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**Nov. 4, 2008**

## **News Release**

### ***Public School Capital Construction Assistance Board Hears Public Comment on Permanent Rules for the Public Schools Facility Construction Guidelines***

At a meeting held Monday, Nov. 3, the Public School Capital Construction Assistance Board held a public hearing regarding permanent rules for the Public Schools Facility Construction Guidelines. Public comment focused on school site size. One district asked CCAP to consider the local district's site standards when reviewing applications for capital construction assistance.

There was no public comment for the other hearing held yesterday, pertaining to permanent rules for the administration of Full-Day Kindergarten Facility Grants.

The board will decide whether to write or adopt changes to the permanent rules for the Public Schools Facility Construction Guidelines at their next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 12.

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 continue work on reviewing the timelines pertaining to the BEST grant cycle and also consider rules for BEST Grants, BEST Emergency Rules and BEST Lease-Purchase Projects.

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

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/index.html>.

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