



The Buzz

A consolidated federal programs newsletter

Issue 45

November 2007

HUGE THANKS!!

Consolidated Federal Programs would like to sincerely thank those districts that participated in the U.S. Department of Education monitoring visit. There was a tremendous amount of document gathering, scheduling and time set aside from already busy schedules. We truly appreciate your time and support through this process.

Adams 12 Five Star District
Adams School District 14
Aurora Public Schools
Boulder Valley School District
Colorado Springs District 11
Jeffco Public Schools
Weld 6 - Greeley



ANNUAL NCLB REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Congratulations to those districts that were 100% compliant with the NCLB Reporting Requirements in 2006-2007. Compliant districts do not need to send your Annual Report to CDE for review this year! Please note that all districts need to send the report to your public!

However, if your district was not 100% compliant in the reporting requirements then you must send in your Annual Report to the public for review by **December 1, 2007**. Districts can check their status by logging into the C-FIRS system at: www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/cfpu/cfirs06/index.asp. The reporting requirements for the Annual Reports are posted at:

www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/nclb/reportcard.asp.

Annual Reports should be emailed to Alyssa Pearson at pearson_a@cde.state.co.us or mailed to 1560 Broadway, Suite 1450, Denver, CO 80202. Please send reports to Alyssa Pearson even if reports were submitted to the district's Regional Manager. Consolidated Federal Programs need a copy of the report on file. Also, include a contact person for this desk monitoring item and let us know **how the report was/will be distributed to your public**.

Additionally, the 2006-2007 District and School NCLB Profiles are posted on our website at: www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/cfpu/NCLBProfiles0708/index.asp. These profiles contain most of the data needed for Annual Reports.



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Nominate a Title I Principal Today!

Don't miss this first-of-its-kind opportunity to nominate a principal for the **Colorado Distinguished Title I Principal Award**. This award will recognize a Title I school leader who demonstrates excellence in the areas of leadership, instruction, communication, supervision, and management.

In addition to the recognition, the award recipient will receive \$5,000 in honor of this achievement. Nominations are due to CDE by 4 p.m. on December 14, 2007. The award will be made in late January.

Nomination forms are available at:

www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/awards/index.asp.

For questions contact Kathryn Smukler at smukler_k@cde.state.co.us, (303) 866-6842.

DON'T MISS THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Consolidated Federal Programs has completed a total of 74 School Support Team (SST) reviews since its inception in 2003.

The Title I School Improvement Grant will again be offered for the 2007-2008 school year. All schools on improvement are eligible for the grant; however, due to limited funding, awards will be made on a first come, first served basis.

Funding for the grant is disseminated in two parts. A Year One grant is awarded in the amount of \$50,000 to fund a SST review of the school program. The remaining funds (approximately \$30,000) will be awarded to the school to support a debriefing of the report with school staff, planning and initial implementation of short-term recommendations.

Schools will then receive a Year Two grant ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000 in June 2008 to address the major areas of need as identified by the external review.

For information on the effectiveness of the program click on *Title I School Improvement Grant: from Analysis to Achievement* at www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/improvement/sc_himp_tia.asp. Apply now by simply completing an *Intent Form* available at the above web link. For more information contact Laura Hensinger at (303) 866-6675, hensinger_l@cde.state.co.us.

New Release from the U.S. Department of Education *Engaging Parents in Education*

The U.S. Department of Education recently announced the release of a new publication, ***Engaging Parents in Education***, which profiles the work of five Parent Information and Resource Centers (PIRCs) and partner organizations in increasing parental involvement in education, including their work in sharing information and providing support for NCLB's parent options. A complete copy of the guide is available for downloading at:

<http://www.ed.gov/admins/comm/parents/parentinvolve/index.html>. Copies of the report may be ordered through the Department's publication center, EDPubs: www.edpubs.ed.gov.

Resources for Science Educators

Modeling Across the Curriculum (MAC)

This project aims to demonstrate the effective use of technology to a student-centered, model-based approach to secondary science teaching. It provides a variety of computer-based manipulable models and probeware to teach students how to create, refine, and apply mental models to improve their understanding of science. High school Chemistry, Biology or Physics teachers are welcome to join the MAC Project. More information is available at <http://mac.concord.org/>.

