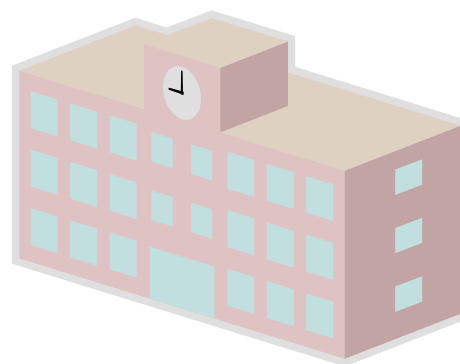


# EDUCATIONAL AND PREVENTION SERVICES FOR EXPELLED AND AT-RISK OF EXPULSION STUDENTS

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Thirteen programs have been selected as exemplary for their services for expelled and at-risk of expulsion students. “Exemplary status” is determined by the outcomes of the program model, a commitment to system-wide system prevention of risk behavior, and substantial financial support from local resources. Summaries of each of the listed programs offer a brief description of “best practice” across Colorado.

1. Adams 12 – Five Star Schools
2. Adams/Arapahoe 28J School District
3. Douglas County School District RE-1
4. East Grand School District #2
5. Fort Morgan School District RE-3
6. Fountain/Fort Carson School District #8
7. Montezuma-Cortez RE-1
8. Pikes Peak BOCES
9. Poudre School District
10. Pueblo School District #70
11. St. Vrain Valley School District
12. Thompson R-2J School District
13. Weld RE-3 County School District
14. Weld County School District #6



## **ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS**

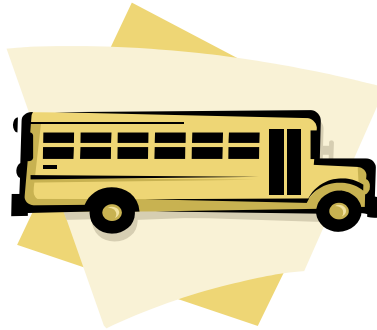
*11700 Irma Drive*

*Northglenn, CO 80233*

**Linda Jepson (720) 872-5901**

Crossroads is an alternative program for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders at-risk of not completing high school. The program serves 7 middle schools and received 100 referrals last year. Individualized classes in core academic areas are provided. Service Learning, conflict resolution, peer mediation and restorative justice are incorporated into the program. A behavior management system with levels monitors progress in the program.

- ❑ Attendance rate is 81%
- ❑ 2/3 of the students were promoted to high school
- ❑ Saturday program focuses on student behavior and parents attend with their children



## **ADAMS-ARAPAHOE 28J SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Aurora Public Schools*

*15751 East 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue*

*Aurora, CO 80011*

**Sharon Moore (303) 340-0864**

The Expelled Student Program provides a structured academic environment, life skills training, drug and alcohol prevention classes, behavioral skill reinforcement and community service opportunities.

- ❑ The school district will financially support the program in 2003-04
- ❑ Academics and affective education are offered in small, individually designed groups
- ❑ Credits from the program transfer back to the home school
- ❑ Police collaboration through the security officer has resulted in significant positive relationships that extend into the community

## **DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1**

*620 Wilcox Street*

*Castle Rock, CO 80104*

**Annette Fante (303) 814-5248**

The program serves expelled students in grades 7-12 and provides prevention programming in grades 5-8. The expelled students receive computer-based instruction, GED preparation, tutoring, mentoring, job shadowing and employment assistance, counseling and mental health support. The prevention program provides academic tutoring for struggling learners in each middle school. There has been no increase in suspensions or expulsions despite growth in district population and the attendance and achievement rates have remained high.

- ❑ Middle school suspensions and expulsions have remained consistent over a four-year period despite a significant growth in the middle school population
- ❑ Suspensions for drugs have decreased from 164 to 151
- ❑ Over 1300 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders have received additional academic support
- ❑ Attendance rates are 90%
- ❑ The school district financially supports 90% of the program

## **EAST GRAND SCHOOL DISTRICT #2**

*Middle Park High School*

*P.O. Box 130*

*795 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street*

*Granby, CO 80446*

**Becky Barnes (970) 887-2104**

Middle Park Alternative High School offers night school primarily through the Advanced Learning System computerized program for students at risk of being expelled, or dropping out.

