



Colorado State Library Annual Report 1999/2000

Serving Education, Libraries and
Communities in the New Century



Colorado State Library

Colorado Department of Education

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Internet contacts:

Colorado Digitization Project

(coloradodigital.coalliance.org/)

Colorado Talking Book Library

(www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/ctbl.htm)

Institutional Library Service

(www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/slinstit.htm)

Networking and Resource Sharing

(www.aclin.org)

Library Research Service

(www.lrs.org)

Standards in Action

(www.cde.state.co.us/index_action.htm)

State Publications Library

(www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/slstpubs.htm)

Web Support (www.cde.state.co.us)

A new century began, and with it a new perspective on libraries in Colorado.

This has been a benchmark year for the state's libraries, schools, students...and the Colorado State Library's services to them. Among the highlights:

- ◆ *The Colorado legislature funded \$2,000,000 in State Grants to Libraries for educational resources such as books, periodicals, audio-visual materials, and subscriptions to electronic holdings, the first time state support has been given directly to publicly supported school, public and academic libraries.*
- ◆ *Networking and Resource Sharing released the Colorado Virtual Library, replacing the old ACLIN menu with richer resources and easier access for the entire state—every resident, student, school and library.*
- ◆ *A study of the impact of school libraries on student achievement showed that schools with libraries that have good collections, electronic holdings, and librarians who work closely with teachers, can improve student standardized CSAP scores by 15%–18%.*

Libraries increasingly are reaching out to demonstrate their leadership in providing the information and resources needed for education, business, and recreation.

Nancy M Bolt

Assistant Commissioner for Libraries

educating

Opportunities for educational and individual development improved as libraries and the public received a variety of innovative and essential services required to move into the new century.



Educational Opportunities

Library Development

- ◆ Provided \$169,000 in federal Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA) funds to local libraries to support student achievement and information access.
- ◆ Supported statewide projects such as the Colorado Summer Reading Program, digitization of historical newspapers, improvement of school libraries, and statewide access to subscription databases through more than a half million dollars in federal LSTA grants.
- ◆ Distributed over 100,000 brochures, *Reading Tips for Parents*, both in English and Spanish. Provided training for library staff and child care providers about reading readiness and outreach.
- ◆ Established liaisons with a spectrum of state agencies, as well as the metro Early Childhood Literacy Coalition and a number of other children's care organizations to increase collaborative efforts in regard to children and their literacy.
- ◆ Awarded a Services to Ethnic Populations scholarship; fully implemented the online Diversity Toolkit as a resource to educators, parents, libraries and the public, with 12,000 visits to the site in a year; co-sponsored an Hispanic authors series at Denver high schools.
- ◆ Supported a highly successful Summer Reading Program and summer reading efforts around the state, with more than 125,000 children enrolled. Research shows that children who read in the summer maintain and even increase their reading skills.

School Libraries and Media Centers

- ◆ The Power Libraries project entered a third year of support for school library development, mentoring, and assistance in collaborative teaching techniques to help meet Colorado educational standards. Since 1998 the project has involved 45 schools in 24 school districts across the state, provided funds to purchase over 6,000 books, and helped establish long-term planning and integration of the library program with instruction and assessment.
- ◆ Implemented *Information Power: Building Partnerships for Student Learning*, the model for on-going revisions planned for information literacy guidelines, continued with workshops and awareness provided to media specialists statewide as well as at conferences.
- ◆ Published *101+ Practical Ideas for Improving Library Programs* a "how-to" booklet based on *Information Power*, in collaboration with Su Eckhardt, co-coordinator for Colorado's implementation plan.