WISE: The Web-based Inquiry Science Environment

WISE is a simple yet powerful learning environment where students examine real world evidence and analyze current scientific controversies. Curriculum projects are designed for grades 5-12 and include exciting inquiry projects on topics such as global climate change, population genetics, hybrid cars, and recycling. Students do most WISE activities on a computer, using a web browser. WISE (in this free online software environment) provides tools for data visualization, causal modeling, simulations, and assessment. More information is available at <http://wise.berkeley.edu/welcome.php>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 13th

HR and Special Education HR Data Collection Trainings

November 13th Greeley
November 16th Northglenn**
November 27th Pueblo**
November 30th Grand Junction
December 17th Denver

**The Northglenn and Pueblo trainings have been expanded to include more participants. Registration is available for all trainings at

www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/EdHRDataCollectReg07/registration.asp.

November 13th

School Improvement Plan/Schoolwide Template Training Part I - Overview of SIP/SW template Held at Otero Junior College from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. <http://www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/SIPSWTrainingReg07/registration.asp>

November 27th

School Improvement Plan/Schoolwide Template Training Part II - Extends the use of the SIP/SW template to discuss instructional models, evaluation, and in-depth planning. Held at Pikes Peaks BOCES from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Register online at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/SIPSWTrainingReg07/registration.asp>.

January 31 – February 3, 2008
National Title I Meeting, Nashville, TN
For more information visit www.nationaltitleconference.com.

March 14, 2008

3rd Annual Colorado Statewide Pre-Collegiate Conf. Auraria Higher Education Center, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. For more information contact Gully Stanford at gully.stanford@cic.state.co.us, (720) 264-8563.

March – April 2008

Tentative dates for next year's Consolidated Application workshops. Additional information will be sent as soon as it is available.

March 25 - Pueblo Area
March 27 - North Metro Area
April 1 - Grand Junction Area
April 3 - South Metro Area



- Amendments to districts' Corrective Action plans are due by November 15th. Districts developing new plans must have them to CDE by January 7, 2008. Contact Brad Bylsma at bylsma_b@cde.state.co.us with any questions.
- All principals at Title I schools must have a signed principal attestation on file at the school. The principal attestation is an assurance stating that each principal will only hire staff that meet the definition of highly qualified. Forward a signed copy of the written annual attestation to Tina Tamayo at 1560 Broadway, Suite 1450, Denver 80202 or fax to (303) 866-6637 by November 16th. For a sample principal attestation visit www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/NCLB/tiaa_genres.asp.

Colorado Quiz

October's Question:

What is Colorado's state nickname? Just about every schoolchild can tell you Colorado became a state in 1876, a century after the nation was founded, making us the *Centennial State*. Novelist James Michener researched Colorado's northeastern plains extensively before he wrote his novel of the same name, published in 1976 as a tribute to America's bicentennial celebration, about the fictional Western town of *Centennial* (not to be confused with the Arapahoe County city of the same name).

November's Question:

Name the song and the person who wrote the lyrics about Colorado's "for purple mountain majesties..."

For the answer to October's question read next month's Buzz and/or visit the Professional Development and School Support (PDSSP) website at www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/pdssp/ss.asp.

FOUNDATIONS IN FAMILY LITERACY TRAINING

Foundations in Family Literacy provides a framework for understanding the comprehensive, four-component family literacy model. *Foundations* is designed to provide a basic overview of the principles and practices of family literacy and the research that supports those practices. This training has been created by the National Center for Family Literacy and will be delivered by NCFL trainers.

***Foundations in Family Literacy* training goals:**

- ✓ To develop a basic understanding of the skills and strategies needed to implement the four-component family literacy model
- ✓ To explore and utilize relevant research in the development of family literacy services
- ✓ To understand the research that supports and validates procedures and strategies used in teaching reading and writing skills to children and adults
- ✓ To understand the research-based principles and strategies for teaching parents how to support the development of their children's language and literacy
- ✓ To understand the principles and strategies important in the development of meaningful parent and child interactions
- ✓ To demonstrate the principles and strategies which make component integration powerful and productive
- ✓ To summarize, in action statements, ideas generated and lessons learned for program development and improvement

This 3-day training will be aimed toward beginning family literacy practitioners and will be held in January or February, 2008. Exact dates to be determined based on interest. The cost for each participant is \$125 and includes lunch. Participants who bring a *Foundations* manual to the training pay only \$25.

