

## Points of Pride

- ♦ Hope Online graduated forty-seven students in 2007/08 with Commissioner Dwight Jones as the ceremony's keynote speaker.
- ♦ One fourth of the 2007/08 graduating class represented the first generation of high school graduates in their families.
- ♦ Students in grades 3-5 who scored proficient or advanced in CSAP writing increased by 5 percent over 2006/07.
- ♦ Generally CSAP grade level performance improved from the 05/06 school year, although the scores declined from 06/07. The exceptions were writing in grades 3, 4, and 5 and grade 5 science.
- ♦ Analysis of matched cohort groups of students who had been with Hope Online for at least two years revealed that in reading, writing and mathematics between 74-98% remained stable or improved in achievement measurements other than CSAP.
- ♦ Over 250 students found their voice and expressed their talent in art and poetry contests over the year – a first for Hope Online and for many of the participating students.
- ♦ The Douglas County School Board unanimously voted to approve Hope Online's charter application, resulting in a three-year contract commencing 2008/09.
- ♦ The State Board of Education (SBE) certified Hope Online as a multi-district program in 2008. Certification is for two years and requires capacity for and oversight of Quality Standards, including: curriculum, instruction, technology, finance, risk management, and student achievement.
- ♦ Hope Online successfully established Memorandums of Understanding (MOU's) with all 14 school districts within which Learning Centers operate.

## About Our District

Douglas County School District is the third largest school district in Colorado and we remain one of the highest achieving and fastest growing districts in Colorado.

Superintendent Jim Christensen and the Board of Education attribute this continued success to a focus on students. Engaged parents, outstanding teachers and staff contribute greatly to student learning in our District. Our Vision is to help students acquire the knowledge and abilities to become responsible citizens who contribute to society.

In addition to the information found in this school report, state-required accountability and accreditation information is also available in the Colorado Department of Education's "ONE REPORT," linked to the District web site at [www.dcsdk12.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org). Or, send an email to [communications@dcsdk12.org](mailto:communications@dcsdk12.org) for additional information.

We have outstanding students in our District who go far beyond what required reports can tell us. We celebrate their successes daily. Thank you for being part of our school community!

### School Mission Statement

The mission of Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op (Hope Online) is to provide a comprehensive and quality K-12 education for all students, based on proven methods of differentiated instruction in a safe, flexible, non-threatening and adult-supported environment. Through instructional innovation and strong commitment to child-centered education, Hope Online will advance academic achievement, character building, leadership and enhanced life skills in all its students.

## Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op



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## Principal's Perspective

Dear Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op community members, In this, our fourth year, we are very excited to be in our first year as a Douglas County School District charter school. Last February, the School District board unanimously approved our charter application, and shortly thereafter, in May 2008, the State Board of Education certified Hope Online as a multi-district program. We are gratified that the Douglas County and state boards of education value the unique opportunity to participate in online education in a supportive environment that Hope Online provides to Colorado's at-risk students.

Additionally, Hope Online collaborated with 14 school districts to establish Memorandums of Understanding for the operation of Learning Centers. We are pleased that six new Learning Centers joined 43 returning Learning Centers to serve 3,200 students this year. With an average mentor-to-student ratio of 1:18, our Learning Center partners offer academic support to meet students "where they are."

Our diagnostic pre-assessments, taken by all kindergarten through twelfth grade students upon enrollment, represent our commitment to child-centered learning. Recognizing each student's level of achievement, our teachers develop an individual learning plan for each student in order to foster continued student academic progress. Analysis of CSAP scores for students enrolled at Hope Online for two years reveals that 77% and 72% of students demonstrated a year's growth or more in reading and math, respectively. Finally, 25% of Hope Online's 2008 graduates represented the first generation of high school graduates in their family.

We are extremely proud of the gains and milestones our students are attaining, but we are keenly aware of the work ahead. Our goal is that each of our students will reach his/her full potential, academically and as a unique and valued member of our society.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact me at 303-989-3539.

Sincerely,

*Heather O'Mara*

Chief Executive Officer



## Goals and Measures

Hope Online has formulated goals and objectives that support continuous improvement as it consistently adjusts its processes and procedures in accordance with student growth and efficiency measurements. Three major organizational goals focused on Academic, Professional Development and Operational Support in 2007/08.

Academic goals included increasing student achievement support, as evidenced by the following:

- ♦ Implementation of enhanced assessment tools, such as MAP, to continuously and consistently measure student placement and academic growth.
- ♦ Maintenance of strong graduation requirements designed to demonstrate college readiness by achieving "no remedial education" requirements, as measured by minimum Accuplacer or ACT scores.
- ♦ Analysis of CSAP scores for students who attended Hope Online for two years revealed the following:
  - » Math: 15% demonstrated more than one year's growth and 72% demonstrated a year's growth or more.
  - » Reading: 26% demonstrated more than one year's growth and 77% demonstrated a year's growth or more.
  - » Writing: 27% demonstrated more than one year's growth and 79% demonstrated a year's growth or more.

Professional Development goals included ensuring that teachers and mentors have the skills and knowledge necessary to meet organizational goals as evidenced by the following:

- ♦ Open invitation to qualified mentors to take advantage of the revolutionary waiver granted to DCSD for alternative teacher licensure to enable each Learning Center to be staffed with a Highly Qualified Teacher.
- ♦ A professional development program, designed in collaboration with DCSD experts, focused on instructional leadership.

Operational Support goals included improvement in the implementation of Hope Online policies and procedures, as evidenced by the following:

- ♦ Providing Learning Centers with detailed written policies and procedures, as well as increased resources to provide clear, supportive direction.
- ♦ The implementation of a new application and approval process designed to support student success.
- ♦ The Learning Center Assessment Audit Team (LCAA), developed by DCSD, to review Learning Center infrastructures and current processes and procedures in order to provide Hope Online feedback regarding accountability, oversight and compliance with Hope Online rules and regulations.
- ♦ The addition of a discipline/attendance coordinator to support tracking and improvement in these critical areas.
- ♦ An exceptional 2006/2007 CDE audit, resulting in only minor exceptions.