State of the State

Expelled and At-Risk Student Services (EARSS) Program

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Colorado Department of Education
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What's New?

- Different program manager
  - Cindy Wakefield retired in April
  - Janelle Krueger started in May
- New unit –
  - Prevention Initiatives was dissolved
  - Dropout Prevention and Student Engagement Unit was created

Program Manager - Background

- Native of Rural Colorado
- Chosen profession – police work
  - Crime prevention
  - Work with schools
- Masters Degree in Criminal Justice
  - Research interest – causes of delinquency
- "Big Sister" mentor to high risk teen

Background, cont.

- 1990 – Started at CDE
  - Substance Abuse prevention (DARE)
  - 1995 - Police-School Partnerships
  - 1998 – Program Director - *Safe/Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program*
  - 2010 – EARSS Grant

It's always been about cross-disciplinary systems work and community partnerships!

Role of Program Manager

- One: Exercise the "Spirit of the Law"
  - Partner in Mission
  - Mentor/Coach
  - Broker resources
  - Keep our eyes on the prize.

- Ask – "What is the intent of the law? What are we hoping to achieve?

Role, cont.

- Two: Adhere to the Letter of the Law
  - Ensure use of funds are allowed by law
  - Fiscal accountability
  - Good paper trails
  - Avoid audit findings
  - Maintain the credibility of the program
  - Protect the dollars so they keep coming

Goal

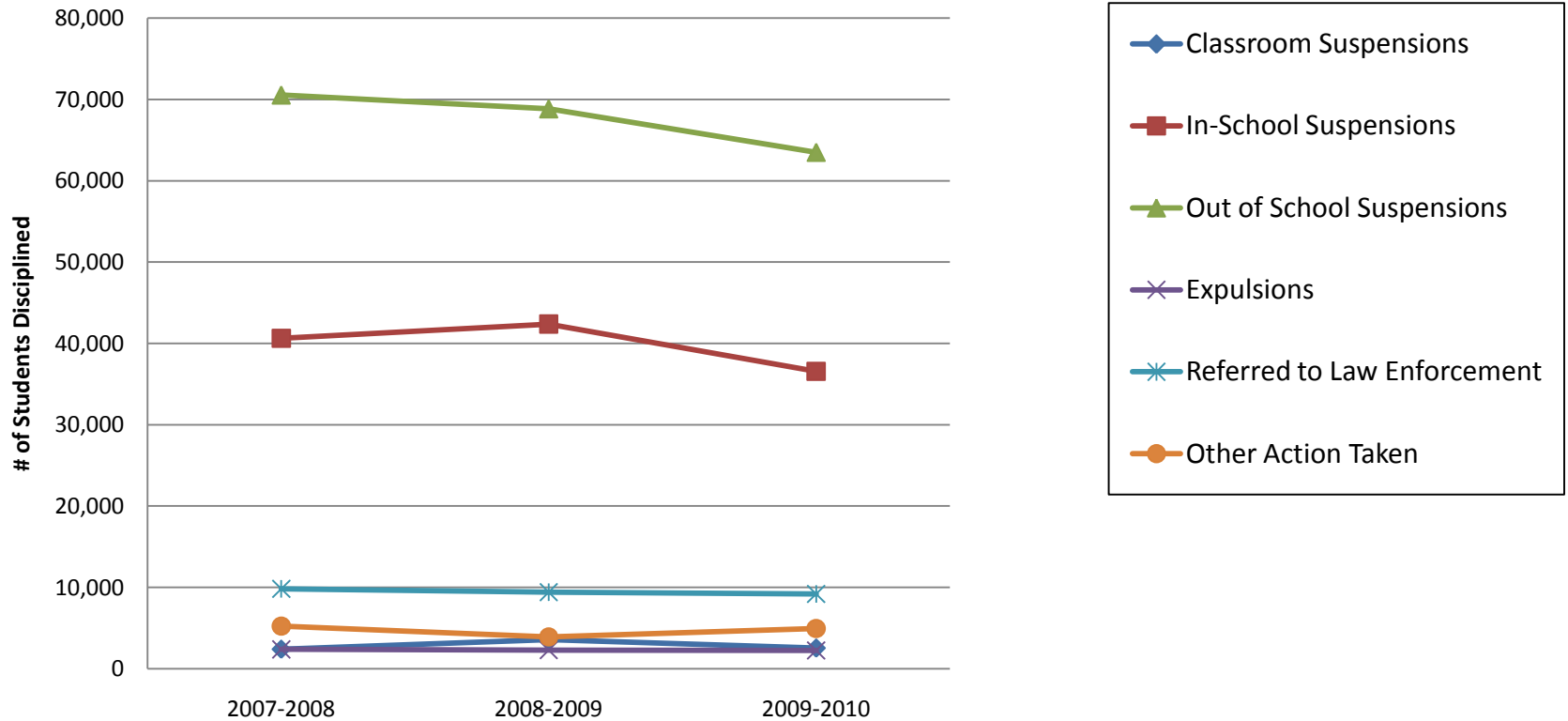Maintain the quality that the program is known for:

- Don't break what isn't broken!!!!!
- Elements of quality:
  - 4-year structure
  - Viewed as an investment and a return on the investment
  - Emphasis on results, outcomes, sustainability
  - Evaluation findings to the legislature
  - Personal visits with grantees in their own operating environment

Communication

- EARSS Listserv
- Grant/Program Coordinator e-mail distribution list
- Fiscal Contact e-mail distribution list
- Call or e-mail anytime
- Ask for help

3-Year Trend - Disciplined Students

All Students by Action Taken Trend

Legend:
- Classroom Suspensions
- In-School Suspensions
- Out of School Suspensions
- Expulsions
- Referred to Law Enforcement
- Other Action Taken

Y-axis: # of Students Disciplined (0 to 80,000)

X-axis: 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010

2009-10 Results

- **Over $7 million in grants were awarded to 58 sites located in 48 of the 184 school districts/BOCES and in 4 facility schools.**

- **A projected $18.1 million of per pupil revenue (PPR) was recaptured**

2009-10 Results

- **10,082 students served**

- **7,486 parents/guardians of these students were also served.**

- **90% of students participated in an EARSS program because they were identified as at-risk of expulsion.**

2009-10 Student Outcomes

2.9% dropout rate of at-risk students, lower than state rate of 3.6% for 2008-09.

2009-10 Student Outcomes

- **86% of expelled students experienced positive outcomes**

- **87% of at-risk student served experienced positive outcomes**

- **Positive Outcomes - continue in school, completed program and transitioned back to school, graduated or obtained GED**

Status of 2010-11

- Awarded - $6,549,143   FY11

          466,791   FY10 unobligated

Total Available $**7,015,934**

- Number funded: - **67**
  - 1 private school
  - 4 BOCES
  - 9 facility schools
  - 53 School districts (districts, schools, charters)

Final Words …..

Take an example from…….

……………..Exempla Health Care – Best in the Nation…………………..

To Our Patients

I believe –

…that you deserve the best experience possible while you are in our care and

…that my interaction with you, your family, your physicians and my co-workers affects your experience.

I commit to you that I will work with you and others as a team to always place your needs first. I will consistently live our service behaviors so that you receive the best in care and service.

To Our Coworkers and Physicians

I believe –

….that I am one member of the team dedicated to creating the best experience possible for our patients

….that my interactions with you directly impact that experience and

….that each of us is responsible for working together to provide the best care and serve.

Coworkers, cont.

I commit to you that I will live our service behaviors, support you in providing service excellence and do my part to always place our patients' needs first.