

## Strategic Plan

## 2013-2016 Updated September 2015

### Vision Statement

CSDB...Learning, Thriving, Leading

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### Mission Statement

The Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind provides children and families statewide with comprehensive, specialized educational services in safe, nurturing environments. We empower learners to become self-determined, independent, contributing citizens within their communities.

## Academics

### Goal

Students at CSDB will demonstrate the core content knowledge and 21st Century skills required to be college and/or career ready.

Objective	Action Steps	Outcomes (Data-Based)
Students will demonstrate increased	Literacy and Math Instruction	Students will demonstrate
academic achievement in numeracy and	Increase academic rigor	academic growth from Fall to
literacy	<ul> <li>Literacy and Math instruction will be embedded in all content areas and documented by administrators through class observations.</li> <li>PLCs will reflect on and refine instructional methods and identify strategies to implement in the classroom.</li> <li>PLCs will examine and adapt Colorado State Model Curriculum Maps to use as a guide for classroom instruction.</li> <li>All content area teachers will teach to and monitor the progress of IEP goals and objectives for literacy and numeracy.</li> <li>A curriculum team will regularly review and replace existing curriculum with eCurriculum that provides both print and digital options.</li> </ul>	Spring each year on district and state assessments  ✓ NWEA MAP: 90% of students will demonstrate growth in Language, Reading, and Math In Progress (2014)  2013- 14 District NWEA MAP  Reading - 64%  Language - 72%  Math - 72%  In Progress (2015)  2014-2015 District Results  Reading - 64% (70/110)  Language 71% (80/112)  Math - 73% (75/103)

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- Student Achievement PLC will create literacy and numeracy instructional rubrics to assist teachers
- Hire a Literacy Specialist/Coach and
- explore the concept of Lead Teachers for content areas or departments
- Develop and implement study skills classes
- Develop and implement resource rooms for students who require functional academics and daily living skills
- Develop and implement short-term immersion programs for late-placed students
- Students will have access to after school interventions and tutoring services
- Residential staff and teaching staff will work collaboratively to provide activities and strategies to promote literacy and numeracy in the dorms

## **Training**

 Research training programs for literacy and math instruction and explore partnerships with public schools and UCCS or other colleges/universities regarding coursework, trainings, and interns ✓ TCAP: 52% of students will be Partially Proficient or above in Reading and 36% in Math

— Reserve (2014)

— Reser

In Progress (2014) TCAP data will be available late summer, 2014

Not Completed (2015) State assessment changed to PARCC

- ✓ DRA-2: 95% of students will demonstrate growth In Progress (2014) 2013-2014 DRA Results
  - 70% (48/69) of students demonstrated growth

In Progress (2015) 2014-2015 DRA Results

- 82% (71/87) of students demonstrated grows
- Teachers will demonstrate growth in Quality Standards 1 and 3 (Planning and Instruction) on the CO Teacher Evaluation Rubric

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<ul> <li>Provide training for literacy and math instruction based upon baseline results from the CO Teacher Evaluation Rubric</li> <li>Literacy and math training/workshops completed as follows:</li> </ul>
Voor 1 All Literapy/Meth instructors

- ✓ Year 1 All Literacy/Math instructors✓ Year 2 All content instructors
- √ Year 3 All residential staff

- √ Year 1 establish baseline of teachers' performance Completed (2014)
- √ Year 2 establish target areas for teacher training Completed (2015) Target areas identified in both schools
- √ Year 3 teachers demonstrate growth in identified areas of training

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# Students will complete interdisciplinary, project-based and research-driven learning activities

## Teachers will become 21st Century teachers.

- Provide training on interdisciplinary and project-based learning experiences and how to include the 4 Cs: creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and communication in lessons.
- Teachers will demonstrate incorporation of technology tools, project-based learning, and the 4 Cs in instruction through lesson plans and classroom observations.
- Develop and utilize a rubric used to measure project-based learning activities.
- Teachers will work collaboratively to develop real world project-based and inquiry-based learning activities.
- Teachers will be trained on and implement the Common Sense Media technology curriculum.
- Teachers and other identified staff will be trained on assistive technology devices, as appropriate, and document the use of the devices in their daily lesson plans.

