



# CHIEFLINE

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Colorado Department of Education  
William J. Moloney, Commissioner



*"Down from the Idle Hill of  
Summer."*

- *A.E. Housman (1859 - 1936)*
- *A Shropshire Lad*

July 17, 2003

## **I. UPDATE ON CSAP RELEASE**

Summer is not always as "idle" as some may think, though I hope yours has been a good one including some well deserved R & R.

As you know, this month will see our major release of CSAP test results.

In this, our seventh year of test releases, we follow our familiar sequence. Here is the schedule for the upcoming release:

### **July 23rd (Wednesday)**

All local districts should have their results on-line and by compact disk (CD) at the end of this day. Should any last minute issues arise, please directly contact Dianne Lefly (303-866-6997) for data concerns and Beth Celva (303-866-6664) for other matters. As you know, they have already sent you a good bit of material.

### **July 28th (Monday)**

This is the day set aside for briefing key editorial boards.

**IMPORTANT:** Please note that we are giving districts a full week between your receiving results and our statewide release. Preparing this volume of results for your various audiences is no small task.

The editorial boards, like everyone else, have had to agree to embargo this information until the official statewide release (embargoed until noon on July 30, 2003).

It should be noted that when we provide results to the newspaper, they get fully disaggregated scores just as you do. As you know, however, a large proportion of these folks prefer to use the simpler aggregated numbers. With the media, "simple" commonly trumps complex. Hopefully, you can give a broader picture to your local press.

**July 30<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)**

The official release of the statewide results will be in the morning, at 11:00 a.m., in the Colorado Department of Education lobby. Please don't release your information until noon

I would reiterate what have been key priorities through every release:

1. Our highest priority will be to ensure that local districts receive their results prior to any statewide release.
2. At both the state and local levels, we need to represent these results in the most honest and positive manner.
3. As important as the results themselves, will be describing how we are meeting the challenges they represent. In that regard, one of the strongest arguments will be the striking progress we are seeing in so many areas.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Moloney  
Commissioner of Education

cc: Governor Owens, General Assembly, State Board of Education, CDE Cabinet, CDE Staff, BOCES, CASB, CASE, CEA, and CFT