

Annual Report 2006-2007

December 1, 2007

Colorado
School for the Deaf and the Blind
Colorado Springs, Colorado



The Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind is the center of excellence for specialized, statewide, high-quality, educational services supporting data-driven decisions that are best for each individual.

OUR STUDENT BODY



Total Enrollment (0-21)

- Infant/Toddler Program (0-3) ⇒ 347
- Residential (3-21) ⇒ 109
- Day (3-21) ⇒ 102
- Direct Outreach ⇒ 18
- Average Daily Attendance ⇒ 164
- Attendance Rate ⇒ 94%
- Served directly in LEA (0-21) ⇒ 17%
- From non-metropolitan areas ⇒ 30%
- Students enrolled at request of parent ⇒ 11%
- Students enrolled at request of district ⇒ 89%
- Enrollment stability ⇒ 97%
- Average length of stay ⇒ 3.43 yrs
- Graduation Rate ⇒ 100%
- Dropout Rate ⇒ 0%
- Student Contact Days ⇒ 172
- Students eligible for free / reduced lunch (3-21) ⇒ 152

- Students in the School for the Blind utilizing Braille as primary literacy mode ⇒ 37%
- Communication modes in the School for the Deaf, as identified by students' Individual Education Plans:
 - ASL Only ⇒ 51%
 - ASL & English ⇒ 9%
 - Oral Only ⇒ 3%
 - Oral & English ⇒ 4%
 - English Based ⇒ 14%
 - ASL/Oral/English ⇒ 4%
 - ASL & Oral ⇒ 15%
- Students at CSDB who come from a home where a primary language other than English is used ⇒ 8%

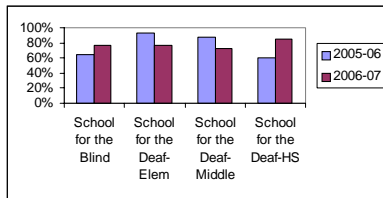


- Of our 31 high school graduates, 23 planned to enroll in the Transition Program for the 2007-2008 school year, four planned to attend college, and four planned to enter either the work force or specialized rehabilitation programs.
- Of the 10 students who exited the Transition Program, two planned to continue their post-secondary education and eight planned to enter the workforce.

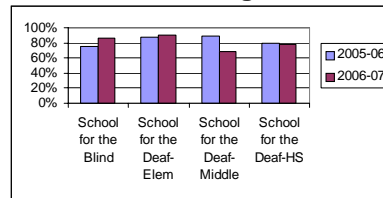
CSDB does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, disability or handicap on admissions, access to, treatment, or employment in educational programs or activities which it operates. The following persons are designated to handle inquiries regarding this policy: Human Resources Manager (employee complaints) / Director of Special Education (student/parent/public complaints) at CSDB, 33 N. Institute Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 (Phone: 719-578-2100 / Fax: 719-578-2239).

IEP Goals Met

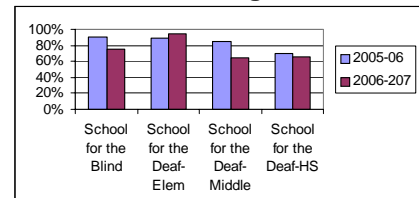
Mathematics



Reading



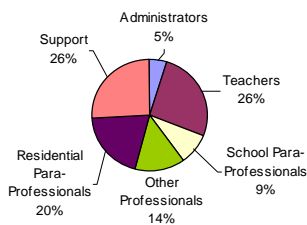
Writing



- The Academic Bowl Team took 4th place in the Gallaudet University Western Region Academic Bowl.
- Four students received the President's Award for Academic Achievement.
- Five students took advanced academic courses to include Honors English, Creative Writing, Trigonometry, and Integrated Algebra, through a mainstreaming partnership with a local public school district.
- Ten students participated in the El Pomar Youth in Community Service program.
- Five students participated in the annual Close-Up Conference in Washington, D.C.
- Two transition students attended Pikes Peak Community College full-time and one student participated in the Area Vocational Program at Pikes Peak Community College.
- Seventy students attended Young Ameritowne, where they learned about government, life, work, and financial skills, and then applied the skills learned to CSDB learning environments such as the Bulldog Café.
- Students began learning to lead their own IEP meetings with the support of their individual portfolio.

