

Points of Pride

- ♦ **Academic Achievement:** BCE students continue to rank among the top performing elementary students in the District. Through EPR information, progress monitoring and CSAP results, we see high academic achievement and consistent growth.
- ♦ **Outstanding Programs:** Art, Music, PE, Technology, Health & Wellness, Library, Spanish, Creative Learning, Band/Orchestra, Choir and Outdoor Education are all fantastic programs available to Bear Canyon students.
- ♦ **Amazing Community Support:** The day-to-day involvement and support of our parents and community is incredible. This ranges from the classroom on a daily basis to the success of special events throughout the year.
- ♦ **All means All:** The BCE instructional model is designed to recognize and support every student and all learning styles.
- ♦ **Professional Staff:** The certified, classified and support staff at Bear Canyon do an amazing job each day. The commitment to excellence and desire to learn and to grow play the key role in the success of our school.
- ♦ **Wonderful Kids:** We have really nice kids in our building. They work hard and want to do their best.
- ♦ **A Great place to Learn:** The positive and enthusiastic learning environment lives on at Bear Canyon! Our families, students, community and staff all continued to do their part in making BCE an excellent school.

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. Or, send an email to 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 Bear Canyon Elementary and of the Douglas County School District is to provide an educational foundation that allows each student to reach his or her individual potential.

Bear Canyon Elementary School



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Principal's Perspective



In reviewing the results found in the State Accountability Report, the data indicates that our Bear Canyon students continue to perform very well. We are proud of the fact that our kids are not only high achieving, but consistently find ways to improve! We also take pride in the fact that our achievement is not limited to state mandated assessments. As a school, we continue to assess our progress, set new goals, and adjust to meet the current needs of our students.

Bear Canyon's outstanding staff has not been afraid to take on some new and challenging issues. Our commitment to the District's goal of developing responsible citizens who think critically and contribute to society has allowed our staff to grow as professionals and has given our students new and different opportunities in the classroom. As a member of the Mountain Vista Feeder, we have joined our neighborhood schools in setting some very high goals. Establishing that we are working towards 100% of our kids performing at a proficient or advanced level in all academic areas is lofty, but assures that we maintain a focus on all kids making growth and on working to close any achievement gaps that might exist. Our initiative to give kids an understanding of the process of growing as critical thinkers has also been very rewarding for both staff and students.

At the end of the day, not too many elementary students will come home and discuss accountability reports, standardized tests, or school improvement objectives. The kids talk about exciting learning opportunities, great lessons or activities, an occasional problems, and friends and relationships. With that in mind, continuing to provide a learning environment that is exciting, positive, and enthusiastic will continue to be the mission. We appreciate everyone who has been involved in making that happen year after year! Thanks for the continued involvement and support.

Sincerely,
Michael Weaver
Principal

Goals and Measures

Progress toward 08-09 School Improvement Plan Goals

In the past, we have analyzed data and worked to structure goals specific to an area of need. While that process has been somewhat successful, we have tended to end up focusing on the big picture of achievement in all academic areas and individual student growth. Our "proficient and advanced" percentages over the past several years have been outstanding, therefore, we feel that setting the bar higher is a reasonable next step. As we move forward, our goals will be based overall excellence and individual academic progress.

Having 100% of our students proficient or advance in all academic subjects is a lofty goal but is the ultimate purpose in what we are doing. We also hope to see 100% of our students make a year's worth of growth in a year's time, which will assure that we stay focused on each student's individual achievement (AYP – Adequate Yearly Progress). Our third goal is to continue to build a foundation of understanding regarding critical thinking.

Comparative Data: Spring, 2008 – How did we do?

- ♦ BCE at/above proficient performance exceeded the state on 13 of 13 assessments.
- ♦ BCE at/above proficient performance exceeded the district on 13 of 13 assessments.
- ♦ Advanced performance improved over the previous 4 year average & over 2007 on 8 of 13 assessments.
- ♦ 97% at/above proficient in 3rd Grade reading was #1 in the District (out of 50 schools).
- ♦ Overall rankings placed BCE at #76 out of 1013 elementary schools in the state.
- ♦ Based on these scores, BCE made 16 of 16 AYP targets