy of the press release visit

[www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/ayp/index.asp](http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/ayp/index.asp)

CDE is currently validating districts' Program Improvement status. This information will be released in the next few weeks.

For additional questions regarding AYP determinations contact Alyssa Pearson at (303) 866-6855; [pearson\\_a@cde.state.co.us](mailto:pearson_a@cde.state.co.us).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 12<sup>th</sup>

Lights On After School

For more information visit the Colorado Afterschool Network (CAN) website at [www.coloradoafterschoolnetwork.org](http://www.coloradoafterschoolnetwork.org).



October 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>

Directors of Special Education Fall Meeting  
Keystone Resort and Conference Center  
For more information contact Patty Lucio at [lucio\\_p@cde.state.co.us](mailto:lucio_p@cde.state.co.us).

October 21<sup>st</sup>

Reading Summit for Adolescent Literacy  
Adams 12 Training Center  
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
For more information contact Front Range BOCES

November 23 – 24<sup>th</sup>

Thanksgiving Holiday  
Colorado Department of Education will be closed.

January 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Title I 2007 Conference  
Long Beach, California  
For more information visit [www.titlei.org](http://www.titlei.org).

May 7, 2007

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Colorado Reading Summit  
Further information will be made available on the CDE Calendar of Events at [www.cde.state.co.us/cdeedcon/index.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeedcon/index.htm).

## CONGRATULATIONS

to *Bush White* who will be retiring October 31<sup>st</sup>. We wish him the best in his future life of leisure and thank him for his dedication to education in Colorado.



- Districts with schools on improvement must submit to CDE either by mail Attn: Laura Hensinger, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1450 or fax (303) 866-6637, a signed copy of each school's Public Choice letter by August 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Districts with schools on 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Improvement or beyond must send Supplemental Service letters to parents no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>. A copy of the letter must also be forwarded to Laura Hensinger.
- Submit any modifications to your district's application and/or budget for final approval. For general questions regarding the Consolidated Application contact Gina Salazar at (303) 866-6842; [salazar\\_g@cde.state.co.us](mailto:salazar_g@cde.state.co.us). For specific program questions or questions regarding comments for final approval, contact the program consultant listed in the comment log.

## COLORADO FEDERAL INTEGRATED REVIEW SYSTEM UPDATE

The website for accessing the C-FIRS documents and schedules has been updated to reflect the 2006-2007 year. Please refer to the website to ensure the district is using current C-FIRS documents.

[www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/NCLB/monitoring.asp](http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/NCLB/monitoring.asp)



## 2006 Title I Distinguished Teacher Award

*An opportunity to honor some of Colorado's finest teachers*

The *Title I Distinguished Teacher* award annually recognizes two teachers from Title I schools who demonstrate outstanding commitment and excellence in teaching. Instituted by Colorado in 2003, this award program also addresses the state's need to identify distinguished educators, as outlined in NCLB. In addition to recognition, each of the two award recipients will receive **\$5,000** to honor their achievement.

The Colorado standards for identifying Title I Distinguished Teachers incorporate what research reveals about excellent teachers. This research recognizes the importance of documenting a high level of academic growth for all students, as well as leadership in the school and community. Therefore the standards focus on evidence of the individual's ability to work:

- *With students*, such as eliciting a high level of academic growth, and determining students' needs and differentiating instruction based on those needs.
- *Within her/his subject area*, such as staying abreast of new information and research within this subject area.
- *With parents and community*, such as effectively communicating with parents and contributing to the school community beyond the classroom.

It is hoped that the *Title I Distinguished Teacher* program identifies an ever-increasing pool of highly effective Colorado teachers, and that these teachers have the opportunity to consult with colleagues across the state. Applications are available at [www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/awards/index.asp](http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/awards/index.asp) due no later than Monday, November 13, 2006.