OUR STAFF

- As a 24-hour facility, CSDB employs a wide array of support personnel in addition to educational professionals.
- Educational Media/Library Specialists: 1
- Professional Development Days: 11.5



- Karin Taylor, Occupational Therapist, received her Doctorate of Occupational Therapy from the University of St. Augustine for Health Services.
- Amy Gunning, Paraeducator in the School for the Blind, received her Certification in Braille Competency from the Colorado Department of Education.
- Lou Tutt, Principal of the School for the Blind, was elected to the national Board of the Council for Exceptional Children.
- Jim Olson, Teacher in the School for the Blind, was named an American Printing House for the Blind Scholar.
- Jeff Beatty, Teacher in the School for the Deaf, piloted the use of Renaissance Remote Receivers creating our first "virtual classroom" using real-time instructional feedback technology.



OUR SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

To enhance the positive learning and living environment, CSDB offers students and their families...

- ✓ Counseling programs
- ✓ Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE)
- ✓ Student Work Program
- ✓ Reading and tutoring programs
- ✓ Enrichment programs
- ✓ Opportunities for leadership
- ✓ Opportunities to participate in athletics
- ✓ Lower teacher/student ratios
- ✓ Individualized programming
- ✓ Full-time School Resource Officer
- ✓ Role models who are Blind or Deaf
- ✓ Safe, home-like environment in residential areas
- ✓ Positive Education and Attitude through Knowledge (PEAK) Program

- ✓ Bullyproofing education
- ✓ Parent conferences/involvement opportunities
- ✓ Home visits
- ✓ Sign language classes
- ✓ Parent Compacts
- ✓ Family literacy activities
- ✓ Parent Involvement Coordinators
- ✓ Monthly school newsletters
- ✓ Accountability Committee
- ✓ Student Crime Stoppers
- ✓ Red Ribbon Week
- ✓ Alive to Strive program
- ✓ Student advocates
- ✓ Regular Fire/Lockdown Drills

Student Suspensions/Expulsions		
	2005-2006	2006-2007
Suspensions	38	6
Expulsions	0	0

Student Discipline Reports		
	Minor	Major
School for the Blind	23	6
School for the Deaf (PreK-8)	4	3
School for the Deaf (HS)	17	18

OUR TECHNOLOGY

- CSDB continued to use an internet content filter system to comply with state/federal requirements.
- State budget limits continued to prevent replacement of obsolete computers, and we accepted donations to replace our oldest computers.
- The CSDB network was updated by installing a new e-mail server.
- Ten VP100 videophones were installed, giving us a total of 30 videophones on campus.
- Three Smart Boards were installed, giving us a total of 17 Smart Boards being used in classrooms.
- The banner communication system was expanded into Ritter, Brown, and Palmer Halls, as well as the Early Education Center.
- Four staff members participated in the Hewlett Packard Leadership Grant. Their project was "Improving Achievement on Both Sides of the Desk Through the Use of Technology." The team presented the results of their work at the 2007 National Educational Computing Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.
- New technology introduced in the School for the Blind included: adjustable monitor arms for computer monitors; a portable "Nemo" electronic magnifier with an anti-glare LCD screen; a portable "Pico" electronic magnifier with video output allowing it to be connected to a television monitor; a K-NFB reader; and three software programs specifically designed for users with low vision.

OUR CONSTRUCTION / CONTROLLED MAINTENANCE

- Direct Digital Control for energy management was expanded to the Gymnasium.
- New HVAC systems were installed in the School for the Blind and the Lions Conference Center.
- New restrooms were installed in the Argo Building.