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#### Students will demonstrate information, Students will demonstrate media, and technology literacy. growth from Fall to Spring each • Students will be offered a variety of year on project-based learning technology classes rubrics • All students will receive instruction on ✓ Year 1 – establish baseline internet safety and cyber bullying and set target for student Students will complete a variety of performance Completed (2014) project-based and inquiry-based School for the Blind learning experiences √ Year 1 – 2 completed projects Average score of 1.4 on 5 point rubric ✓ Year 2 – 4 completed projects School for the Deaf √ Year 3 – 8 completed projects • All students will complete electronic Average Score of 1.0 on 5 portfolios to demonstrate competence point rubric √ Year 2 – increase target in information, media, and technology growth by 25% or more from literacy baseline Students will successfully use assistive technology devices as determined by In Progress (2015) √ Year 3 – increase target their IEP growth by 40% or more from baseline Students on or off campus will be able to **CSDB** online courses Students will successfully access CSDB online classes through a bi-Develop a blended/distance learning complete the online classes directional learning environment team to include teachers for pilot below: classrooms, IT staff, and Outreach staff ✓ Year 1 – Pilot one class for Research and select online/distance CSDB students only in learning platforms (Edmodo, Moodle, School for the Deaf and one Blackboard) class in School for the Blind Research and identify the hardware

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and software needed to support
online/blended classes

- Set-up a classroom equipped with the hardware and software needed to broadcast as a remote classroom
- Develop the curriculum and content for online/blended class format
- Provide training for instructors who will be teaching the online/blended learning classes
- Create and offer an orientation course for students who will be taking online classes

### Pilot online/blended classes

(ASL and Braille)
Completed (2014)
School for the Deaf
Geometry Pilot (5 students)
School for the Blind
Geometry Pilot (3 students)

- ✓ Year 2 Pilot two additional classes (academic content area) and offer Braille/ASL classes to students outside of CSDB
   In Progress (2015)
   School for the Deaf-1 student participated in a English Distance Learning Class
- ✓ Year 3 Provide a minimum of 6 classes to students on and off campus

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## **Independence Beyond the Classroom**

### Goal

Students will acquire skills beyond the academic core to succeed in all aspects of life.

Objectives	Action Steps	Outcomes (Data-Based)
Expand students' exposure to and opportunities for participation in CHSAA-sanctioned sports and CSDB-sponsored activities.	<ul> <li>Sports/Activities</li> <li>Develop a survey for students to share of what activities might be of interest to them.</li> <li>Complete the activity planning process for the next three years (2013-2016).</li> <li>Seek volunteers/personnel to facilitate the activities, based upon survey results.</li> <li>Distribute the packets of information and resources community activities to parents</li> <li>Offer two sport activities to students per season (fall, winter, spring) and two recreational activities to students per season (fall, winter, spring).</li> <li>Develop a template for planning lifelong activities/sports (swimming, golf, tandem-biking, bowling) that closely align with CHSAA schedules.</li> <li>Develop conditioning programs for both non-athletes and athletes (only for</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Based on surveys, two new interest activities will be established Completed (2014) At least two new interest activities were established in year 1.</li> <li>A baseline of participation in sports and recreational activities will be established in year one. Completed (2014) (2013-2014) Winter Activity Participation: Elem: Deaf 60%, Blind 22% Middle: Deaf 72%, Blind 40% High School: Deaf 68%, Blind 42%</li> <li>Spring Activity Participation: Elem: Deaf 52%, Blind 22% Middle: Deaf 72%, Blind 52% High School: Deaf 70%, Blind 42%</li> </ul>

