# CSDB Board of Trustees

# Superintendent’s Report

# January 2023

## STUDENT ENROLLMENT

As of January 5, 2023

Total Number of Students Currently Served Statewide 682

Total Number of Students Served on Campus since August 2022 176

Current Campus 3-21 Enrollment 168

Students in the School for the Deaf:

Preschool 9

K-5th 28

6-8th 18

9-12th 26

Bridges to Life 13

Total 94

Students in the School for the Blind:

Preschool 7

K-5th 19

6th-8th 13

9-12th 23

Bridges to Life 12

Total 74

Day Students 129

Residential Students 39

Parent Option 19

District Option 149

Teacher/Student Ratio 1:4

CHIP (Deaf) 356

CHIP (Deafblind) 15

Blind: Birth – 3 yrs. 24

Direct Outreach 119

ELDI Programs 84

## Interim Superintendent

* 12.1 – 12.3 Attend CASB Convention
* 12.9.22 Presented at JBC Hearing
* 12.4.22 Attended CSDB Outreach Denver Metro Holiday Party
* 1.12.23 Leadership Team Meeting
* Dec/Jan Met with all coaches of Strategic Plan groups to discuss progress, priorities and challenges.

## REPORTS FROM SUPPORT SERVICES

## Finance

* The Long Bill budget for FY22-23 has been reviewed, verified, and set up for each department. That includes the personal service (901), early intervention (902), and operating (903). This will provide us better visibility on how each department is spending their funds and how we can plan for future years to meet the needs of each department.
* The Leadership Team plans to use the annual retreat, January 19, to identify what the higher priorities should be for the school, and gather feedback on what our future budget request should be for FY23-24.
* The financial reports show expenses through November 30, 2022. Vacancy savings has been reviewed and that will be monitored closely for the next few months. At this point, we will not be spending any of the vacancy savings.

## Personnel

* To date, 18 positions have been filled for the 2022-2023 school year. Since July 1, 2022, there have been seven employee separations. Currently, there are 36 total vacancies: 10 vacancies for non-Classified positions; 26 vacancies for Classified positions. Note: there are 17 vacancies in Student Life Programs; there are no immediate plans to fill 13 positions due to the number of students currently residing in the dorms (39 students).
* Safety Security Officer III closed Friday, December 16, 2022 (19 qualified applicants). Interviews pending.
* Administrative Assistant I (CIMC) closed Friday, December 30 2022 (54 applications) Minimum Qualifications review currently being conducted, followed by a comparative analysis
* Administrative Assistant III (CIMC) extended to January 9, 2023 due to no applications received
* Health Care Technician I / Deaf/HH reposted January 4, 2023, one applicant met MQ’s, however they did not respond to a request for an interview.
* State Teacher Aide (preschool) closed Monday, December 12, 2022, one applicant met the MQ’s, interview pending.
* Currently accepting application for the Transition Teacher, Preschool Teacher, CO-Hear (Grand Junction location), and Library Teacher / Coach, Administrative Assistant II / Accessibility Coordinator (new position with interpreters), Dining Services I (2 full-time vacancies), Special Education Teacher / MS/HS (offer pending), Consultant – Staff (ASL) Interpreter, Social Studies TVI

## Facilities/IT

### Stone

* Equipment raffle to get rid of surplus equipment – winners announced January 9, pick up January 19-20
* Getting quotes for the woodshop floor, lights, painting improvements – future museum/History Committee Workspace
* Completed some in-house electric/ductwork demo

### Ritter

* Getting facility ready for Homecoming visitors

### Gym

* Installed power outlet for OT/PT physical therapy table

### Gottlieb

* Installed ADA opener on the basement door

### Campus

* Leadership Team approved transition from SchoolDude to FMX
* Campus snow and ice removal has gone very well
* Christmas lights/displays were well received
* Researching powered changing table installation in Argo & Stone
* Custodians completed extensive facility cleaning/floor waxing over the holiday break
* Grounds crew completed extensive tree trimming over holiday break
* Applied for School Security Grant
  + $17.5K for CEM/Emergency Response Plan Initiative
  + $250K for Fiber/Network improvements to support future OSA security project