OUR REVENUE		
Government Grants	\$ 1,579,541	12%
Per Pupil Operating	\$ 1,214,283	9%
General Fund Appropriation	\$10,023,428	76%
Donations/Other Income	\$ 419,048	3%
OUR EXPENSES		
Administration	\$ 899,721	7%
Support	\$ 3,022,893	23%
Programs	\$ 7,730,443	59%
Residential	\$ 1,402,719	11%

OUR ROLE IN COLORADO

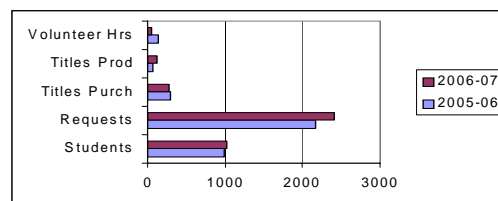
- Year One implementation of the **Strategic Plan** occurred during this school year. Forty-six percent of measurable outcomes in priority areas were addressed in the focus areas of Statewide & Regional Resource Network, Academic Core, Secondary Job Skills, Transition, Multiple Disabilities, and Early Childhood.
- The **Schoolwide Plan** identified the following goals: (1) By May 2007, a new standards-based aligned curriculum will be implemented in each K-12 classroom at CSDB; (2) Students will demonstrate increased achievement in math, reading, writing, and science; and (3) To increase parent participation and involvement during the 2006/2007 school year.

During SY 2006-2007, CSDB provided:

- Short-term placements for nine public school students in daily living skills, compensatory/social skills, and orientation/mobility.
- Summer Enrichment services to 40 students statewide who are blind/low vision in Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Compensatory/Tech with Night Orientation & Mobility, Colorado Adventure, and Independent Living Skills.
- Summer Enrichment opportunities to 31 students statewide who are deaf/hard of hearing in Driver's Education, Outdoor Adventure, Extreme Home Maintenance (with Habitat for Humanity), and Cochlear Implants.
- Blind/Deaf Adult Role Model teams who worked with families, students, and teachers in Colorado.
- Direct instructional services to 18 students in rural areas.
- Early Years Programs serving 30 families with children, birth–5, who are deaf/hard of hearing or blind/low vision.
- School districts with 30 pieces of equipment from the Technology Loan Bank.
- Support to children who are deaf/hard of hearing and/or blind/low vision, their families, and service providers through the Family Learning Retreat, the Symposium on Deafness, Language, and Learning, and the Deafblind Task Force.
- Family Literacy Packs, containing books, activities that support literacy, and a DVD illustrating a story in ASL, for loan to families and programs throughout Colorado.
- Classes in American Sign Language to parents and family members of students who are deaf/hard of hearing.
- 14,727 hours of indirect outreach services in the areas of assessment, program curriculum/consultation, staff development/conference planning, tours/presentations, parent/family support, and equipment/materials loan. Services were provided by staff in the School for the Deaf, School for the Blind, Early Education Program, and Student Services Department.

Colorado Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Handicapped (CIMC)

The CIMC supplied books and tests in Braille and Large Print, as well as other adaptive materials, to students who are blind/visually impaired in public schools throughout Colorado. The CIMC purchased and produced books to meet the needs of these students.



Early Education Programs

- CHIP provided services to 292 children who were deaf/hard of hearing, or had combined vision/hearing loss, and their families. The Early Intervention Program for families with children who are blind/visually impaired provided services in southern Colorado to 25 families.
- The Early Literacy Development Initiative (ELDI), comprised of the Shared Reading Program (SRP) and the Integrated Reading Program (IRP), sponsored a Fostering Early Literacy Development in Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing conference. The SRP and the IRP provided services to a total of 132 families.
- CHIP continued its partnership with The Listen Foundation to fund an Oral Communication Consultant who provided technical assistance to CHIP facilitators and preschool teachers statewide.