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	<ul> <li>CSDB and other area schools).</li> <li>Develop collaboration with local fitness centers/agencies who foster mental/physical activities.</li> <li>Review and analyze CSDB's current extra-curricular positions (coaches/sponsors) to support expanded recreational opportunities.</li> <li>Help students identify activities at CSDB and in their communities to participate in during the summer months.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In year two, CSDB will increase student participation by at least 10% in identified activities, based upon the original baseline established.         (2014-2015)         School for the Deaf: participation remained consistent.         School for the Blind: participation increased significantly</li> <li>In year three, CSDB will increase student participation by at least 20% in identified activities, based upon the original baseline established.</li> </ul>
Increase the leadership skills of	Leadership	The results of the pre- and post-
students at CSDB.	Implement a survey to determine topics	surveys will show that
	for workshops.	participation has grown in
	<ul> <li>Develop a series of leadership training/workshops for students</li> </ul>	leadership through these trainings/workshops.
	statewide.	(2014) Data was collected to
	<ul> <li>Develop character-building activities for</li> </ul>	develop baseline.
	CSDB students to promote a positive	An increase in student

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school environment.

- Students will organize the following:
   Year 1 at least two
   training/workshops, with staff
   assistance, at CSDB.
   Year 2 at least three
   training/workshops, with staff
   assistance, at CSDB.
   Year 3 at least three trainings/
   workshops and coordinate with other
   schools to host a leadership seminar
   outside of the Colorado Springs area.
- Students, staff and stakeholders will be provided with pre- and post-surveys to determine students' leadership growth.

participation in various leadership activities such as:

- ✓ Student Body Government
- ✓ Student Resident Assistant Program
- ✓ Academic Competitions
- ✓ Decision-making Committees with staff

(2013-2014)

 At least 2 trainings / workshops were held; survey results average 4.3 on a scale of 5 (5 is highest)

(2014-2015)

 Three trainings/workshops on campus were held; leadership seminars were coordinated outside of CSDB (Colorado Association of the Deaf and National Federation of the Blind); survey results average 4.4 on a scale of 5

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## Families will play a more active role in the lives of CSDB students

- Collaborate with community agencies to determine availability for presentations related to behavioral health/parenting topics.
- Host/initiate a behavioral health/ parenting program for families:
  - Year 1 2 seminars/topics
  - Year 2 3 seminars/topics
  - Year 3 4 seminars/topics
- Compile and maintain a list of organizations in the community which foster family involvement.
- Distribute the list of organizations in the community to parents on Registration Day each year.
- Investigate the capabilities of webinar and internet broadcasting so families can access presentations remotely.
- Provide families with community resources specific to individuals who are deaf and/or blind.
- Teach families how to advocate for their child's needs.
- Offer more opportunities for families to participate in CSDB activities either in person or through the use of technology.
- Increase the availability of distance communication such as Skype and

- Year 1 develop a baseline of family participation in each of these activities.
  - Data completed to set a baseline for next 3 years (2014)
  - Participation in family events:
    - a. Winter (Bingo) 12 families
    - b. Spring (Bowling) 10 families
    - c. Spring (Baseball) 6 families
  - Participation in special dorm activities:
    - a. Swimming 4 families
    - b. Holiday parties 12 families
    - c. Spring BBQ's 4 families
  - Participation in information seminars for parents:
    - BtL seminars 4 times/yr
    - School-related seminars 2 times/yr
- Year 2 participation will increase by at least 20% above the baseline established in year one.

(2014-2015)

