

Annual Report 2016-2017

December 2017



The Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind (CSDB) 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.

OUR STUDENT BODY

Total Enrollment (0-21)	545
• Infant/Toddler Program (0-3)	337
• Residential (3-21)	79
• Day (3-21)	128
• Total students (3-21) served on campus throughout the school year	225
• Direct Outreach (K-12)	79
• Attendance rate	93%
• LEA supported student placement	96%
• Enrollment stability	85.7%
• Average length of stay	4.08 yrs.
• Graduation Rate	100%
• Dropout Rate	0%
• Student Contact Days	184
• Students eligible for free / reduced lunch (3-21)	143/20



- Students, in the School for the Blind, utilizing Braille as primary literacy mode 53%
- Students' communication preferences, in the School for the Deaf, as identified in their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs):

• ASL Only	72%	• ASL & English	16%	• English-based	2%
• Oral & English	1%	• ASL & Oral	3%	• ASL/Oral/English	6%
- Students, at CSDB, who come from a home where a primary language other than English is used 23%
- Of 14 high school graduates, nine planned to enroll in the Bridges to Life Program (BtL), at CSDB, for the 2017-18 school year. Five students took their diplomas; one will attend a 4-year college, two will attend their local community colleges, and two will work for their family business.
- Of the 17 students who exited the Bridges to Life Program throughout the year, 16 completed the program. Three attend college, seven earned competitive employment, one works competitively and attends college, one attends an adult day program, one volunteers at the local library, one moved out-of-state and connected with the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, and two met with the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation to find work.

The Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind and its Board are committed to providing a safe learning and work environment where all members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect. CSDB does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or veteran status. Accordingly, no otherwise qualified student, employee, applicant for employment or member of the public shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to unlawful discrimination, harassment, or unwelcome behavior under any CSDB program or activity on the basis of disability, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or veteran status. The following persons are designated to handle inquiries regarding this policy: Chelle Lutz, Human Resources Manager (employee complaints) /Jon Vigne, 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). *Nondiscrimination in relation to genetic information is applicable to employment only.

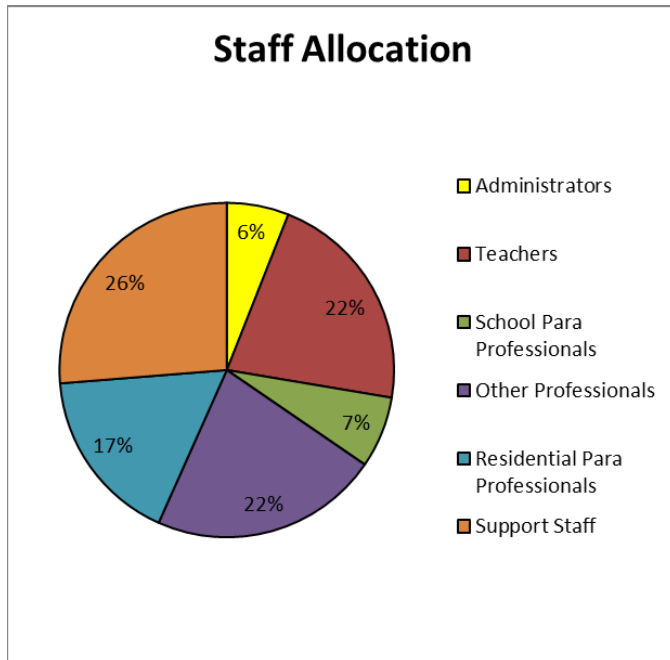
OUR STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Eleven high school students, in the School for the Deaf, participated in a contest sponsored by the Optimist Club. Three students, won the speech competition, and they received certificates and medals.
- Four high school students, in the School for the Deaf, attended the 10th Annual Children of Color Conference. One of the students won the educational scholarship.
- Two high school students, in the School for the Deaf and the School for the Blind, attended Close Up in Washington, D.C.
- One student won 3rd place in the 2D category of National Youth Deaf View Image Art (De'VIA) competition. Thirty-six students participated in the Black Forest League (BFL) Art show. Nine students won merit awards.
- One high school student was cast in a community theatre production of " The Crucible," in April 2017. This student was supported by CSDB teachers, in this endeavor.
- The Bulldog Band continues to perform in many venues, including the Arts and Business Education Consortium Annual Luncheon, and for the State Legislature.
- The School for the Blind held the Inaugural Cane Quest, in September 2016. 3rd-6th grade students competed in orientation and mobility tasks across campus.
- Two high school students participated in the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) Convention-Student Leadership strand.
- Three students, in the BtL Program, attended the Area Vocational Program at Pikes Peak Community College.
- Four students, in the BtL Program, successfully passed college courses at Pikes Peak Community College.
- One student passed the Work Keys Assessment. This is beneficial in obtaining a position as a classroom teacher's assistant.
- The BtL and Supported BtL programs successfully placed 27 students in work-study employment opportunities, within the local community. In addition, 10 students obtained competitive employment and two students earned paid summer internships.
- The On-the-Job Training (OJT) and Supported OJT programs (for high school seniors) successfully placed 17 students in work-study employment opportunities, within the local community. One student obtained competitive employment.



