

Getting to Know Us

CCSD Mission:

*To inspire
every student
to think,
to learn,
to achieve,
to care.*



2011-2012
SCHOOL
YEAR

A Message from our Superintendent, Mary Chesley **GREAT COMMUNITIES, GREAT SCHOOLS**

"All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind have been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth." – ARISTOTLE

In the Cherry Creek School District, we know that our students are the future of our nation and the world. Everything we do, every day is about preparing them to be ready for and meet the challenges they will face in higher education, the workplace and an increasingly shrinking world. Simply put, today's students are our community's investment in the future.

In May, more than 3600 seniors moved their tassels from right to left signifying not just graduation from high school, but earning a Cherry Creek diploma that will buoy their next steps in higher education, the military, or the workplace. The Class of 2011 has earned in excess of \$35 million in scholarships. This represents not just a return on the investment of public education, but yet another investment in the future and in our community.

Yes, we have a 60 year legacy as a school district in this community, and the Class of 2011 is poised for greatness, but we also have learned that legacies crumble if they are not nurtured.

Therefore, as we prepare for the Class of 2012 and our incoming kindergartners who represent the Class of 2024, we begin with a great appreciation of our community. Our community has built and supported our schools for generations. Our schools are among the best in the state and the nation because of the support of our neighborhoods. Young and old, parents, business leaders and educators have come together across the decades to build strong schools, which, in turn, build strong neighborhoods where people want to live and thrive.

Together, we have created schools where high expectations lead to all students achieving their goals. We must continue to do more than imagine what our children will do to keep our nation strong. We must ensure that they have the foundation and the tools they need to carry on the legacy of greatness.

Together "We will do great things."



Superintendent Mary Chesley visits students at Peakview Elementary School.

Dedicated to Excellence
Cherry Creek Schools

303.773.1184 | www.cherrycreekschools.org

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CENTER | 4700 SOUTH YOSEMITE STREET | GREENWOOD VILLAGE, COLORADO 80111

Data in this brochure is the most recent available as of June 2011.

Points of Pride

Eight Cherry Creek Schools have received the **"Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award"** which recognizes the top 8 percent of public schools that demonstrate the highest rates of student longitudinal growth, as measured by the Colorado Growth Model.

- › Belleview Elementary School
- › Canyon Creek Elementary School
- › Cherry Hills Village Elementary School
- › Cottonwood Creek Elementary School
- › Creekside Elementary School
- › Dry Creek Elementary School
- › Heritage Elementary School
- › Peakview Elementary School

And 13 schools received the Colorado Department of Education **"John Irwin Award"** which recognizes the top 8 percent of public schools that demonstrate the highest achievement on statewide assessments.

- › Belleview Elementary School
- › Campus Middle School
- › Challenge School
- › Cherry Creek Academy (Charter)
- › Cherry Creek High School
- › Cherry Hills Village Elementary School
- › Cottonwood Creek Elementary School
- › Dry Creek Elementary School
- › Greenwood Elementary School
- › Homestead Elementary School
- › Rolling Hills Elementary School
- › Willow Creek Elementary School



Cherry Creek School District Teachers Honored for Effective Leadership

The Cherry Creek School District is the recipient of two 2011 Commissioner's Choice Awards honoring effectiveness in education.

The Cherry Creek STAR Mentor Program, a partnership between the Cherry Creek Education Association and the Cherry Creek School District is the recipient of the Excellence in Induction Award. STAR Mentors are master teachers with a wealth of experience to help those new to the profession.

Cherry Hills Village Elementary School received the Teacher Leadership Award, which recognizes innovative leadership models that empower teachers to achieve consistent, sustained student growth.



Cherry Creek Schools Gets Highest Mark for Effective Spending

The Center for American Progress has ranked the Cherry Creek School District among the highest in Colorado for effective use of funds for academic achievement.

The independent organization compared spending by school districts nationwide to state math and reading test results and studied school districts nationwide with 250 students or more.