If your program is interested in attending the training, contact Debbie Butkus with an estimate of how many participants would attend, and whether there are specific dates in January or February that would not be good for your program. Contact Debbie Butkus, Coordinator, Colorado Family Literacy Training Center at (719) 328-2979; butkudl@d11.org.

School Improvement Plan/ Title I Schoolwide Template Trainings

Another date has been added for the School Improvement Plan/Schoolwide (SIP/SW) template trainings. Besides the dates on November 16th for Part I and November 27th for Part II, an additional Part I will be held in Walsenburg on December 14th. A location has not yet been identified, but plan to register for this if your district operates schoolwide programs and has not yet learned about the SIP/SW template. To set up a training in your area contact Trish Boland at (303) 866-6998, boland_t@cde.state.co.us.

Accessing Needs Assessment and Identifying Gaps

At the NCLB Directors Meeting in September, Dan Jesse and Clare Heidema from RMC Research conducted a session on needs assessments, examining how to choose instruments, collect data, avoid common mistakes, and describe results to identify priority needs and satisfy NCLB requirements. The presentation from this session is available at: www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/NCLB/fdmtg_sessions.asp. Additional needs assessments can be accessed at RMC's website. It is designed for youth programs but can be used to access needs assessments for broader purposes (e.g., using "needs assessment" in key word search): <http://cart.rmcdenver.com>.

In the future, the Southwest Comprehensive Center will be assisting CDE with the development of a more specialized needs assessment database. In the meantime, the RMC link provides information worth exploring.

Please Note

The presentations from this year's
NCLB Director's Meeting
are now available online at:
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/NCLB/fdmtg.asp>.

Libraries Offer New Services to Boost Literacy Skills

Libraries across Colorado are offering two new services to support the development of literacy in young children.

The Colorado State Library (CSL) and select local libraries are available to present the “Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library” workshop. The workshop can be tailored to the needs of an individual community, school, classroom, scout group or other interested parties wanting to promote literacy. Each workshop runs between one and three hours and is designed for adults who are working with children up to seven years old.

In addition, Colorado State Library is providing a new Web site, “Children’s Literacy Resources,” that contains links to helpful information, educational activities and the like. Free pamphlets about kindergarten readiness and parent involvement may also be ordered here. The web site is located at: www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/Childrens_Literacy_Resources.htm.

The Colorado State Library is a division within the Colorado Department of Education that provides leadership and expertise to develop libraries and deliver information services throughout Colorado.

For more information on workshops or the website, contact the Colorado State Library at (303) 866-6900 or e-mail Bonnie McCune at mccune_b@cde.state.co.us.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHER UPDATED WEB PAGES

The Title II-A and Highly Qualified (HQ) web pages have been updated. There are now separate pages for II-A, HQ Teachers, and HQ Paraprofessionals. There are also sub-pages that include additional resources and links. The HQ Teacher page includes a downloadable version of the HQ Brochure and the most recent PowerPoint on Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT) that was presented at the Licensing 101 trainings.



Welcome to another exciting E-rate funding year! Training begins October 25th and will include Beginner, Advanced and Online sessions. Register for one of the following trainings at www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/ERateTraining07/registration.asp.

Day 1 trainings will be from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Day 2 – Trainings will be from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will be served on Day 1. Brunch will be served on Day 2.

October 25 & 26	Lewis Palmer S/D #38 146 Jefferson N Monument, 80132
November 13 9 – 12 Beginner Session 1 – 4 Advanced Session	ONLINE TRAINING SESSION
November 15 & 16	Montrose School District 930 Colorado Ave. Montrose
November 27 9 – 12 Beginner Session 1 – 4 Advanced Session	ONLINE TRAINING SESSION
November 29 & 30	Weld County Public Library, 1939 61st Ave Greeley 80634
December 4 9 – 12 Beginner Session 1 – 4 Advanced Session	ONLINE TRAINING SESSION
December 6 & 7	Brush High School 400 W Rd. Brush CO 80723
December 13 & 14	Aurora Public Schools Educational Services Center, Building 1, Ste 110 Aurora, 80011

Register at www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/ERateTraining07/registration.asp. For more information contact DeLilah Collins at (303) 866-6850, collins_d@cde.state.co.us.

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