

CSDB BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT September 2022

Interim Superintendent

- I got married Saturday August 20! My new name is Tera Spangler.
- Met with the three new Board members and provided information prior to the first Board meeting.
- Attended the first PPASA meeting, for this school year, which was held at District 38.

Both Schools

- Beginning of the year assessments started Monday, August 29. Assessments include NWEA (MAP), ASL, StarMath, DRA-2, and PALS.
- Department Bulldog Huddles occur weekly where the principals recognize students and staff PRIDE efforts, share updates, review expectations, and spread joy.
- The CSDB P.R.I.D.E. store, the Bulldog Bark, opened on September 2. Staff and students in the Bridges to Life program did a phenomenal job in getting the store ready. Students and staff were pleased and motivated with what they can earn.
- Social-emotional learning instruction continues Fridays.
- We have continued to welcome several new, and returning, students to all programs.
- Instructional staff are attending High Leverage Practice PLCs led by coaches and administrators during the first six weeks of school.
- Pre-IEP brainstorm meetings are being scheduled to give staff time to collaborate on IEP goals for the 2022-2023 school year.

School for the Deaf

- All teachers worked to review the updated process for fire drills with students and we had a successful first fire drill.
- We welcomed 11 new students this school year, with another one starting Monday, September 12.
- Our Coaching team is making sure assessments for new students are completed as well as ensuring that teachers have what they need for quality instruction.
- PreK (Blind and Deaf) began the full-day programs. It has been exciting and challenging as staff and students adjust to this new program and schedule. We have 17 students with the capacity to go up to 28 total.

School for the Blind

- We welcomed seven new students this school year.
- Assistive technology and low vision devices were distributed to students.
- Students are working hard to learn new routes with their O&M instructors.
- Elementary teachers are nominating math and literacy stars each week. These students are recognized during our Bulldog Huddle on Monday mornings.
- Students in our secondary program went through ELA bootcamp the first four weeks of school.
- Students in our elementary ELA classes began exploring different terrains and the best ways to travel in them through tactual experiences.

Employability Center

- Students in the Bridges to Life (BtL) program and the Post-School Preparation (PSP) class were busy exploring career interests to begin their search for a student work study experience this Fall.
- CSDB is supporting one BtL student in a college class at Pikes Peak State College. Several BtL students are preparing to take the Accuplacer college placement assessment at PPSC to determine class loads for the Spring semester.
- BtL students were busy stocking inventory and re-organizing the Bark Market for opening on September 2.
- Students in the Career Exploration classes completed interest inventories to help determine personal career preferences.
- Music classes studied a piano unit and learned songs by Beethoven and Pop artists, as well as completed a drum set unit. The Bulldog Band is brainstorming White Cane Day songs and learned about the various band equipment.
- In PE classes, students learned about volleyball.
- In art classes, secondary students learned about how to independently set-up specific art room materials. They also experimented with and learned specific techniques for each medium.

Student Services

- The Orientation Mobility Specialists, along with the White Cane Day committee, are getting everything in place for White Cane Day which will take place downtown at Acacia Park on Friday October 14!
- The students in both schools will have an opportunity to spend a day at the North Pole. The admission fee is waived for our students and staff by the owner. We have extended the invitation to our students we serve in the Outreach department and some of them will be joining us as well.

- Student Services team members are assigned to a student group on Fridays and are co-leading Social Emotional Learning lessons with teachers.
- The Student Health Center coordinated and assisted with sports physicals and Special Olympic physicals for 20 students.
- The CSDB nurses taught a class to BTL students on Staying Healthy during COVID, Flu, Monkey Pox, and Cold season.
- Dorm staff and preschool staff have all been trained on Medication Delegation.
- All medication delegations and care plans are up-to-date and have been shared with staff. Staff have been trained on all relevant medical issues for students.
- CPR training was provided for preschool staff by the health services team.
- CPR classes were coordinated during back-to-school week by one of the CSDB nurses.