The Cherry Creek School District received a "Green" rating indicating the highest return on investment of use of funding for student success. The return on investment measure rates the academic achievement of school districts for each dollar spent compared to other districts in the state.

Effective Use of Energy Efficiency Expo Awards

Cherry Creek School District is among 14 organizations and businesses to receive the 2011 Excel Expo Energy Efficiency Awards. The district was recognized for The Most Energy Savings Between Multiple Programs, for conservation in lighting, water and indoor environmental systems. In addition, the district has received \$700,000 in energy savings rebates from Xcel Energy. And, 25 schools now have an Energy Star designation with 28 more showing improved scores.



Our Classrooms

► SEAC receives “Power of Partnership” Award

The Cherry Creek School District **Special Education Advisory Committee**, known as SEAC, has been honored for a decade of work on behalf of special needs students and families. SEAC received the “**Power of Partnership**” award from the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and the Colorado Special Education Advisory Committee (CSEAC).

► High Quality Instructional Programs

Five teachers in the Cherry Creek School District earned National Board Certification in 2010, according to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), which sets the standards for teaching excellence and administers the rigorous National Board Certification program. The Cherry Creek School District now has 76 National Board Certified teachers, putting it third in the state in the number of these outstanding educators.

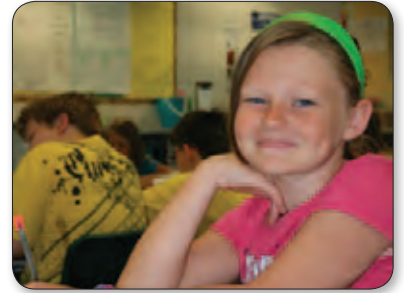
► Class of 2011 earns more than \$35 million in scholarships

The 3,600 members of the Class of 2011, who graduated from the Cherry Creek School District’s six high schools in May, earned more than \$35 million in scholarships. The class also includes a **Presidential Scholar**, 39 **National Merit** finalists, 5 **National Merit Hispanic Scholars**, 5 **Boettcher Scholars**, 9 **military academy appointments** (Air Force, Naval Academy, West Point and Merchant Marines), and many other scholarship recipients.

TOTAL STUDENTS

51,005

- 57%** White
- 13%** African-American
- 18%** Hispanic
- 8%** Asian
- 5%** Two or more races
- .20%** Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- .5%** American Indian/Alaskan Native



TOTAL TEACHERS

3,678

Average Class Size

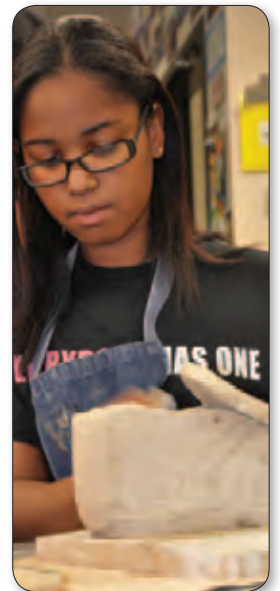
- 24.1** Students Grades K-5
- 25.9** Students Grades 6-8
- 25.7** Students Grades 9-12

More than 99 percent of Cherry Creek School District teachers are considered “**Highly Qualified**” under the No Child Left Behind Act. The remaining few are enrolled in programs to become “**Highly Qualified**,” which means that teachers of core academic subjects have demonstrated subject-area competency by having at least 24 hours of college credit in the subject area or by passing the state content exam.

TOTAL SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

64

- 39** elementary schools, including:
 - 6** four-track year-round schools
 - 6** transitional calendar schools
 - 3** focus schools – Dry Creek, Heritage and Walnut Hills
- 10** traditional middle schools
- 6** traditional high schools
- 1** K-8 Magnet School (Challenge)
- 1** K-8 Charter school (Cherry Creek Academy)
- 1** 7-12 Alternative School program (Endeavor Academy)
- 1** Expulsion School program
- 1** Intensive Care program (Joliet)
- 3** I-Team programs
- 1** Transition Program



In compliance with federal law, the Cherry Creek School District No. 5 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in all of its education programs, employment activities and admissions procedures. The lack of English language skills shall not be a barrier to admission or participation in the district’s activities and programs.