• 19% increase in family participation

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teleconference so that families can be more involved throughout the year.  • Year 3 - participation increase by at least the baseline estal one.	ast 30% above
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#### **Productive Citizens Within the Community** Goal All students will acquire the skills necessary to become employable and/or independent contributing members within their communities. **Objectives Action Steps Outcomes (Date-Based)** Provide students with the skills to be By 2014, 80% of employer Train employers to complete the work well-rounded employees (improve both evaluations honestly/correctly. In evaluations will align with CSDB \*hard and \*soft skills) addition, ensure that the employer is job coach evaluations. aware of the skills CSDB desires for the Completed (2014) Key: Employer evaluations and staff students. \*hard skills = skills needed to do a evaluations were compared for Review and update the evaluation particular job task (ie: hammering a nail or both the fall and spring process/form that more accurately navigating excel spreadsheets) measures the hard and soft skills. semester. This goal was met. Record, and make available, employer \*soft skills = skills needed to perform training and Deafness and blindness general job duties (ie: being punctual and 101 videos. dependable) • By May 2015, 80% of students in Work with students, in grades k-5, to grades k-5 will show establish personal priorities, reduce the improvement in their attitudes sense of entitlement, and promote \*12+ = students in the 18-21 year old regarding disability and positive work ethic. Bridges to Life program employment as measured by a pre/post survey. Completed (2015) 24% increase. • By May 2016, students in the On Identify top ten in-demand careers. the Job Training (OJT) and associated skills to use on and off-Bridges To Life (BtL) programs campus, and resources to develop

career- specific workshops.

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will identify individually attained

Work with employers to identify jobhard skills specific to a chosen career included on their resume. specific hard skills in individual work In Progress (2015) sites. Create an on-going hard skills Students work with their inventory using the employer advocate or employer to identify information to assist students in which hard skills they would like improving specific skills needed in the to focus on. The identified hard workforce. skills are added to their monthly Determine in which Career Technical evaluations and progress is Education (CTE) Academy programs noted each month. students, who are deaf and who are blind, are interested and establish a CTE certified educator within CSDB. Enroll all interested students in \*grades 9-12+, who are deaf and who are blind, in Career Technical Education (CTE) academies. • Establish a mentor program in which 80% of job sites with multiple students, the student with seniority will have mentor role included on his/her resume. Instruct students to demonstrate By May 2014, daily living skills of Create and utilize a standardized proficiency in the following areas: self-**Expanded Core Curriculum checklist** all students living on-campus will advocacy, daily living skills, (which includes Daily Living Skills and be assessed and documented at organization, budgeting, transportation, work, academic and social etiquette) 10% above original baseline as and social etiquette. specific to students who are deaf, blind, measured by a pre- and post-

deaf-blind, and students with additional

Train academic and residential staff, as

appropriate, to complete the Expanded

Core Curriculum checklist and ensure

disabilities.

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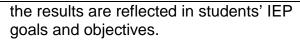
test. By May 2016, post-tests

baseline.

In Progress (2014)

will measure 20% above original

An Expanded Core Curriculum



- Initiate monthly real world activities/ workshop, within the dorm setting, in order to promote independence.
- Research and create appropriate curricula for expanded Home-Economics and Daily Living Skills classes.
- By May 2014, students in grades 9-12+ will have the opportunity to participate in a minimum of 4 Daily Living Skills workshops or semester Home-Economics classes.
- By May 2015, all middle school students will have the opportunity to participate in a minimum of 9 Daily Living Skills workshops.
- By May 2016, all elementary students will have the opportunity to participate in monthly Daily Living Skills workshops.

(ECC) checklist was revised for the dorm students as well as a Life Centered Career Education (LCCE) checklist for the BtL students. A pre-test was given and the results are pending. In Progress (2015) At this time, 50/79 students have demonstrated at least 10% growth in one or more of the five checklists. Checklists include: Personal hygiene, food management 1, food management 2, dressing 1 and dressing 2. 12 of the 29 students that have not made at least 10% growth are either at 100% already or only working on 1-2 lists. 35/79 students have made 20% or more growth.

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•	Provide formal transportation
	workshops to BtL students, who are not
	already receiving orientation and
	mobility services, at least 4 times
	throughout the school year.

 Create opportunities for BtL students to experience the various modes of transportation available in their natural environments.

