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## **News Release**

### ***Public School Capital Construction Assistance Board Makes Progress on Full-Day Kindergarten Program***

At a meeting held today, the Public School Capital Construction Assistance Board made final revisions to the emergency rules for the Full-Day Kindergarten program. They will adopt these rules at their next meeting, scheduled for Monday, Oct. 6, 2008.

The board also began discussing BEST Grants along with timelines and guidelines for the program.

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 agenda for the Oct. 6 meeting will include review of the Full-Day Kindergarten applications. The board will also select projects to recommend to the Colorado State Board of Education for approval.

For more information on the Capital Construction Assistance Board and to read board minutes, visit

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdefinance/CapConstCCAB.htm>

**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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