- ❑ Attendance at night school is 95% compared to 55% in the day program
- ❑ 100% of the students completed a nine-week counseling program
- ❑ Parents participate in a three-week counseling session with 80% attendance
- ❑ The school district will financially sustain the program in 2003-04

## **FORT MORGAN SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-3**

*300 Deuel Street*

*Fort Morgan, CO 80701*

**Pat Haley (970) 867-8253 x407**

The *Connections* program is an after school program for suspended, expelled and at-risk students in grades 5-8. This is an expansion of the existing program serving high school students in order to reach at-risk students earlier. The program has a small teacher-student ration (1:8), and provides bi-lingual tutoring, computer-based learning and certified instruction in core areas.

- ❑ The school district pays for 64% of the program
- ❑ The program is coordinated with Build A Generation, the Family Center, Juvenile Diversion, Police and the ADVANCE high school program

## **FOUNTAIN/FORT CARSON SCHOOL DISTRICT #8**

*425 West Alabama Avenue*

*Fountain, CO 80817*

**Tim Holt (719) 382-1550**



This is an alternative high school, middle school and distance-learning program for expelled, suspended and at-risk students. All students are required to pass the Discovery class before they can access academic classes. Classes are individualized based on needs. The school is housed in a community center with mental health, human services, YMCA, police and Head Start.

- ❑ 52% of the students in the Discovery Program go on to continued success in school
- ❑ Attendance at parent conferences has increased from 6% to 65%
- ❑ Graduation rate is 93%

## **MONTEZUMA-CORTEZ RE-1 Southwest Open Charter High School**

*P.O. Box DD*

*Cortez, CO 81321*

**Gene Taylor, (970) 565-1150**

The Southwest Open School is an alternative charter high school serving at-risk students from Cortez, Mancos, Dove Creek, Delores and Towaoc on the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation. The Safety Net Program within the school serves expelled students through individual learning plans, social skill building and Outward Bound Expeditionary Learning.

- ❑ A strong partnership exists between the school district, the Ute Mountain Ute Education Department and other area youth agencies
- ❑ Character education, restorative justice and expeditionary learning are foundations of the program
- ❑ An off-campus site serves the most challenging students

## **PIKES PEAK BOCES**

*2340 Robinson Street*

*Colorado Springs, CO 80904*

**Jill Hooper, New Directions Educational Program (719)477-9555**

**Lary Cutter, Principal, West Valley School (719) 635-1371**

This is an expanded collaborative program between the New Direction Education Program and the West Valley Alternative School. New Directions is a program for expelled middle and high school students, and West Valley is a comprehensive, full day permanent alternative school for at-risk students. The collaboration will allow a system-wide approach to services and prevention through a joint Advisory Council and Transition Team.

- ❑ The programs serve students from 20 school districts
- ❑ New Directions students earn an average of three credits each semester
- ❑ New Directions students maintain an 82% attendance rate
- ❑ 91% of New Directions students reduce disciplinary referrals while in the program
- ❑ West Valley students maintain an 85% attendance rate
- ❑ West Valley students average an 85% course completion rate
- ❑ Sixteen superintendents have committed \$1,000 per student and one district provides one FTE teacher

## **POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*The Village School*

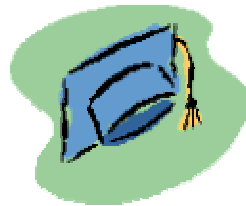
*2407 LaPorte Avenue*

*Fort Collins, CO 80524*

**Deb Hawes (970) 490-3239**

The Village School serves 7-12<sup>th</sup> graders that have been expelled or are at risk of expulsion with two or more suspensions. The district does not expel many students but offers the Village School in lieu of expulsion.

- ❑ All secondary schools have character education and bully proofing programs
- ❑ All junior highs have adopted the Discovery program, a pro-social and pro-academic program
- ❑ The Discovery program will be adapted for severe behavior management issues next year
- ❑ A behavior management system adapted from Boys Town teaches pro-social replacement behaviors
- ❑ Only a 2.5% recidivism rate when students return to their home school
- ❑ No students dropped out or were expelled from the Village School
- ❑ 168 hours of community service were completed by students



## **PUEBLO SCHOOL DISTRICT #70**

*24951 East Highway 50*

*Pueblo, CO 81006*

**Ginger Andenucio (719) 295-6513**

The Futures Academy is a secondary alternative school for expelled and at-risk students.