- Identify and/or adapt and provide financial literacy curricula for students.
- By May 2014, all BtL students will consistently use public transportation appropriate to their skill level in order to travel to work, apartments etc. as measured by a BtL transportation log. Completed (2014) All BtL and OJT students are using Checkin@CSDB in order to log their whereabouts and when they are leaving campus for school/work or personal outings. Mode of transportation for each student has been previously identified.
- By May 2014, students in grades 9-12 on graduation plan II will complete a semester-long financial literacy class.
   Completed (2014) 13 students took this class in the fall.
   By May 2015, students in grades

By May 2015, students in grades 9-12, on all graduation plans, will participate in a semester-long financial literacy class.
In Progress (2014)

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In Progress (2015) The School for the Deaf and the School for the Blind have added a financial literacy class to their curriculum. School for the Deaf students are actively taking the classes. The School for the Blind students will begin taking the classes in the fall. Research and connect BtL students By May 2015, BtL students will with adult services (which include utilize appropriate adult services recreation, health, independent living, for recreation, health, and and employment). independent living needs 80% of the time, when available, by the end of their second year in the program as measured by the **Expanded Core Curriculum** checklist. In Progress (2014) Students were exposed to a variety of adult services during the 2013-2014 school year. In Progress (2015) An adult services/transportation log has been created and is posted on SharePoint. Staff will use this document to track which

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#### adult services students are utilizing. 94% of the students are using adult services and of this 94%, 89% are using 4 or more services. By May 2016, all Employability Identify, update, and train Employability staff and students on current assistive students (K-12+) will incorporate technology tools and accommodations. at least one applicable assistive technology tool (with or without Include appropriate assistive support) weekly within their technology tools and accommodations natural environment as in all students' portfolios. measured by the Expanded Core Curriculum checklist. Not yet addressed (2015) Identify and create more opportunities Combine career day and post-By May 2016, students in grades for community involvement with real 6-12+ will indicate at least one secondary education day into a weekworld application. long themed focus fair. interaction with an employer Identify and expose our students 6-12+ from a career of interest on to 10 large companies from a variety of his/her Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP). fields that are willing to hire individuals with disabilities. In Progress (2014) Students are exposed to Network with more employers who have employers from a variety of hired individuals with disabilities and careers during Steps to include these individuals in the week-Success. Students are also long themed focus fair. learning about careers and what • Expose students to community support their career interests are during systems, extra-curricular, life the ICAP workshop days that enrichment, special interest groups and

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notworking	O Otto /Itioo
networking	achymes

- Connect with existing community resources to teach workshop themes. (The Independence Center, Pikes Peak Work Force Center)
- Partner with IT to develop employmentrelated link on the EC website and make it accessible to all students, parents, and staff and employers.

### occur once a month.

 By 2015, 1 year after leaving the BtL program, 80% of students will independently utilize appropriate outside agencies or organizations as measured by the yearly exiting student database.

In Progress (2015) 8/8 students that have been contacted and who exited the BtL program last year are utilizing appropriate outside services.

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Promote involvement with parents and state-wide agencies in order to provide exemplary employment, post-secondary education, and training, as well as promote independent skills.

- Include/invite other agencies to the parent night events.
- One month prior to an event, the student body government will be responsible for informing their peers, outside agencies, and parents of an upcoming workshop through email blasts, fliers, and student meetings.
- Explore and implement additional strategies in order to share information with students, parents, staff, and agencies with regard to events, activities, and workshops.
- During the on-the-job and work study interview process, identify which outside agencies would like to receive on-going information about workshops and events at CSDB.
- Create and maintain web-based archive system for parents to access webinars and workshops, at their convenience.