Standards in Action

- ◆ Actively solicited participation from teachers, educators, and links to other educational resources around the country. The Web site is an indispensable, free resource for the design, development, evaluation and use of standards-based classroom instructional materials to improve student achievement.
- ◆ The innovative Power Libraries program for school libraries (in partnership with the Colorado State Library, Central Colorado Library System, Colorado Educational Media Association and Colorado Department of Education) began contributing curriculum units to the Standards in Action collection.
- ◆ The Web site “Standards in Action,” was selected as a Links2Go “Key Resource” in the Educational Standards topic. Links2Go includes the most highly cited links on the Web organized into related topics with search and directory services.
- ◆ The Gateway to Educational Materials, a project of the Education Research and Information Clearinghouse on Information and Technology (ERIC/IT) at Syracuse University, added the Standards in Action collection to its searchable database of standards-based classroom materials. The ERIC database is the world’s largest source of education information.

Conservation/Environmental Education

Conservation/Environmental Education began as a new component in the State Library (assisted by the Colorado Division of Wildlife), with a consultant who specializes in this area, to encourage educational efforts through schools and libraries, serve as an information resource, and provide support on educational topics.

Colorado Talking Book Library

- ◆ Hosted a special conference for parents and teachers of children with learning or reading disabilities. The keynote speaker was Dr. Richard Elmer, Deputy Commissioner of the Colorado Department of Education. Representatives from K-12 and higher education participated in this all-day session.
- ◆ Made a concerted effort to reach eligible K-12 students in Colorado through outreach to parents, educators, and students. As a result of this effort the number of students using the CTBL services rose by more than 100%.
- ◆ Introduced a statewide, online, public access catalog via the Internet. Any eligible patron of the CTBL, and any public, school, or academic library registered with the CTBL can now have access to the CTBL database and check out or reserve materials via the Internet site.



achieving

The Colorado State Library set new standards for initiating innovative services via the Internet and providing the statistics and analysis necessary for decision-making.

Innovative Achievements

Networking and Resource Sharing

- ◆ Provided statewide leadership in technology and Internet resources during a year of change, expansion, and improvement with new staff and a new director.
- ◆ The ACLIN (Access Colorado Library and Information Network) operation moved its telecommunications infrastructure from Jefferson County Public Library to the BCR office in Aurora and upgraded network equipment, including a higher capacity router and two new servers.
- ◆ Released the Colorado Virtual Library via ACLIN. Based on a new software platform, it allows a single Web-based search against multiple library catalogs simultaneously along with the ability to simultaneously search Colorado State publications, a database of selected Colorado-focused Web resources, and digitized materials such as historical photographs.
- ◆ Obtained an LSTA grant for a statewide resource sharing system to provide free electronic interlibrary loan for any library in the state and established an information delivery task force to review proposals from software vendors. The project is expected to kick off in Fall 2000.
- ◆ The Colorado Digitization Project entered its second year, greatly expanding the scope of its unique collaboration, a statewide Internet portal involving more than 35 archives, historical societies, libraries, and museums to provide access to images, documents, and artifacts. Major support from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal grant-making agency, through the University of Denver enabled enlargement of the project.
- ◆ E-rate: Colorado schools and libraries received a total of more than \$10 million in discounts for the second year of E-rate funding, a federal program that allots discounts to schools and libraries for telecommunications services. E-rate discounts for libraries made it possible for more libraries to maintain Internet support.
- ◆ The State Library, in conjunction with BCR and Resource Sharing Board, sponsored a library automation fair to help small and medium-sized libraries, whether school, public, or special, make decisions on software to automate their institutions. Participants came from throughout the state to attend 16 presentations.
- ◆ Grants for Internet Access: Statewide GUI grants assist libraries to build and maintain an infrastructure that supports today's technologies and to establish high speed Internet connectivity crucial for student, patron and staff access to Web-based resources. In 1999 GUI grants amounted to more than \$115,000, assisting 27 libraries in establishing high speed Internet access. Ninety-five percent of Colorado public libraries are now connected to the Internet.

