



# COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COLORADO READING FIRST

## TOUCHING BASE

MAY 18, 2007

PUTTING PROVEN METHODS OF READING RESEARCH IN THE CLASSROOM  
TO INCREASE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT ACROSS THE NATION

### SUMMER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION HAS BEGUN!

**Registration is under-way for the CRF Summer Conferences in July and August.**

**Location:** There are 4 locations to choose from, with 2 dates for each location. The first day is for New CRF staff, and will be optional for returning CRF staff. The second day is required for ALL CRF staff.

**Registration Contact:** all schools should have a Registration Contact in place from last year. If your Registration Contact has changed from last year, please notify Vicki McKenzie ([VickiM@sopriswest.com](mailto:VickiM@sopriswest.com)) at Sopris West. The Registration Contact will be responsible for registering all members of your team.



If the registration closes while you are in the process of registering your staff for a specific date, please call Vicki McKenzie at (800) 459-4655.

**Please note:** Each location has a limited amount of space, so it is first come, first served. At this time, the August 7, Pueblo location is closed for further registrations.

We will be announcing the actual training sites in the near future, along with information about hotel reservations.

**Dates:** the following are the dates and cities for the conferences.

[July 26-27 Denver](#)

[July 30-31 Colorado Springs](#)

[August 6-7 Pueblo](#)

Registration is closed for the August 7 date in Pueblo.

[August 9-10 Alamosa](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Vicki McKenzie at (800) 459-4655.

Visit the CRF website at

[www.cde.state.co.us/cdecomp/CRF/cohort2/Registration.html](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdecomp/CRF/cohort2/Registration.html) for ongoing updates and to access the link for registration.

#### NOTICE:

This will be the last Touching Base for May. The next issues will be released on June 29, and July 27, 2007.

#### NOTICE

**The BEAR data submission date has been extended to May 25, 2007.**

There have been multiple data submission errors and we did not become aware of the underlying cause until late Friday, May 18.

We are currently involved in developing a solution and will provide detailed steps for you to follow on Monday, May 21 via email.

We apologize for the difficulties you may have experienced and appreciate your patience as we work towards a viable solution.

Thank you very much for your time.

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Online Updates*
- *Summer book study*
- *Upcoming dates*
- *Rocky Mountain Summer Institute!*
- *CRF Calendar- See what's coming up!*

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## ONLINE COURSES

District billing for the CRF Online Courses will take place on June 15, 2007. If you have any questions, please contact CBOCES at [onlinelearning@cboces.org](mailto:onlinelearning@cboces.org).

**Reminder: All CRF online courses for the 2006-07 school year are to be completed by June 1, 2007.** You will no longer have access to these courses or your assessment responses **after June 1, 2007.** If you would like to save your responses in the assessments, please print the individual pages or copy/paste responses into a Word document and save on your computer.

**The 2007-08 CRF online courses will be available on June 1, 2007.**

To enroll in the courses, email the following information to [onlinelearning@cboces.org](mailto:onlinelearning@cboces.org).

- Name
- Job Title – *please be specific and include the predominant grade level(s)*
- School District
- School

- Work Address
- Work phone
- Email: work or personal
- Last 4 digits of your social security number

Please note: your access to this year's courses does not mean the automatic enrollment into those courses for the following year. To enroll in the new courses, you must email the information above to: [onlinelearning@cboces.org](mailto:onlinelearning@cboces.org).

**If you do not access your school email during the summer, please update your Student Account Information to receive ongoing communication.**

Go to: <http://online.cboces.org>.

**Login** with your username and password.

Select **Go to Class**.

Under Student Tools located on the left, Select **My Account**.

Correct, change, update any information, and Select **Submit** located at the bottom to Save.

### Online Course requirements for the 2007-2008 school year

#### 1st Year CRF Teacher Online Courses

Courses should be taken in the order listed.

The courses can be taken earlier, but not later.

#### K and 1st Grade:

Phonemic Awareness - Due October 19, 2007

Phonics - Due January 18, 2008

Assessment - Due March 21, 2008

Course of choice - Due May 31, 2008

#### 2nd and 3rd Grade:

Phonics - Due October 19, 2007

Fluency- Due January 18, 2008

Assessment - Due March 21, 2008

Course of choice - Due May 31, 2008

#### All CRF Teachers Online Courses:

The Reading Process - Due March 15, 2008.

“A TEACHER AFFECTS ETERNITY; HE CAN NEVER TELL WHERE HIS INFLUENCE STOPS.”  
~HENRY B. ADAMS~



## BOOK STUDY

The final Reading First professional development course will be a book study on the reading process rather than an online course. It will be based on David Sousa's book, *How*

*the Brain Learns to Read*, an informative and readable analysis of the research and process of reading. The book costs about \$40, so we suggest that you build this cost

into your 2008 budget. We recommend that you purchase at least one book for every two teachers.