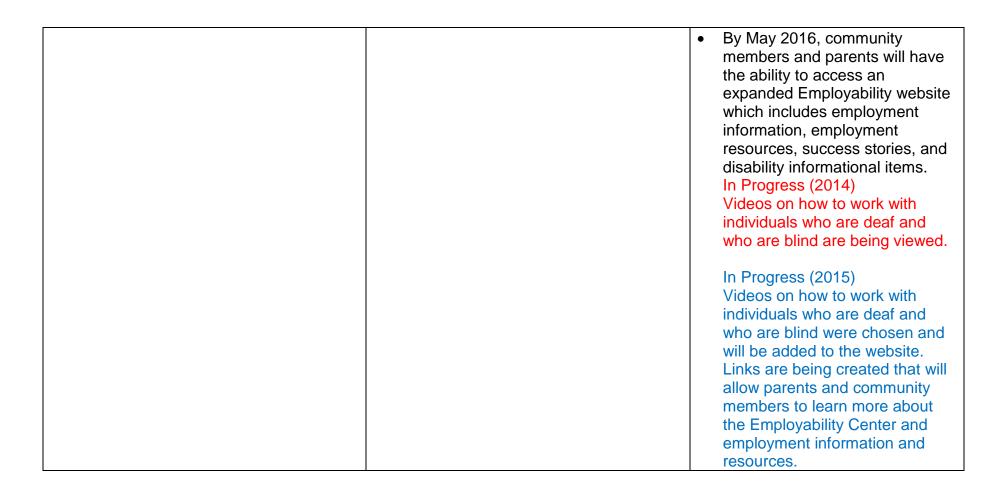
By May 2015, Employability
 Center parents will indicate a
 relationship with outside
 agencies at 10% above baseline
 as measured by pre/post
 surveys.

In Progress (2014)
Parent nights are held four times a year. At least one of these parent nights includes a representative from an outside agency, in order to provide information for the parents.

In Progress (2015)
Surveys were sent home during the fall semester asking parents which services they currently use and which services they would like more information on. This information will be sent to parents and follow-up calls are being made to provide additional support.

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## Outreach

### Goal

Respond to needs of consumers within the mission of CSDB by collaborating and implementing an action plan to meet the identified needs. (consumers are family members, professionals, students with hearing /vision loss or both, and community members.)

community members.)				
Objectives	Action Steps	Outcomes (Data-Based)		
Families, professionals, students and community members can easily access accurate information about programs, resources, and supports offered by CSDB	<ul> <li>Year One:</li> <li>Log ways in which information is requested and acquired</li> <li>Review for accuracy and update as needed: website, brochures, print materials,</li> <li>Review partnership contracts for accurate CSDB acknowledgement and representation and revise as needed</li> <li>Explore and track current and innovative methods to disseminate information regarding services available through CSDB</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>An annual summary of information provided to the community identifying gaps in information distribution and accuracy of information, (including recommendations for future dissemination of information) Completed (2014)</li> <li>Identified gaps in information distribution and developed:         <ul> <li>QR Code</li> <li>Direct Access to Parents/Families</li> <li>CSDB YouTube Channel</li> <li>Upgraded Live Stream Channel</li> </ul> </li> <li>Verified accuracy of:         <ul> <li>New website includes information regarding services and resources</li> <li>Contracts</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

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## Brochures/Flyers Completed (2015) • Identified gaps in information distribution QR Codes Updated Investigated use of **Constant Contact for** direct communication to stakeholders Expanded use of CSDB YouTube Channel Created CSDB Twitter account Verification of accuracy of information Ongoing review of Outreach website pages Dissemination of CSDB information at conferences, meeting, activities/events Years One through Three: Submission of articles to Recommend methods to disseminate national media outlets information regarding services and target audiences • Annually evaluate most efficient means to disseminate information

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## Consumers will utilize distance learning activities

(Distance learning is defined as learning that is, at least in part, through online delivery of content and instruction with some element of learner control over time, place, path and/or pace.)

- Annually develop menu of blended learning activities that consumers can easily access (e.g. webinars, presentations on a variety of topics, online sign language classes)
- Annually develop a calendar of activities to disseminate at beginning of each school year
- Collect & analyze data related to needs, requests and utilization of activities
- An annual summary of data identifying most effective/utilized activities will be compiled, including identifying unmet needs and consumer feedback regarding level of satisfaction with services. Completed (2014)
  - Most effective/utilized activities and ratings:
    - Monthly webcasts (97%)
    - Webinars for Professional Development (91%)
       <u>WWW.Livestream.Com</u>
       Total View Min: 75,000/
       117 hrs.
       Total Streams 7000
       Average time per viewer –
       10 min.
       Total unique viewers 1300
    - Literacy Mornings (90%)
       Boulder
       Trinidad
       Buena Vista
       San Juan BOCES
       Aurora
  - Unmet Needs
    - Online ASL classes
    - Online Social Interaction

