The Federal Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) grant enables Colorado to enact a project called LEAP. Colorado’s Longitudinal Education Data Action Plan (LEAP) builds upon the foundation of our statewide student record system begun in 2002. Three major initiatives of LEAP aim to expand the current Data Warehouse, automate transcript and student data transfer among education agencies, and rapidly expand access to student-level data analysis and reporting. LEAP Initiatives are graphically depicted in the data flow diagram below:

Progress Overview, July 2008:

- **Data Dictionary created and a user interface developed** ([https://cdeapps.cde.state.co.us/DataDictionary/](https://cdeapps.cde.state.co.us/DataDictionary/)). State and Federal funds have been combined to create a CDE Data Dictionary, providing definitions and collection relationships for thousands of data elements. Next steps are determining data element redundancies to foster streamlined collection processes, defining relationships between data elements and reports, and standardizing codes and definitions across CDE program units. The 2007 NorthHighland...
infrastructure review identified the Data Dictionary as a critical step towards an enterprise-wide view of information and data systems.

- **CDE Data Warehouse expansion to include Special Education and Student Growth.** CDE’s Data Warehouse was built in 2001 to support the School Accountability Report, and continues to evolve and expand. SLDS funds are being utilized to further expand data subject areas, including Special Education and data for the new Colorado Growth Model. Future expansion will address migrant, graduation/dropout, and detailed teacher data. The CDE Data Warehouse provides a centralized repository for data-driven analysis and decision making.

- **Automating generation process for EDFacts directory and assessment data files.** EDFacts is a federal project to consolidate data collection and reporting for the U.S. Department of Education. EDEN is the Education Data Exchange Network, the unified data collection system that eventually will replace program-specific collections such as DANS (SpecialED), CSPR (No Child Left Behind), and CCD (Common Core of Data). CDE is required to submit over 150 validated data files to EDFacts (via EDEN) for the 2008-09 data cycle. SLDS funding helps CDE to automate file generation processes for this massive federal data submittal process.

- **Development of the Colorado Transcript Center.** Significant progress towards a statewide system for exchanging electronic student records and transcripts has been made. To view the announcement flyer of this exciting statewide initiative, please visit [http://www.transcriptcenter.com/resources/CTC_Coming_Soon.pdf](http://www.transcriptcenter.com/resources/CTC_Coming_Soon.pdf). Thanks to collaborative work from Colorado school districts, higher education entities, and a national vendor - the Colorado Transcript Center will be available Fall 2008.

- **Enterprise license purchased for Cognos 8.3.** In an effort to provide wider access to CDE’s statewide data, SLDS grant funds were utilized to purchase enterprise (unlimited) licensing for a business intelligence tool called Cognos. Cognos is data analysis and reporting software, owned and supported by IBM. Reports for School Accountability, Accreditation, Assessment, NCLB/AYP, and other areas are created and distributed via Cognos and CDE’s CEDAR application. Cognos also provides the authentication and data access layer for the Colorado Growth Model interface. Work is underway to upgrade to Cognos 8.3 and open up unlimited district access to CEDAR and Student-level growth data, with future access targeted towards secure school/teacher access to CDE data.