

[Chiefline No.2]

July 23, 2007

“Improving Achievement for Students One Child at a Time”

CSAP Update: The Results Are In!

Who knew a summer could pass so quickly? Though offices tend to be sparsely populated due to vacations and time off, that was not the case in CDE’s unit of student assessment. For the past weeks, this team has been doing yeoman’s work to verify CSAP data and validate the results.

It is of the utmost importance for us to protect and maintain the integrity of the CSAP, et.al., while at the same time making the data available to the school districts as quickly as possible. We also strive to ensure districts have access to the data long before the media or statewide release.

As those of you in school districts know, on Friday, July 13, we sent an e-mail message to all district assessment coordinators (DACs), BOCES directors and superintendents regarding the pending data-availability date.

On Friday, July 23, the data became available for download via the CTB Navigator system on the CTB Web site (www.ctb.com). This includes CSAP, CSAPA, Lectura and Escritura (two tests taken by a small group of students taught in their native-Spanish language). If you have any concerns regarding the data, please feel free to contact Dianne Lefly at 303.866.6997. For other inquiries, contact Jim McIntosh at 303.866.6979. A compact disc with information regarding the Colorado ACT will be sent to you in about a week.

The following details the upcoming events regarding the media and statewide CSAP data release:

Thursday, July 26

A team from CDE and I will meet with the editorial boards of *The Denver Post* and *The Rocky Mountain News* to provide them a summary of results and data tables (**embargoed until 10:30 a.m. on July 31, 2007**). In the afternoon, we will meet with members of the Associated Press and do likewise. Note: All editorial boards, reporters and staff who are privy to the data have agreed to this embargo. Should local media contact you before 10:30 a.m. on July 31, please remind them of this agreement.

Tuesday, July 31

The press conference and official release of the 2007 statewide CSAP, CSAPA, Lectura, Escritura and Colorado ACT data will commence at 10:30 a.m., in the lobby of the Colorado Department of Education.

Gov. Ritter, Lt. Gov. O'Brien, State Board Chair Pam Suckla and members of the state board will join me in celebrating our students' achievements and describing ways we will help them overcome challenges the data presents. A special announcement will be made related to how the Colorado Department of Education is upping its commitment to teachers, schools and districts around student achievement. We will also honor the schools and/or districts that have shown remarkable progress on the Colorado State Assessment Program tests.

It will be an exciting event, and I hope you will be able to join us.

Colorado ACT

Wednesday, July 25

To coincide with the statewide release of all state assessments, ACT, Inc. will be mailing the *Colorado State Test Results Summary* reports to high schools and District Assessment Coordinators (DACs). All schools and DACs should have these reports by Friday, July 27.

The data presented in the report reflects the scores of grade 11 students from this past spring's administration of the Colorado ACT assessment. In addition to the reports, each DAC will also receive a CD-ROM of individual student data representing all of the students tested in the district.

Please direct any questions regarding the Colorado ACT results to Fabian Maes at 303.866.6877.

cc: Gov. Ritter, the state House, the state Senate, SBE, Superintendents, School Districts, CDE, BOCES, CASB, CASE, CEA, CFT and David Skaggs.