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		Both Blind/Visually Impaired (VI) and Deaf/Hard of Hearing (HH) Completed (2015)  Most effective/utilized activities and ratings  Continued to seek copyright permission  YouTube Analytics Total Viewing Minutes: 32,000 minutes. Total Views – 11,700  Most Viewed Videos  Deaf Role Model  Blind Role Model  ASL Instruction  Early Childhood Assessment Webinar  Unmet Needs  Online ASL classes- interactive & topical Online Social Interaction (Blind/VI and Deaf/HH)
Consumers will utilize direct service	<ul> <li>Create a log of requests for direct service and consultation. Track number</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>An annual summary of data identifying most utilized</li> </ul>
and/or consultation for identified needs,	of requests fulfilled and percent of	activities and continued
such as:	requests rated "satisfied or higher"	needs will be compiled
	•	
Support for Language Development	Design a menu of presentation options	Completed (2014)

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- Support for social-emotional development
  - ✓ Family/parent involvement
  - Professional growth opportunities
  - ✓ Student to student interactions

to support professionals and families (e.g. transition to preschool, language development, Early Literacy Development Initiative, pragmatics, transition to next environment)

- Most Utilized:
  - Early Literacy
     Development Initiative
     (ELDI)
     Shared Reading Project
     (approximately 48 families
     in weekly/bi-weekly
     session each month)
     Integrated Reading
     Project (approximately 54
     families in weekly/bi weekly sessions each
     month)
     Family Literacy Packs
     (approximately 76
     backpacks annually)
  - Colorado Instructional Materials Center (CIMC) Services
  - ASL Community/Parent Classes (CSDB Campus, Greeley, Mountain BOCES)
  - Specialized Assessment Services
  - Contract Services
  - Student Activities Mini-Grants
- Continued Needs
  - All of the above

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Aurora Public Schools Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing **Swimming Activity**  Continued Needs All of the above Student Online ASL Classes ASL Community/Parent Classes • Of the consumers providing feedback through a variety of methods, 80% report a rating of "satisfied or higher" with services Completed (2014) • Blind/Visually Impaired • Role Model Outings, Boulder & Denver (96%) • Sensory Safari, Colorado **Springs (100%)**  Deaf/Hard of Hearing • Now What? Training (96%) • Community/Parent ASL classes, CSDB (99%) • Integrated Reading Project (95%) Shared Reading Project (100%)

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## Supporting social-emotional development

- Annually develop trainings and materials related to social emotional development for dissemination through print, website, or trainings (topics such as role models, ADHD, autism, depression, peers with hearing losses or vision losses)
- Annually collaborate with other agencies, including university training programs and school districts/BOCES, to offer trainings for school-based mental health staff, other service providers and families.

- Colorado) (100%)
- Family Literacy Packs (100%)
- Literacy Mornings (100%)
- Denver Visual Language Trainings (100%)
- Montrose Visual Language Trainings (100%)
- A minimum of five new trainings or resources offered annually and feedback collected on participation and impact of the trainings.

## Completed (2014)

- Blind/Visually Impaired
  - 2 role model outings
  - 5 monthly webcasts
  - Unified English Braille training (braillists and Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVIs)

## Completed (2015)

- Blind/Visually Impaired
  - 3 Social Interaction/Orientation and Mobility Outings

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	Attention-Getting Strategies, Facial Expression