### IT Updates

* Preparing for WiFi Staff access (2nd Board Reading January)
* Testing new wireless equipment for the campus
* Identifying alternative options to replace touch panel in Gottlieb
* Preparing for SchoolDude to FMX transition
* Moving forward with AV System replacement in Gottlieb (Lifecycle Replacement Budget)

### Project Update

* Emergency Steam Plant Power Restoration
  + Awaiting control module to be received and installed
* Admin Rehab
  + Wrap-up onsite work in the next two weeks
  + Contractor will return when windows have been delivered
* Industrial Roof Repair
  + Awarding to Tri-Star Masonry
  + Repair June/July
* Argo Roof Replacement
  + Attic asbestos cleanup starts February 1
* West Hall Roof
  + Design/Build Contractor will be selected February 15
* Gym Construction
  + Contractor selection January 10
* CCCR 5-yr plan discussion w/LT & Principals prior to Board presentation
  + Jan 26th LT Meeting to review CCCR 5-yr Plan
  + Feb 2nd CM LT meeting to review CM 5-yr Plan
  + March Board meeting to review CM & CCCR 5-yr Plan
  + No news on OSPB/CDC FY23-24 project prioritization yet
* CEM Assessment of Emergency Action Plan
  + Received First Report
  + Matt reached out to several Deaf & Blind Schools for existing plans
  + Planning 2nd visit

**Both Schools**

* Principals are working on implementing proven strategies to help address staff burn-out. This includes using a community resilience method to help support coverage given the shortage of substitute teachers and frequent staff absences.
* Staff participated in an informative training on Trauma Informed Teaching during our professional development day.

**School for the Deaf**

* We are starting up Family ASL again in a partnership with the outreach department and the community ASL classes.
* Deaf PreK had a great parent event where families attended a workshop based on survey feedback and then stayed to ‘play’ with their kids.  We will be having several more coming up based on parent interest.
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* We welcomed a new 7th grader this week.
* Given staff situations and vacancies, an updated schedule for 2nd semester is being developed.

**School for the Blind**

* Blind PreK is growing each month. We are up to seven PreK with several more coming soon!
* Blind PreK had a great parent event where families attended a workshop based on survey feedback and then stayed to ‘play’ with their kids.  We will be having several more coming up based on parent interest.
* We welcomed a new elementary student on Wednesday.
* The Blind Advisory Team offered an Assistive Technology training to all CSDB staff.
* Delta Gamma, at Colorado College, hosted a volleyball tournament and donated ½ of the proceeds to the blind program.
* The Fine Arts Center (FAC) and CSDB are partnering to make the shows that the FAC puts on and the displays within the museum more inclusive. Our art teacher worked with the director of the FAC, applied for Gerald Erickson Trust Fund Grant and they won! This grant will fund an artist to visit CSDB’s campus, every Thursday throughout the second semester, to teach our students tactile art or music/theatre. The first artist visited our campus yesterday, January 5.
* Our Bulldog band auditioned and were selected to play at the Colorado Association of School Boards Convention held at the Broadmoor.
* The Colorado Center for the Blind has started visiting CSDB’s campus again on a monthly basis.
* The first Foresight Ski Trip of the Year, took place December 11-13. One of our students, served by the Outreach department, attended with a group of five CSDB 3rd-6th grade students! We are sending our second group of students, MS/HS boys, at the end of January.

## Employability Center

* Students in the Bridges to Life (BtL) program and the Post-School Preparation (PSP) class continued in their work experiences. Of our 30 student workers, 93% of students are currently placed in job placements. Some examples of worksites include Care and Share and Calvary Worship Center.
* Bridges to Life students participated in a presentation from the Independence Center related to housing options and waivers for low-income families.
* Students in career exploration classes developed PowerPoints focused on Energy Careers to present to their classmates.
* Students in music and art classes began their first lesson and projects with a guest instructor from the Fine Arts Center as part of our CSDB-FAC partnership this semester.
* In PE classes, students learned about floor hockey and practiced motor planning skills needed to kick a soccer ball.