Library Research Service

- ◆ Completed major research and released *How School Librarians Help Kids Achieve Standards: the Second Colorado Study*, about the positive impact of school library media programs on academic achievement. The report received strong positive attention from local and national news media and educators.
- ◆ Enhanced the increasing impact of technology on data collection. For the first time, two out of five public libraries submitted their annual report surveys electronically, an essential step in improving efficiency.
- ◆ Published well-received articles in national library publications, including a critique of a public library rating index and an overview of web-based community analysis resources.
- ◆ Continued to increase use of its services by the library community. In 1999 the LRS Web site logged 45,704 user sessions in which users viewed 75,096 pages and downloaded 33,799 files. For the year, the site received 570,490 successful hits, and the average user session lasted nine and a half minutes. Monthly usage statistics are running double their 1999 levels.
- ◆ Collected vital statistics on public school libraries to help the education community plan and develop procedures that enhance student achievement.

Web Support

- ◆ Totally overhauled the Colorado Department of Education Web site, increasing amount of information and revising format to make the site user-friendly.
- ◆ Trained numerous departmental representatives to prepare new pages and revise information on the site, thus improving efficiency and timeliness.

Public Information

- ◆ The monthly newsletter, *Centennial State Libraries*, became an on-line publication to enhance access and reduce costs. Regularly updated job listings are a popular service to the library community.





informing

By stressing accessibility to information, the Colorado State Library enabled a diversity of organizations and people to utilize essential programs.

Accessibility to Information

Institutional Library Service

- ◆ Purchased 6613 books, more than 1000 subscriptions and 200 audiovisual materials for institution libraries. Materials support standards-based curricula in K-12 institutions, enhance adult education programs in adult institutions, and provide informational and recreational reading.
- ◆ Library staff and school principals from a number of youth agencies attended a variety of training opportunities and workshops on standards-based education and initiated programs based on the training. A new library was started at the Marvin W. Foote Youth Services Center to support the school curriculum.
- ◆ Worked with prison wardens, architects, education administrators and program managers to plan and implement start-up libraries or library expansions in six adult correctional facilities.
- ◆ Implemented a grant-funded project in Department of Corrections libraries to order materials in Spanish and on Latino history and culture and provided a training session on Latino culture at the annual staff training.
- ◆ Converted all prison libraries' automation software to a greatly improved version to enhance efficiency and resources, and developed Internet use guidelines, thereby enabling staff to respond to information requests.

State Publications Library

- ◆ Improved service for students, educators and the public by continuing refinement of the State Publications Library Web site. The site now offers links to popular state information by subject, featured subject bibliographies, a regularly updated new titles list, several sample digital documents, and convenient online reference options.
- ◆ Prepared bibliographies or resource lists to help the public find information on several popular topics such as school research topics, resources for seniors, youth violence, student achievement, Legislative Council services, and historic preservation, prominently featured on the Web site and widely distributed in print.
- ◆ Received nearly four thousand publications from state agencies last year. The 19 state publications depository libraries received copies of almost 2500 of these. Agencies continue to produce print publications to ensure broad access to their information. With the major emphasis on electronic publishing, 180 catalogued publications last year involved Internet access.
- ◆ Reference questions reflected public interest in education, employment, the economy, business, corrections, human services, the environment, and transportation. International requests for state agency information came from as far afield as Sweden, Canada and Tasmania.

The Colorado State Board of Education

Seated January 1999

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2nd Congressional District
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William J. Moloney
Commissioner of Education

FY 1999-2000 State Library Budget Summary

<i>Library Program Item</i>	<i>State General Funds</i>
Personal Services	\$1,108,328
Operating	45,204
CTBL Building Maintenance	45,000
Travel	4,401
Library Materials	101,899
Regional Systems	2,449,893
County Equalization	134,114
Colorado Resource Center	2,048,101
Payment for Lending	162,006
ACLIN	304,788
General Fund Total	\$6,403,734

Library Services and Technology Act Funds

Personal Services	\$812,535
Operating	324,145
Travel	62,435
Capital Outlay	15,000
Local Needs Grants	176,000
Statewide Impact Grants	629,508
LSTA Total	\$2,019,623
State Library Total	\$8,423,357