

District Accomplishments since April 2008 Strategic Plan Update to the Community

Objective 1

- Implemented integrated community service component within the curriculum
- Ensured universal access for four year old preschool program (acquired additional slots)
- Expanded full day kindergarten to 20 schools
- Implemented the Response to Intervention (RTI) model
- Provided parent access in Infinite Campus via the website parent portal
- Pueblo City Schools in partnership with Pueblo Community College secured \$300,000 Gateway to College Grant.

Objective 2

- Pueblo City Schools in partnership with Colorado State University-Pueblo acquired \$1 million Teacher of American History grant specific to improving content knowledge and expertise for grades 3-10 teachers of American History.
- Created, administered, and reported results on district-wide benchmark exams to monitor the progress of each student and determine the effectiveness of the instructional program
- Provided teachers of world language at the high school level with resources that include current technology and teaching aides
- Implemented with 2008-09 sixth grade class the new middle school promotion policy
- Implemented with 2008-09 ninth grade class the new high school graduation requirements
- Identified and implemented appropriate career curriculum specific to the Construction Technology program by including a partnership with Habitat for Humanity
- Created two new world language labs, one each at Central and South. World language labs for the other two high schools, Centennial and East, have been approved, in addition to the funding of a new world language software system
- Opened two new magnet schools – Corwin International Magnet School and Fountain International Magnet School
- Expanded the existing International Baccalaureate diploma program at East as the East High School International Baccalaureate School
- The magnet schools arts programs presented Beatles and Friends – a collaboration among East, Corwin, Fountain schools and various community groups

Objective 3

- Human Resources was able to retain staff for the 2008-09 school year without the use of large group layoff. (Pueblo City Schools non-renewed only 32 teachers in the spring of 2008 versus 72 teachers in the spring of 2007.) Highly qualified staff was retained to meet the needs of the district in all content areas and grade levels.
- Researching pay for performance models to study for possible implementation during the 2008-09 school year
- Acquired \$3.5 million U.S. Department of Education Leadership Grant to prepare leaders to meet the challenges of accountability and achieve increases in student achievement. Established a second cohort for building level administrators of professional development through NISL training -leadership
- Conducted training on Response To Intervention implementation of RTI model for middle schools
- Conducted training on strategies for implementation of the block system for high school teachers

Objective 4

- Acquired nearly \$6 million Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative Grant through U.S. Department of Education
- The John Hopkins dropout study

- Minority Family Advocate Grant- 3 years, \$30,000 per year
- Tony Grampasas Community Advocate Grant - \$65,000 per year for 3 years
- CDE Community Advocate Grant - \$97,000
- Packard Community Advocate Grant-\$50,000
- Presenting to the International Truancy Prevention Conference in October
- Completed wellness policy checklist which has been piloted by 14 schools and will be used by all schools beginning in 2009 school year
- Revised vending policy towards conversion of food and vending machines to healthier items
- Revised wellness policy so that no food will be sold outside the school lunch program until 30 minutes after the conclusion of the final lunch period
- Revised wellness policy so that no beverage will be sold outside the school breakfast and lunch program, other than the current vending contract, until 30 minutes after the last scheduled lunch
- Funding was approved and we are installing video cameras on the district school buses for safety
- Involved with Partners in Education community-based group of educators and businesses that support character building activities and initiatives for students
- Provided training by Dr. Rocky Khosla to coaches, counselors and administrators on head injuries and concussions, along with enhanced awareness of sports-related injuries
- Continued to build partnerships with community organizations and businesses to provide facilities for after school extra-curricular activities and programs
- Established district-wide participation guidelines on what constitutes approved extra-curricular activities
- Reviewed and enhanced the district-wide guidelines to ensure equity and accessibility of extra-curricular programs among all schools
- Ensured that reasonable costs associated with extra-curricular activities are not a barrier for any student or sponsor wishing to participate

Objective 5

- Acquired world-class technology for the Magnet Schools including next generation wireless laptops for students, video teleconferencing/distance learning, interactive white boards and projectors in all classrooms
- Upgraded the district email system for employees
- Researched, purchased and prepared for January 2009 implementation of Avatar, an online professional development tracking system for all staff
- Developed and implemented District Crisis Management Plan
- Renovated and remodeled Corwin Middle School to accommodate the new Corwin International Magnet School

Objective 6

- Recognized by CDE for an exemplary audit for the 2006-2007 fiscal year
- Initiated the transition to a new accounting and payroll software system for more efficient internal processes
- Surveyed the community to identify needs towards a mill levy override and bond referendum
- Created Community Advocacy Committee to seek and secure additional funding for the district
- Successfully passed a citation free federal audit pertaining to E-Rate monies for the 2004-2005 funding year