## Student Services

* Speech Language activities in Gottlieb are tied to the Lunar New Year and a celebration of culture are represented in Asia Town in the speech area of the Gottlieb Building.
* The Social Emotional Learning groups, in Adams, got in the giving spirit before the holidays.  The students practiced gift “buying”, wrapping, and exchanging during lessons that taught kindness and social skills.
* Toys for Tots provided a large donation for some of our students nominated for the Giving Tree as well as some additional items to include in our school store - The Bulldog Bark.
* This year was one of the most successful The Giving Tree programs since it was initiated. Students received all their requests.
* Social/Emotional intervention groups are starting up based on the results of the BASC BESS screening tool to provide intervention services for students identified at varying tiers of needed support.

## Student Life

**Athletics**

* The Goalball team recently travelled out of state to New Mexico December 8-11 to compete in a Goalball tournament against New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (NMSBVI) and a goalball team from California. Our team made us proud and did their best and won one of their games.
* The high school basketball teams both went to New Mexico, as well, December 8th- 11th for a basketball tournament against deaf students from New Mexico School for the Deaf (NMSD), Utah School for the Deaf, and Washington School for the Deaf (WSD). Our girls’ varsity team beat Utah in the tournament. Both of our teams made us proud.
* The basketball teams also traveled to Iowa January 5th- 8th to compete against Iowa School for the Deaf (ISD) and Kansas School for the Deaf (KSD). CSDB boys’ basketball team beat Iowa and our girls’ basketball team lost to Iowa by only 1 point. It was a close and intense game. The girls are looking forward to a rematch scheduled in February when they travel back to Iowa for GPSD (Great Plains School for the Deaf) annual basketball tournament.
* Athletics also hosted the annual CSDB Holiday Craft Fair where we had vendors from all over town come and sell their unique gift items.

**Afterschool programs**

* We made ornaments for students to be able to take home for the holiday’s November 29
* Made holiday cookies in Palmer Hall December 6
* Arts and Crafts: we designed and made snowflakes at the BAC (Bulldog Activity Center) January 10

**Dorm activities**

* We hosted our annual Residential Holiday Dinner December 13. Argo kitchen put together a traditional holiday dinner and we enjoyed the meal before departing to the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo for the annual Electric Safari at the zoo. This was a blast. It was super cold with temperatures between 15-20 degrees and our students had a blast.
* We also hosted our annual Gingerbread House competition where each dorm made a gingerbread house and students voted which dorm was the best.

## Outreach Programs including the Colorado Instructional Materials Center (CIMC)

## Colorado Instructional Materials Center (CIMC)

### ****Statewide Student Registration Database & Federal Quota Census Count****

The CIMC is continuing to use video conferencing to meet with teachers of students with visual impairments (TVIs) from school districts across the state to review their statewide student registrations, the federal quota census process, and services available from the CIMC to their district at no cost to their administrative unit. In preparation for the January counts, the CIMC emailed current statewide registration database reports to each administrative unit,

### ****First Friday and Southern Region TVI/DVR Meetings****

* No Southern Region TVI-DVR meeting was planned for the month of December. The November Make-and-Take session was postponed due to weather. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 31, 3:30-4:30pm to hear from our esteemed Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Personnel.
* During the morning and afternoon session of the “First Friday” CIMC Zoom meetings held December 9, 2022, new APH (American Printing House) products were demonstrated and teachers from across the state of Colorado were able to ask questions. The next meetings will take place on Friday, January 6. 2023 from 9-10am and again from 2:30-3:30pm.

**CSDB Outreach: 2023 Metro Denver Braille Challenge Contest**

CIMC staff continues to plan the 2023 Metro Denver Braille Challenge. The in-person event, in partnership with the Colorado Center for the Blind (CCB), in Littleton, is scheduled for February 10, 2023.

**American Sign Language Team**

The ASL (American Sign Language) team has hired an ASL instructor. Welcome Jodie Adams-Chevalier to CSDB and the Outreach Team.

**Community ASL Classes**

We are offering six ASL classes; three on Tuesday and three on Thursday. Community classes are held in the evening. The Outreach team is partnering with the ASL specialists in Gottlieb to support parent classes for students attending CSDB. The winter session began Tuesday, January 10.

**Immersion for Professionals**

Our next Immersion for Professionals will be February 4, 2023. Registration is open.

**Colorado Digital Learning Solutions (CDLS) - Online ASL Courses for Middle and High School Students**

We currently support three levels of courses: 1A, 1B, and 2A. Dana Baldiviez is the CDE-licensed Adjunct Instructor overseeing all CDLS classes. Total participants for the first semester were 78 students.