OUR STAFF

- As a 24-hour facility, CSDB employs a wide array of support personnel, in addition to education professionals.
- Educational Media/Library Specialist: 1
- Professional Development Days: 11



- Kieva Reynolds, a Speech Language Pathologist, earned her Certification of Clinical Competency (CCC) from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).
- Karissa Johnson and Tesia Nasehi demonstrated competency in reading and writing Unified English Braille (literacy), per the standards established for implementation of the Exceptional Children's Education Act concerning achievement of literacy by children who are blind.
- Whitney Sandoval completed her Master's Degree, as a Special Education Specialist: Visually Impaired (VI).
- Erica Lovchik, Supported OJT/BtL Teacher (Employability Center), completed a Master's Degree that resulted in educator licensure as a Special Education Generalist.
- The Employability Center received an Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) award from the Colorado Department of Education.

OUR SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

To positively enhance the learning and living environments, CSDB offers students and their families...

- ✓ Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS)
- ✓ Response to Intervention (RtI) process
- ✓ Counseling programs
- ✓ After-school tutoring program
- ✓ Summer Enrichment programs
- ✓ Opportunities for leadership
- ✓ Opportunities to participate in athletics
- ✓ Lower teacher/student ratios
- ✓ Individualized instruction and programming
- ✓ Role models who are blind or Deaf
- ✓ Safe, home-like environment, in residential areas
- ✓ Student Resident Assistant (SRA) program
- ✓ Student Body Government (SBG)
- ✓ Bullyproofing education
- ✓ Kindness Club
- ✓ Parent involvement opportunities
- ✓ Home visits (for families of children birth to three years old)
- ✓ Early Years program
- ✓ Sign language classes
- ✓ Student/Parent/Staff Compacts
- ✓ Family Involvement Coordinators
- ✓ Accountability Team
- ✓ Health education/drug prevention program
- ✓ Student Advocates
- ✓ Monthly fire/safety drills
- ✓ Spanish Language Interpreter/Parent Liaison
- ✓ On-the-Job Training program
- ✓ Opportunities to participate in after-school activities

Student Suspension/Expulsion Incidents

Type of Incident	2015-2016	2016-2017
Suspensions	120	110
Expulsions	0	0

TECHNOLOGY

- CSDB continues a “1 to world” program providing a personal device to students. Each student is assigned an appropriate device to meet educational needs. CSDB continues to use iPads, Google Chromebooks, and Microsoft Surface tablets.
- CSDB continues to maintain the interactive technology program. This includes LCD screens and projectors, with interactive connection to the staff and student devices, in learning environments, common areas, and media center in the education buildings.
- CSDB has the ability to provide distance education to students, across the state, using video conference/other video technologies in learning environments, as well as in offices and conference rooms.
- Teaching staff have portable computers and the ability to connect wired and wirelessly to the interactive LCD monitors in learning environments as well as monitor or share the display of each student device.

CONSTRUCTION

- CSDB is renovating Jones Hall to provide a new home for the Colorado Instructional Material Center (CIMC), guest housing and a low vision assessment site.
- CSDB is renovating Palmer Hall. The function of Palmer Hall, when complete, will be housing and learning environments for students in the Bridges to Life program.
- CSDB continues to focus on staff and student safety. Additional fencing is scheduled to be installed on the north and west perimeter of campus. Campus card access and communication systems continue to be expanded to provide a safer environment.