- ❑ An at-risk liaison helps to identify all at-risk students in all secondary schools in the district and follows students that transition back to their home schools
- ❑ After uniforms were required in the alternative school, office referrals decreased 62%
- ❑ The school year is divided into 4-week sessions to allow more immediate feedback; students gain .87 in their grade point averages
- ❑ After transitioning back to home school, the recidivism rate is only 4%

## **ST. VRAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Clearview Educational Center*

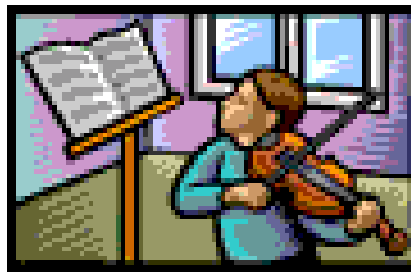
*P.O. Box 646*

*Mead, CO 80542*

**Tom Gibbons (970) 535-4446**

*Clearview Educational Center* provides comprehensive, intense remedial educational and life skills training for expelled students. *New Beginnings* provides middle school youth at risk of suspension with restorative justice and life skills training.

- ❑ Academic increases in math (60%), vocabulary (54%) and reading comprehension (50%)
- ❑ Decrease of 25% in arrests after one year in the program
- ❑ Re-engagement in the school system is significant: after one year in Clearview, 42% were still in school, 10% graduated, 2% earned a GED
- ❑ School district supports the program with PPOR, staff and PLATO software



## **THOMPSON R-2J SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*535 North Douglas*

*Loveland, CO 80537*

**Joan Fiene (970) 613-5056**

The Truancy Intervention and Prevention Project is based on restorative conferencing to prevent or intervene in suspension or expulsion. Early intervention is provided for students with poor attendance through case management, tutoring, mentoring, mental health interventions, behavior modification through restorative practices and Aggression Replacement Training.

- ❑ Quantitative, qualitative and process data are collected on a quarterly basis
- ❑ Attendance rates have increased by 17%
- ❑ Grades and academic performance improved
- ❑ Referrals, including suspensions, have decreased by 10-50% depending on the student
- ❑ 14 out of 18 students attended the alternative education classes and successfully re-entered their home school
- ❑ The school district will financially support the entire program in 2003-04

## **WELD RE-3 SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Weld Central High School*

*4977 WCR 59*

Keenesburg, CO 80643

**Patricia Meiers (303) 536-2127**

The Alternative Education Center provides a school within a school to serve expelled students in core academic areas, and a night program.

- ❑ 100% of the students improved grades
- ❑ 85% of the students raised low or failing grades to As or Bs
- ❑ 100% of seniors will graduate with their class
- ❑ 100% of the students passed their proficiency exams
- ❑ 90% of the students improved their attendance
- ❑ 88% complete homework, compared to 44% prior to entering the program
- ❑ 100% of the expelled students returned to their regular educational classroom with no recidivism

## **WELD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #6**

*1025 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue*

Greeley, CO 80631

**Carol Martens (970) 348-6262**

The expulsion prevention program is a middle school and 9<sup>th</sup> grade continuum of services founded in resiliency theory. The middle school prevention program provides case management, counseling, home visitation and tutoring. Expelled students receive an intensive three-week intervention focused on anger management, problem solving, conflict resolution, gang behavior intervention, alcohol and other drug resistance skills and goal setting. The 9<sup>th</sup> grade transition provides case management, cross-age mentoring and service learning.

- ❑ Only 3% of students that receive case management services proceed to expulsion
- ❑ All staff have been trained in resilience, restorative justice and strategies for working with at-risk youth
- ❑ Expulsions have been reduced by 50%
- ❑ 78 out of 128 students improved academic performance
- ❑ 81 out of 128 students improved attendance
- ❑ Multiple school district and community collaborations