### Is the Consolidated Application Helpline still open?

The Consolidated Application Helpline, both phone (303) 866-4814 and email [consolidatedapplications@cde.state.co.us](mailto:consolidatedapplications@cde.state.co.us), is closed until March 2007. For general questions regarding the Consolidated Application contact Gina Salazar at (303) 866-6842; [salazar\\_g@cde.state.co.us](mailto:salazar_g@cde.state.co.us). For specific program questions or questions regarding comments for final approval, contact the program consultant listed in the comment log. The helpline will reopen in March to provide assistance for the 2007- 2008 application.

### Where can I find a complete list of Title I schools for this school year?

The list of Title I schools for 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 is available on the Federal Programs Website at [www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms](http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms). Click on the "Reports" tab.

## McREL: Seeking 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math Teachers

McREL's study on classroom assessment practices and student achievement will examine *Classroom Assessment FOR Student Learning* and its effects on classroom assessment practices, student motivation, and student achievement.

### Incentives:

- Individual copies of the materials for Classroom Assessment FOR Student Learning
- Chance to win an expense-paid trip to the Assessment Training Institute 2009 summer conference on classroom assessment
- Monetary stipend
- Contribution to a high-visibility project with the potential for providing educators nationwide with valuable information about the effect of professional development in classroom assessment

For more information, please contact Mya Martin-Glenn at [Mmartin-glenn@mcrel.org](mailto:Mmartin-glenn@mcrel.org), (303) 632-5503.



## Math Professional Development

The Professional Development and School Support (PDSSP) group will begin their fall/winter Math Institutes in November. This year, the Math Institutes will include a 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade Math Institute, held in Grand Junction; and two 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Math Institutes (Metro and Colorado Springs).

The Math Institutes focus on the Colorado Model Content Standards and features effective use of tools, research-based teaching techniques, best practices in the classroom, and the content and concepts underlying each of the standards. The institutes will also instruct on how CSAP assesses Colorado student knowledge, understanding, and use.

For those with students struggling to meet AYP math performance targets, it may be time to renew your knowledge not just of how students learn, but how CSAP addresses math. Class requirements will include:

- A \$150.00 per person enrollment fee
- A “Bridging to Practice” component
- Training Partners are encouraged

Recertification credit and Adams State College credits will be offered for those interested in maintaining their Highly Qualified Teacher status.

For more information on our Math Institutes or to enroll, visit the Professional Development link of the Professional Development and School Support website and click on “Classes”.

[www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/pdssp/index.asp](http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/pdssp/index.asp). Or contact Arti Winston at (303) 866-6905; [winston\\_a@cde.state.co.us](mailto:winston_a@cde.state.co.us).

Additionally, PDSSP will be offering Pre K – 8<sup>th</sup> grade on-line math courses from the PBS TeacherLine Series Courses. Priority for these classes will be given to teachers at high poverty schools that have not made AYP in math for 2 consecutive years. However, should space be available, these classes will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Review availability on the PDSSP website:

Professional Development  
and School Support



<http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/pdssp/>

## New Publication to Help Schools Identified for Restructuring

The Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement announces its latest publication, *School Restructuring Under No Child Left Behind: What Works When? A Guide for Education Leaders*. The guide is designed to help education leaders choose the best options for schools identified for restructuring under No Child Left Behind, where rapid and dramatic improvement is needed.

Using the best education and cross-industry research as a starting point, the guide provides users with a step-by-step approach to restructuring - from organizing a district team and assessing a district's capacity to govern restructuring decisions to conducting a school analysis and implementing a restructuring plan.

The guide is supplemented with templates, checklists, and other practical tools. *School Restructuring Under No Child Left Behind: What Works When? A Guide for Education Leaders* is available in PDF format on The Center's website, [www.centerforcsri.org](http://www.centerforcsri.org).

## Job Opening

The Consolidated Federal Programs unit has posted a position for **Title II Senior Consultant**.

If you know of someone who is a team player, self starter, and knowledgeable of Title I, Title II and NCLB, and would be interested in an exciting and rewarding position at CDE, please encourage them to apply. Applications are due by October 20<sup>th</sup>. For more information visit

[www.cde.state.co.us/cdemgmt/HR/jobs.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdemgmt/HR/jobs.htm)



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](http://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](mailto:hensinger_l@cde.state.co.us)**