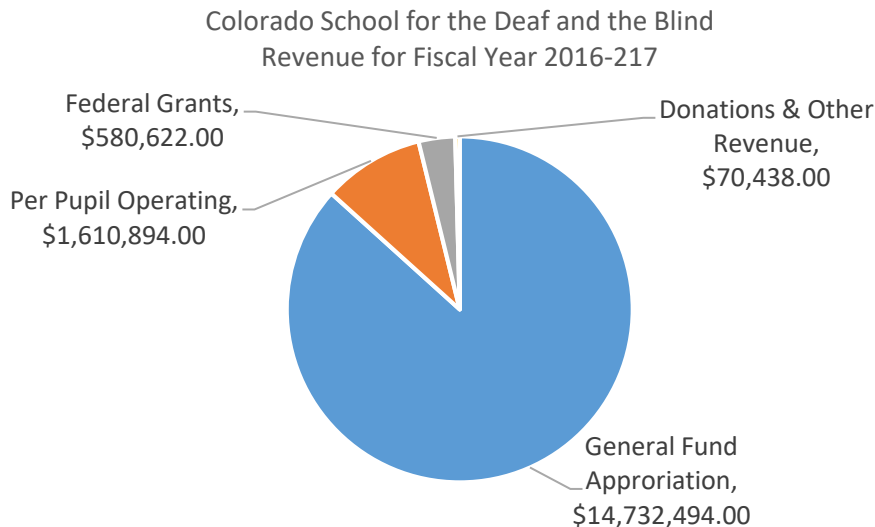


OUR REVENUE

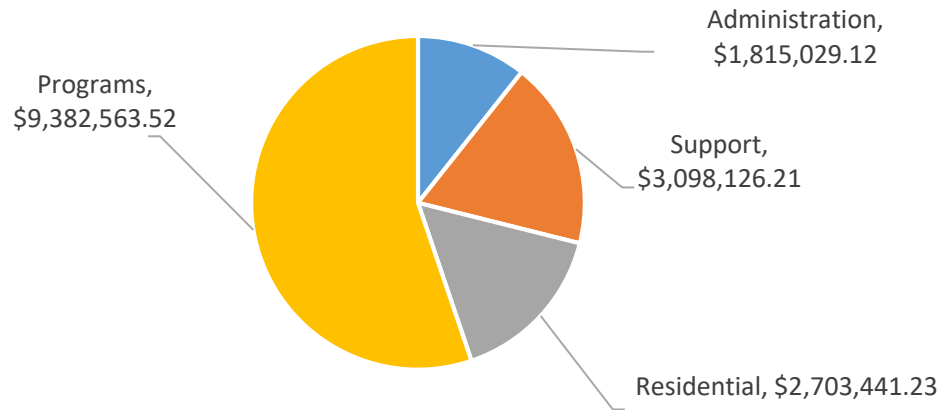
Government Grants	\$580,622.00	3%
Per Pupil Operating	\$1,610,894.00	9%
General Fund Appropriation	\$14,732,494.00	88%
Donations/Other Income	\$70,438.00	0%

OUR EXPENSES

Administration	\$1,815,029.12	11%
Support	\$3,098,126.21	18%
Programs	\$9,382,563.52	55%
Residential	\$2,703,441.23	16%



Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind
Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2016-2017



SCHOOL PLANNING EFFORTS

- Year One implementation of the **2016-2017 Strategic Plan** occurred, which focused on Academics, Independence Beyond the Classroom, Productive Citizens Within the Community, Outreach, and Quality Staff.
- The **Schoolwide Plan** for school year 2016-2017 identified the following goal areas: (1) Numeracy and Literacy; (2) School Climate and Culture; (3) Family and Community Involvement; and (4) Employability.

Numeracy and Literacy:

- FCEE Students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing: 79% of students demonstrated growth on the Development Reading Assessment (DRA-2) Literacy assessment, 79% of students demonstrated growth on the STAR Math assessment.
- School for the Deaf 3rd – 8th grade: 68% of students demonstrated growth on NWEA MAP reading assessment, 73% of students demonstrated growth on NWEA MAP math assessment.
- School for the Deaf 9th – 12th grade: 57% of students demonstrated growth on NWEA MAP reading assessment, 69% of students demonstrated growth on NWEA MAP math assessment
- School for the Blind 3rd – 12th grade: 67% of students demonstrated growth on NWEA MAP reading assessment, 63% of students demonstrated growth on NWEA MAP math assessment.

Schoolwide Climate and Culture:

Both strategies were accomplished to include a revision of the Office Discipline Report and an increase in anti-bullying awareness across campus. A student Kindness Club was established to support the connection between students as well as improve relations between students and staff.

