

## Points of Pride

- **Student Involvement** – Students have the opportunity to participate in various activities including: Student Leadership, Spanish Enrichment, Recycling, Spelling Bee, Jump Rope for Heart, Cougar Chase, choir, band, art club, running club, orchestra and Cougar Courage.
- **Parent Teacher Organization** — Copper Mesa's Parent Teacher Organization is going strong. With over \$50,000 in donations, the CME library collection has doubled. In addition, the PTO has funded projects for Art, Music and PE. Each year, the PTO sponsors many exciting community events.
- **Dad's Club** — The dads at Copper Mesa are busy planning service events and opportunities for dads to become involved at school. One event, Bring Your Dad to School Day, brings dads to school to learn about and play Everyday Math games! This year Dad's Club has raised funds to provide a climbing wall for our gym.
- **CME School Advisory Council** — Our council is comprised of 7 parents, 3 teachers and a member from our community. Items of discussion include school improvement, school technology, nutrition, safety, and security.
- **Volunteers** — With the help of our Volunteer Coordinator, we have a strong group of parent volunteers who work in the classroom, with special projects and in the library. Our volunteers have logged over 8043 hours in volunteer service this year
- **Technology** — Technology is a focus at Copper Mesa. In order to use technology as a tool for learning, students and staff have access to a computer lab, wireless laptop carts, computers, LCD projectors and document cameras in each classroom. Each year, technology integration is showcased at our spring Tech Expo.
- **Curriculum Resources** — CME provides a variety of resources to support instruction. These resources include Trophies Literacy Series, Lucy Calkins and Ralph Fletcher writing programs, Everyday Math and the District approved Science and Social Studies text. Additionally, CME has a resource room containing leveled books for instructional purposes.
- **Life Skills** — In order to support each student's Personal Best, we utilize Susan Kovalic's Lifeskills. The Lifeskills are woven into everything we do. It is exciting to hear students from Kindergarten through 6th grade speaking to each other about the use of Lifeskills.
- **Critical Thinking** — Critical Thinking is integrated into teaching. Students are learning daily how to think about and expand their thinking.
- **Staff** — Copper Mesa has a high performing, knowledgeable and dedicated staff. Our philosophy is that we are all responsible for the growth and success of every child in our school.
- **Students** — The students at Copper Mesa begin every day with a smile and excitement for learning!
- **Parent Community**— Our parent community is positive and provides support in many ways.

## 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

Copper Mesa is dedicated to excellence in education and being an exemplary community of learners.

## Copper Mesa Elementary School



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## Perspectives

### Parents' Perspective (School Advisory Committee)

As parents and community members we feel privileged to have our students in such a nurturing, positive and secure learning environment. The advanced technology, the valuable Life Skills and critical thinking techniques taught at Copper Mesa extend beyond the walls of the school in preparing our kids for their future endeavors. The supportive environment of teachers, combined with students, staff and parents helps to create an exceptional and passionate team working together to lead our children strongly into the future.

### Students' Perspective (Mrs. Tabacchi's 3rd Grade Class)

Copper Mesa is a school where we share our ideas because everyone is a teacher and everyone is a learner. We think we have the best teachers and learners here at CME! Some of the Life Skills we focus on are integrity, pride, and friendship. We use our Life Skills in order to succeed each day. It is important to be a critical thinker here, which means that we think outside the box and listen to different points of view. All CME citizens get to share their thinking, so we have to be aware of our metacognition. Technology is a fun tool we use each day to help us learn and it makes our understandings grow! Here at Copper Mesa, students and teachers know the purpose of what we are doing at all times – you are welcome to ask us what that is anytime! We use LIFT elements all around the school like Interactive Writing, Shared Reading, Guided Reading, Interactive Editing, and Read Aloud with a Purpose. We give 100% to Reading, Writing, and Math because we want to be our Personal Best. Everyone at CME has the opportunity to rise up and do his or her Personal Best each day. We love being at Copper Mesa because it is oozing with fun, bursting with learning opportunities, and super spectacular!

### Teachers' Perspective (Copper Mesa Teachers)

It is both an honor and a privilege to be part of the Copper Mesa community. Each day we come to work and have the opportunity to work with incredibly kind, thoughtful students. As teachers, we see firsthand how students use their Life Skills to support one another in the learning process. We are constantly amazed by the enthusiastic approach our students take as they embrace deep thinking in all content areas or utilize technology as a tool for deeper learning.

As part of Copper Mesa's community we learn and grow professionally in a supportive environment. Copper Mesa is truly a building of lifelong learners. Our colleagues and administration both provide for and encourage us as we take risks and learn new teaching approaches, in order to facilitate the learning of students as they strive to reach their full potential. Copper Mesa's collaborative and cooperative environment supports teachers as they reach out to one another through vertical articulation. Copper Mesa's high level of teacher involvement ultimately leads to success for all students.

Most importantly, we are truly lucky to have a school filled with such supportive parents. A growing library, the latest technology and the potential to continually increase the resources we use each day with our children is an added benefit to being part of this school. At Copper Mesa we have the chance daily to affect the lives of children and for this reason alone we are grateful for the opportunity to teach within the walls of Copper Mesa.

## Goals and Measures

### School Improvement Goals

- All students will perform at or above grade level in reading, writing and math as measured by the 2008 Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) scores and Elementary Progress Report (EPR) data.
- All students will make a minimum of one year's growth in all content areas

### Strategies

- Teacher Induction and Staff Development
  - » CME Instructional Frameworks
  - » Everyday Math training
  - » Literacy Instruction Frameworks for Teaching
  - » Technology hardware and software training
  - » Observation of classroom instruction
  - » Supervision of instructional practices
- Support of Board of Education End Statements
  - » Lifeskills teach students to be responsible citizens
  - » Integration of critical thinking into teaching and learning
- Developing a strong positive learning community
  - » Use of Life Skills
  - » Cougar Courage
  - » Student Leadership

### CSAP – Spring 2008 Results

#### Percentage of Students Proficient or Advanced

	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Reading	78%	85%	87%	94%
Writing	59%	74%	73%	93%
Math	91%	91%	82%	89%
Science			56%	

### School Mission Statement

Copper Mesa is dedicated to excellence in education and being an exemplary community of learners. Every child is worthy of a positive, successful learning experience. Our dedication is to create a child-centered environment that encourages risk taking, embraces diversity, and validates the whole child. To promote educational excellence, we will share in the responsibility to foster curiosity and the love of learning. We will model, encourage, inspire all learners to explore the possibilities of the world around them. Guiding students to reach their personal best, we will provide positive, supportive, challenging, differentiated opportunities for students to demonstrate understanding. We are committed to recognize, value, appreciate and take pride by celebrating the achievements of all. As a community of learners, leaders, and partners, we are united in our goal to enrich the lives of our children as they become life long learners seeking to reach their highest potential.