**ASL Classes for CSDB Staff**

Staff ASL classes began January 10.

## Early Education Team

**Little Language Learners**

The Little Language Learners Toddler Program finished the Fall session with a make-up class December 9! Parent surveys show “raving reviews” and comments about the program, the staff, and the growth of their children! The team is gearing up for the Winter session, starting January 12, 2023.

**CO-Hears**

CO-Hears have been working with the media team on a video that shares the role of the CO-Hear and the support provided to families during their Early Intervention journey. The team also met with the Colorado Department of Early Childhood Care Navigators to provide education and training on referrals and processes for children with varied hearing levels. Additionally, we are interviewing for the Garfield/Mesa CO-Hear position in January!

**Colorado Shared Reading Project**

Literacy and Language Instructors (LLIs) are independent contractors who provide direct literacy instruction to children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and their families. We have recently started contracting with two new adults to provide services to families! Families had the opportunity to participate in Holiday Signs classes in November and December

**Early Literacy (EL) Events**

CSDB was part of a collaborative effort in planning and hosting the 2022 Holiday Party at Bethany Lutheran Church on Sunday, December 4, 2022. We worked with Colorado Hands and Voices, Rocky Mountain Deaf School, Colorado Association of the Deaf and the Listen Foundation to provide crafts, music, storytelling, and a visit with Santa to 33 families!

We also supported the Marion Downs Holiday party Saturday, December 10, 2022, by sending staff support, interpreters, and Deaf Adult role models!

**Ascent Program**

Ascent is a COEHDI, Colorado Early Hearing, Detection, and Intervention, funded Deaf adult role model program offered through CSDB. CSDB staff, along with COEHDI staff provided a 6-hour training for new Ascent adults, which also included a 3-hour refresher for current adults contracting with the program.

## Media:

***Dec/Jan Media:*The Wyoming Tribune** ran an article on Thomas Hunter, CSDB School for the Deaf alumni in the 1940s. He was captain of the basketball team and quarterback of the football team, married an alum and became a well-known baker.

**KKTV** “CSDB Back to the Hardwood” featured the Bulldog basketball teams in this 3-minute story <https://www.kktv.com/2022/12/05/back-hardwood-colorado-school-deaf-blind/>

**KVOR** “Back to the Hardwood”

**Max Preps and AP News** “NMSD vs CSDB basketball”

**CPR News** – “Assimilating Indigenous Children in Colorado” state archaeologist presentation to the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs lists CSDB as accepting Ute children into CSDB in the late 1800’s.

***Media Production Team:***

Homecoming VLOG completed

VIBES video completed

***Social Media and Website:***

*Created Super in 60 second*s videos for social media to showcase activities on campus:

Nov 21 - Board Meet and Greet

Nov 28 - Whichwich Sandwich Shop “Community Partners at Work”

Dec 5 – Bulldog Band at CASB

Dec 12 – Craft Festival

Dec 19 – Residential Holiday Dinner

*December monthly analytics*  
Facebook reach 14,943 Instagram reach 320

New fans 47 Growth 3.3%

Total likes 4,772 Total fans 396

Linked Uniqueviews 32 Twitter Impressions 612

New followers 26 New followers 0

Total followers 577 Total followers 294

*Website Analytics*: Average time on pages 2:39 minutes; Most popular pages Home Page, Outreach/ASL Community Classes, Careers/Join Our Team, School Calendar, Careers, Careers/Classified Jobs; Comparison pageviews 7,907 (Dec 2021) vs 10,511 (Dec 2022)

***Events:***

*Craft Festival*

*Lighting Ceremony*

*CSDBAA Holiday Dinner*

***Other***

**Interns:** One intern, from North Dakota, began in the Student Services Speech Language department.

**Print Projects:** The 2021-22 Annual Report has been compiled, designed and printed. Copies will be mailed to education and legislative officials. A pdf along with an accessible text-only document will be uploaded to the CSDB website.

**Items of communication distributed** for parents/families/students and staff members include ongoing videos using ASL with voiceover from Interim Superintendent Spangler. These videos are also posted to the CSDB website.