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## **Quality Staff**

## Goal

Objectives	Action Steps	Outcomes (Data-Based)
Recruit: Implement new recruiting strategies to increase applicant pools (quality/capacity) for positions that are hard-to-fill.	<ul> <li>Review current recruiting strategies</li> <li>Research additional/new strategies that may be implemented</li> <li>Implement one new recruiting strategy per school year</li> <li>Make at least two presentations per semester within a public forum, on the topic of Deaf or Blind education and employment opportunities, in order to foster capacity within the field</li> <li>Develop and expand relationships with teacher preparation programs for Teacher of the Deaf (TOD) and Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVI) which may lead to an increase in viable applicants for CSDB positions</li> <li>Increase the marketing efforts to attract professionals to consider CSDB employment opportunities (e.g., video)</li> <li>Investigate the use of social media with the focus on attracting qualified applicants</li> <li>Relative to substitute/temporary</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>For each vacant position, the hiring manager will have the opportunity to consider a minimum of 4 viable applicants. In Progress (2014)         More than 4 applicants were available for positions except:         TVI, Teacher of the Deaf (TOD)         –Science, and School         Psychologist)         In Progress (2015)         More than 4 applicants were available for positions except Certified Orientation and Mobility</li> <li>A yearly evaluation of recruiting strategies will be documented and utilized to determine which are most effective in increasing applicant pools.         Completed (2014)         Yearly evaluation was</li> </ul>

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completed, and specific employment, review current recruiting strategies and research additional/new recruitment strategies have strategies that may be implemented been adjusted Completed (2015) Participate in state level discussions Yearly evaluation was regarding licensure issues for difficultto-fill positions (TOD/TVI) completed, and specific recruitment strategies have • Evaluate the procedures to post been adjusted / increased. /advertise vacant positions to identify ways to expedite the process Select: Implement interview / reference Identify and provide necessary training Evaluation of feedback from check processes which result in the for hiring managers / interview teams to hiring teams will be employment of quality staff who documented and utilized to conduct effective interview possess the knowledge, skills, abilities, identify needed changes to the Create a reference guide for interviews and personal characteristics (KSAP) to interview/ reference check and reference checks which may perform successfully/effectively. include some of the following: process In Progress (2014) A consistent use of behaviorallybased interview questions/scenarios Anticipate completion of survey to obtain feedback from hiring A consistent use of action-based managers in fall, 2014 interview questions/scenarios Completed (2015) Guidance relative to conducting Survey completed to obtain reference checks Interview process will include feedback from hiring managers opportunities for the candidate to / interview teams: feedback shared w/ Superintendent's evaluate his/her fit for employment Council and mid-level with CSDB An evaluation tool will be developed managers to inform the and utilized to obtain feedback on the selection process; feedback indicates that more than 50% of success of the interview /reference hiring managers find the CSDB check process

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		Interview / Reference Guide to be 'very useful'.
Retention: Develop and implement strategies to reduce employee turnover and increase retention of quality staff.	<ul> <li>Employee turnover and retention strategies</li> <li>Establish formal exit interview process to learn reasons for separation from employment</li> <li>Evaluate current turnover data in order to create a baseline for future years</li> <li>Research retention strategies that are used in other schools to include those similar to CSDB</li> <li>Climate and work balance</li> <li>Explore work balance issues at CSDB in an effort to identify strategies to better support staff (for example, job task analysis to identify essential and less essential tasks)</li> <li>Conduct an annual staff climate survey in order to identify opportunities to improve CSDB climate/culture</li> <li>Explore options for employees to provide feedback to their supervisor(s)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Evaluate turnover data and exit interview data annually and identify next steps         In Progress (2014)         Baseline data for the past 3 years has been evaluated: in process of creating retention strategies         In Progress (2015)         Team has examined survey data and turn-over data to glean any trends or causes. Have identified retention strategies.</li> <li>Annual evaluation of retention strategies utilized will determine which are most effective In Progress (2015)         The team is still discussing and moving forward with several different retention ideas. We need a complete year to determine effectiveness.</li> </ul>
	Employee recognition / incentives  • Investigate options for incentive	

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<ul> <li>programs</li> <li>Investigate and implement options for ongoing employee recognition</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Supporting career growth</li> <li>Explore opportunities and provide support to CSDB employees who are interested in career /leadership growth</li> </ul>	

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