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The book study is designed to take place for one and a half hours per week over a ten week period, although you may choose to structure the course differently. So that Colorado Reading First can document that all CRF teachers have taken the course, you will need to

register and take the end-of-course assessment online.

You may choose to schedule the book study in the summer, although we recommend that you offer it during the school year so that teachers can apply what they are learning to their classrooms. The course should be completed no later than March 15, 2008.

### **Correction to the last issue of Touching Base:**

We apologize for misidentifying the Colorado representative to the National Reading First Higher Education Consortium. Colorado is represented by Brooke Hanks, Instructor and Special Project Coordinator in Teacher Education, at Western State College of Colorado.



## **CRF COHORT 2 YEAR 3 FUNDING WEBINAR**

You are cordially invited to attend the **Cohort 2 Year 3 CRF Funding Webinar**. The Webinar will be held **Thursday, May 24, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.**

This Webinar is not required, but we do encourage LEAs and principals to attend. After the Webinar has adjourned, it

will be archived on our website. If you cannot participate on May 24, we invite you to access our website and review the information.

We know that anyone using a Mac computer will have difficulties and are working on getting a waiver to work with a different company for pro-

viding these tele- and web-conferencing services in the future.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Della Shorman at [shorman\\_d@cde.state.co.us](mailto:shorman_d@cde.state.co.us).

DID YOU TAKE ANY GREAT PHOTOS AT THE SPRING 07 CRF CONFERENCES? SEND THE CRF TEAM YOUR PHOTOS BY EMAILING DELLA SHORMAN AT [SHORMAN\\_D@CDE.STATE.CO.US](mailto:SHORMAN_D@CDE.STATE.CO.US).

## **DIBELS, BEAR AND ACTION PLANNING 07/08**

Following are the testing dates for the 07/08 academic years along with the Action Planning dates. Plan ahead!

### **DIBELS**

#### **Fall Benchmark**

The date for the Fall DIBELS window will be determined for each school. The testing window opens one week after school starts. You will have two weeks to administer the DIBELS and then one week to enter the scores.

#### **For example:**

ABC school starts August 13. The DIBELS window opens August 20. DIBELS is administered

through August 31.

The data is due September 5.

#### **Winter Benchmark**

January 7-18, 2008: DIBELS window

January 25, 2008: Data due

#### **Spring Benchmark**

April 7-18, 2008: DIBELS window

April 25: Data due

#### **BEAR**

April 28-May 9, 2008: BEAR window

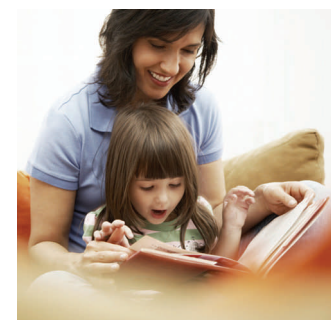
May 16, 2008: Data due

#### **Action Planning**

September 14, 2007  
February 22, 2008

The BEAR data was due on May 18. We realize that with the end of year activities in full swing, teachers, principals and reading coaches are all extremely busy. Thank you for your diligence and hard work in meeting the 2006-07 deadlines.

If you have any additional questions about DIBELS and BEAR, please contact Pam Cress, Assessment and Data Coordinator at [cress\\_p@cde.state.co.us](mailto:cress_p@cde.state.co.us) or Colleen O'Neil at [oneil\\_c@cde.state.co.us](mailto:oneil_c@cde.state.co.us).





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WE ARE ON THE WEB!

[HTTP://WWW.CDE.STATE.CO.US/  
CDECOMP/RF\\_HOME.HTM](http://www.cde.state.co.us/CDECOMP/RF_HOME.HTM)

PUT **READING** FIRST!

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN SUMMER INSTITUTE

As a reminder, plan now to attend the Rocky Mountain Summer Institute in beautiful Breckenridge, Colorado, June 24-27, at the Beaver Run Resort and Conference Center. This year's theme is *Raising the Bar: Narrowing the Gap for All, Some, AND Few!*

Join with other participants and discover innovative, practical strategies to help your school make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and implement Response To Intervention (RTI) services.

This hands-on Institute demonstrates how to:

- Increase reading and math fluency for older students;
- Create a positive school climate;
- Achieve school-wide literacy success;
- Meet the needs of struggling younger students; and
- Implement academic intervention strategies.

If you are interested in attending the Summer Institute, please visit the web site at [www.bettereducator.com](http://www.bettereducator.com). **The Rocky Mountain Summer Institute content qualifies for Reading First funds.**

## CRF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR

# May 2007



**2007-08  
Professional  
Development  
Dates**

**Summer 2007**  
July 26-27:  
Denver

July 30-31:  
CO Springs

August 6-7:  
Pueblo

August 9-10:  
Alamosa

**Spring 2008**  
April 16:  
Denver

April 17:  
CO Springs

April 18:  
Pueblo

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day Holiday- CRF offices closed	29	30			

**Happy Summer  
to All!**