Planning Success

Growing Student Success

Cherry Creek School District students continue to surpass state averages on the Colorado Student Assessment Program Growth Model, which show the progress of the same students over time as they move from grade to grade.

The Growth Model follows students' CSAP scores in Reading, Writing and Math from grade to grade to determine whether they are making enough progress each year to stay on grade level, move ahead or catch up if they started the year below grade level.

Overall the district showed more than typical growth in all subject areas and the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced is well above the state average and most other districts in the metro area.

"We are very pleased at the hard work and dedication our teachers have demonstrated to produce these results," Cherry Creek School District Superintendent Mary Chesley said. "They exemplify our motto of 'Dedicated to Excellence' every day."

Prairie Middle School continued to show some of the highest growth in math of any large middle school in the state, and Falcon Creek Middle School showed the greatest growth in writing of any large middle school in the state.

High school continues to show more than typical growth with an increase in the median growth percentile in all three subject areas. Overland High School showed very large gains in in all three subject areas as did Grandview in reading and writing.

For individual school results, please visit www.schoolview.org

The Cherry Creek School District is one of the highest-achieving school districts in the state. Still, there are things we need to do better if we want our students to continue to be successful in college and beyond. With that in mind, the district conducted Community Forums to obtain our stakeholders' ideas about the most important aspects of the school experience.

The outcome of that process was to identify specific areas that our community saw as critical for the district to focus on in the future. These were providing high quality instructional programs that prepare students for the 21st Century, coupled with a safe and supportive learning environment for all children.

The District Performance Plan has the following Key Components

Vision, Mission and Values

Together, the Vision, Mission and Values describe the culture of the district: who we are, what we believe, and how we go about providing an excellent education for the children of Cherry Creek.

This cultural framework drives all of our efforts toward two overarching District Goals.

District Goals

Excellence and Equity – raising the academic achievement of all students, closing the gap between the highest- and lowest-performing students, and eliminating the predictability of achievement by race.

College and Post-Secondary Preparedness and Success – preparing students for success in college and other post-secondary options, including vocational education, the military, and the workforce.

Major Improvement Strategies and Key Action Steps

Major Improvement Strategies and Key Action Steps are those strategies and steps that are being employed district-wide to help us meet our District Goals.

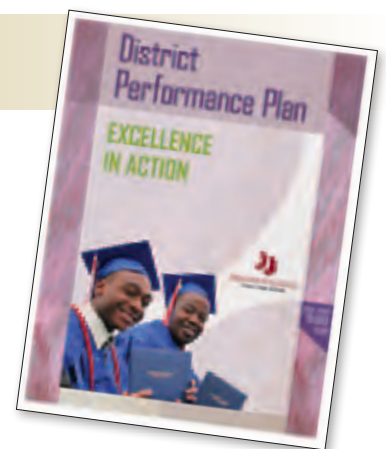
Key Performance Indicators and Targets for Schools

Progress toward our District Goals is demonstrated by increasing the number of schools that meet the district Targets for Key Performance Indicators including Academic Achievement, Academic Growth, and College Readiness.

Colorado School Performance Framework

The Colorado Department of Education's School Performance Framework shows our progress toward state targets in Academic Achievement, Academic Growth, Academic Growth Gaps, and Post-secondary Readiness.

The District Performance Plan is based on the Cherry Creek Schools Unified Improvement Plan, available at www.schoolview.org.



	DISTRICT	STATE	NATION
SAT Composite Score, 2011 Graduating Seniors	1775	1699	1500
ACT Composite Score, 2011 Graduating Seniors	22	20.7	21
ACT Composite Score, 2011 11th graders	21.3	19.9	*

* There is not a national average for 11th-grade ACT scores. As of 2001, Colorado law requires all 11th-graders to take the ACT test.