Student Life

- Athletics is in full swing with both the middle school and high school girls' volleyball teams winning one of their games already. Congratulations to both teams for their hard work and determination.
- Our afterschool programs have also started. The Deaf Family unit travelled off campus for their Outdoor Adventures at Panorama Park. Mondays and Wednesdays we have flag football, where students can learn the fundamentals of football and get an opportunity to get out on our fabulous football field, which has been fixed up recently after a long break of not being used. Special Olympics Bowling also started, the student athletes enjoyed learning the rules of the game as well as the math involved in calculating their scores at the first practice this week. We also started our off campus GEBC Church weekly meet which happens off campus every Monday.
- Dorm activities have also been happening as our students get a variety of choices and opportunities to get out and stay busy. We have ASL classes for students who are blind/visually impaired. Our popular Girls on the Run club started September 12. The High School Deaf Boys dorm cleaned up the garden between Admin and Argo. Since the summer break, a lot of weeds have taken over the garden. The boys enjoyed the fruits of their labor when they were able to eat some of the tomatoes they harvested from the garden as they were working on cleaning it up. Palmer Hall BtL group hosted their popular Deaf and Blind Karaoke for the students in the evening. This event was extremely popular with students last year and students could be seen dancing and enjoying the music. We may have discovered a few future stars. Deaf and Blind high school students went to Springs Trampoline recently and had a blast. This has been popular for all students and lots of fun.
- Student Life has done a great job managing programs despite being short staffed. We currently have five open positions which have been filled using our management

team, some substitutes, and a lot of creative scheduling to make sure we can support the needs of our students.

- Special Thanks to the School for the Deaf, School for the Blind and Employability Center for supporting Student Life transportation by allowing Paraprofessionals to assist on Fridays to help supervise our residential student transportation home for the weekend. Student Life is feeling the theme for this year "Bulldogs Strong Together"

Outreach Programs including the Colorado Instructional Materials Center (CIMC)

Colorado Instructional Materials Center (CIMC)

- CIMC staff spent the summer checking in braille books returned from school districts while simultaneously preparing new book orders for the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
- To date, CIMC staff have received 359 textbook orders; 284 of those titles were delivered complete to the districts so their students had them for their first day of class. Seventy-five titles are still in production.
- CSDB placed 57 orders for 14 titles which include the subjects of math, U.S. History, Global Geography, and Earth science, along with assorted science units.
- On a celebratory note, braille transcription for two of CSDB's new math curricula (Reveal Math Integrated I and Reveal Math Integrated II) was started in June of 2020 and both books were completed by the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) in August 2022. The final volumes were delivered to the math teacher in time for the first day of school for the students. To clarify, this braille transcription took 27 months to transcribe from print into braille; the math teacher did not have any students who needed this grade level of math textbook for the 2020-2021 or 2021-2022 school years, so no CSDB student went without the math textbook needed since the curriculum was announced in May 2020.

Early Education

- From June to August, four regions offered Summers at the Park, where families from around the state attended a casual park event in that region. Pikes Peak opened their events up to families with children who are deaf and families with children who are blind. We had professionals and role models at each event!
- Because early education programs are year-round, providers continued to serve families with children who are deaf through the summer with CHIP and CSRP. Families with children who are blind also received services from CSDB providers who work with two local CCBs, Colorado Bluesky Enterprises and The Resource Exchange, year-round.

Little Language Learners

Facilities staff worked above and beyond this summer to convert an office which formerly housed six employees (now working remotely) into a calming, welcoming toddler room where learning is fun. The Little Language Learners program for families with DHH children ages 18 months to 3 years, co-taught by Abby Killam and Jennifer McLellan, will utilize the room for weekly classes.

ASL Team

June and August were busy, wrapping up classes and programs from last year and preparing for this year, while instructors enjoyed time off during the month of July. Our partnership with Colorado Digital Learning Solutions (CDLS) continues this year, with three levels of classes taught to 100 high school students this semester. Staff and community classes resume in September, with ASL Immersion for Professionals scheduled for mid-October. One of our instructors relocated to Florida in June, so we are actively searching to find a replacement as soon as possible.

REPORTS FROM SUPPORT SERVICES

Finance

- Programs have received their operating budgets for the new school year and our goal for the year is to keep spending on track while providing to the needs of the students.
- The year-end accounting entries are complete and now the State Controller's Office is working on their closing entries for FY21-22. CSDB has completed the year-end financial exhibits and submitted them to the State Controller's Office.
- Interviews for the open Controller position took place this week.

Personnel

- To date, 13 positions have been filled for the 2022-2023 school year. Since July 1, 2022, there have been eight employee separations. Currently, there are 29 total vacancies: five vacancies for non-Classified positions; 24 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).
- CSDB has moved the Classified Staff Performance Program from paper to online. The new rating period is September 1 to August 31 of each year, except for SY 22-23 which has an extended rating period of April 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023, with a mid-

year review in January 2023. Approved by DPA and posted to the state website in April 2022.

