



Colorado Department of Education – Communications Office  
201 East Colfax Ave.  
Room 501  
Denver, CO 80203  
Phone: 303-866-3898  
Fax: 303-866-6938

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## **News Release**

### ***Public School Capital Construction Assistance Board Resolves To Move “Expediently”***

The Public School Capital Construction Assistance Board has approved a resolution calling for the board “to move forward, expediently” to consider applications for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

“It is the board’s intention to recommend awards in fiscal year 2008-2009,” states the resolution, approved at the board meeting yesterday (Wednesday, Aug. 20).

The nine-member board oversees what is known as the “BEST” legislation, approved by the 2008 Colorado State Legislature. BEST stands for Building Excellent Schools Today.

The BEST legislation increases the level of financial assistance provided to school districts and charter schools for capital construction projects, particularly in those school districts that can’t afford to meet their own needs.

It’s anticipated that BEST legislation will provide approximately \$500 million for capital projects including new schools, major renovations, additions and smaller projects. With local matching contributions, the \$500 million may be leveraged to as much as \$900 million or \$1 billion.

The board will next consider guidelines that will be used to evaluate project eligibility, said Ted Hughes, Director of the Public School Capital Construction Assistance program.

The guidelines will be used in a statewide assessment of every public school building in the state, including charter schools.

The next meeting of the board is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 27.

For more information about construction program, call Ted Hughes at 303-866-6948.

**For more information, contact** Mark Stevens, 303-866-3898, or Megan McDermott, 303-866-2334, in the CDE Office of Communications. To sign up for the CDE e-mail news service, please visit

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