Family and Community Involvement:

- FCEE: 100%
- School for the Deaf 3rd – 8th grade: 39%
- School for the Deaf 9th – 12th grade: 38%
- School for the Blind 3rd – 12th grade: 65%

Employability:

79% of the students, who graduated, met their post-secondary education/work goal.

OUR ROLE IN COLORADO

- CSDB Teachers of the Deaf/hard of hearing, Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists provide direct and consult services to school districts, Boards of Cooperative Education Services, and charter schools who are unable to hire staff directly.
- American Sign Language classes continue to be popular. CSDB supports professionals, community members and families. 57 professionals attended two Saturday offerings.
- CSDB partnered with Hands and Voices for a Deaf Plus Autism event. CSDB also supported Hands and Voices, during the school year, by supporting events for families.
- We supported school districts by providing grant opportunities to program serving students who are deaf/hard of hearing and blind/visually impaired.
- The CSDB Vision Team supported a Vision 101 training for 31 professionals in districts who support students who are blind/visually impaired. CSDB also provided training to a metro area Community Center Board, for 50 service providers who support birth to three families who have babies with vision impairments, hearing loss, or who are deafblind.
- The Outreach team partnered with five additional TV stations for broadcasts.
- The CSDB Distance Learning team collaborated with multiple teams across campus. The team created videos for consumers to access (instructional, signs of the month, and role model clips).

COLORADO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS CENTER FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED (CIMC)

The CIMC supplied books, in braille format, as well as instructional 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.

School Year 2015-2016

- Students age 0-21 identified with a qualifying educational disability of Visual Impairment, Including Blindness (VIIB) - 1173
- Students age 0-21, on the January Federal Quota count of eligible students who meet the definition of blindness – 531 (January 2015 count)
- Textbook and novel requests fulfilled in braille and large print format – 562

School Year 2016-2017

- Students age 0-21 identified with a qualifying educational disability of Visual Impairment, Including Blindness (VIIB) - 1214
- Students age 0-21, on the January Federal Quota count of eligible students who meet the definition of blindness – 904 (January 2016 count)
- Textbook and novel requests fulfilled in braille and large print format – 345

EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- The CO Hears provide services to an average of 318 children, birth to three, who are deaf/hard of hearing.
- The CO Hears provide training, twice a year, for CHIP facilitators; Supporting Infant Mental Health (30 participants) and Research to Practice (26 participants).
- The Early Literacy Development Initiative (birth-8) programs support children who are blind/visually impaired, Deaf/hard of hearing and deafblind and their families. Fifteen Early Years events were held in Northern Colorado, Denver Metro, and Colorado Springs for families of children who are Deaf/hard of hearing; 329 families attended these events.
- 107 families received in-home Language Literacy Instruction weekly.
- Sensory Safari and Fall Festival events for children who are blind/visually impaired, provided an opportunity for 24 families to share common experiences



SCHOOL ACCREDITATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- CSDB continues to have district-wide Alternative Education Campus designation by the Colorado Department

of Education.

- CSDB continues to be fully accredited and received the top rating of “Performance.”
- CSDB continues to collect and analyze data in the areas of individual student growth and uses this information to guide instruction using the Professional Learning Communities (PLC) model.

2017 SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

CSDB is an Alternative Education Campus (AEC) and receives an AEC School Performance Framework annually. The performance indicators that are measured include academic achievement, academic growth, student engagement, and postsecondary workforce readiness, and CSDB receives a rating for each of these indicators. In the areas of academic achievement and academic growth, CSDB uses required state assessment measures, to include CMAS and PARCC, PSAT/SAT, as well as optional measures including NWEA MAP, and post-completion success rate. Based upon the performance indicator ratings, CSDB receives an overall rating. CSDB received a rating of AEC Performance, on the 2017 AEC School Performance Framework. The chart below summarized the performance indicators and ratings for each area.

Performance Indicator	2017 Rating	2016 % of Pts Earned
Academic Achievement	Does Not Meet	25.1%
Academic Growth	Approaching	53.2%
Student Engagement	Meets	75.0%
Postsecondary & Workforce Readiness	Exceeds	91.7%
Plan Type	AEC Performance	56.68%

For a full report of school performance accountability information required by federal law, please visit the Colorado Department of Education website, within the SchoolView Data center, at www.schoolview.org/performance.asp.