Facilities/IT

Facilities Update:

- Fire system inspections across campus are complete. All wet suppression systems are due for 5-yr test.
- West Hall Little Language Learners Room was completed by September. Scenery painting on chalkboards remains.
- The Gym hot water issue has been identified and we will be coordinating an outage w/Gym staff to make the repairs.
- EEC turf installation started September 3 and should be completed in two weeks.

IT Update:

- Has identified old computers for replacement due to end of the life.
- In the process of processing old computers for disposal due to age.

Project Updates:

- Admin Rehab
 - Awaiting Board approval to award construction to Art C Klein
 - Descoping project to fit construction budget, should receive Contractor's proposal/cost next week
- Gym Phase I & II
 - Fire Suppression System, HVAC, ADA Restrooms, flooring abatement/replacement
 - Progressing with Construction Documents/Code Review
 - Put out for solicitation Sep/Aug, Summer 2023 construction
- Argo Roof Replacement:
 - Putting together solicitation documents
 - Reviewing environmental proposal and coordinating contract
 - Put out for solicitation Sep, Summer 2023 construction
- West Hall Roof Replacement & Industrial Roof Repair
 - Reviewing Consultant's proposal for Design/Build project
 - Reviewing environmental proposal and coordinating contract
- History Committee
 - Met w/Committee & Jen Wright's Staff
 - Briefed Stone space/move plan
- Lions Library/Media Center
 - All work completed

- History items moved to Gottlieb & Stone
- Some furniture still needs to be moved from Gottlieb to Lions
- Waiting on vendor quote for remaining furniture items
- Kids decorating acoustical panels for Tech Room

Media

June

The Gazette featured the CSDB graduation through multiple photos and a short article.
"CSDB Literacy Event for DHH Youth in the Valley" - KJCT/KKCO (Western Slope), CEASD

August

"Youth Transition Resource Fair" Craig Daily Press

"New Colorado Boards and Commissions Announced" Kiowa Press (reprinted in Howe's Now, CEASD, Blind Coloradoan, CDE Keeping In Touch (KIT enews)

Early Literacy and Community events – Hands and Voices enews

"Pikes Peak Library and CSDB Storytime" – Hands and Voices enews, CEASD

CDE KIT newsletter mentioned CSDB several times: CIMC, Low Vision Evaluation Clinics, CSDB Lending Library, Braille Challenge, and a shout out to Kyle Berns, TVI, for summer help with the Braille Review of the CMAS Science Tests

Media Production Team:

The Employability tour video along with the Capstone informational video have been completed. The principals' welcome videos have been completed and placed on the CSDB website. Interim Superintendent Spangler films a biweekly message that goes to staff, families, and the public via the CSDB website and social media channels.

Multiple videos are in production including the tour videos of Athletics & Activities, Preschool and Outreach. Other videos are in pre-production, such as the informational video about the CO-Hear program.

Broadcasts of middle school and high school volleyball games began in September. The live broadcasts on the CSDB YouTube channels provided a way for stakeholders, who cannot attend in person, to watch athletic events.

Social Media

See the monthly social media report along with the PR report to the Superintendent. (See attached)

Created short informal videos for social media to highlight activities on campus:

- September 19 Dot Day

- September 12 – What's New at CSDB?
- September 8 – Bulldogs Strong Together
- September 2 – 1st Day of Preschool
- August 24 – Back to School
August 17 – Staff Preparing for Students
- August 10 – Excited for School to Start! Early Registration
- August 5 – Welcome New CSDB Employees!
July 18 Storm Drain Art
July 13 Safety Day video
- July 6 – CSDB Alumni picnic
- June 24 – ESY
- June 13 5K
- June 6 Preschool graduation

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

As of September 1, 2022

Total Number of Students Currently Served Statewide	686
Total Number of Students Served on Campus since August 2022.....	162
Current Campus 3-21 Enrollment	162

Students in the School for the Deaf:

Preschool.....	8
K-5 th	29
6-8 th	20
9-12 th	25
Bridges to Life	13
Total.....	95

Students in the School for the Blind:

Preschool	6
K-5 th	17
6 th -8 th	13
9-12 th	19
Bridges to Life.....	12
Total	67

Day Students.....	124
Residential Students.....	38
Parent Option	20
District Option	142
Teacher/Student Ratio	1:4
CHIP (Deaf)	356
CHIP (Deafblind)	18
Blind: Birth – 3 yrs.	27
Direct Outreach.....	123
ELDI Programs.....	75