

## Points of Pride

- ♦ **Cougar Run is a great place to work and learn:** Our students, parents, and staff are focused on making each day an opportunity for our students to become critical thinkers and responsible citizens.
- ♦ **Parental Involvement Abounds:** We acquire over 4,800 volunteer hours annually; highly active School Accountability Committee; fantastic partnership with Partners in Education (PIE).
- ♦ **Special Programs:** Cougar Run is designated as a center-based program for Significant Support Needs (SSN); special education resource program, English as a Second Language, and Read to Succeed Program. Cougar Run is one of eleven elementary schools in DC who offer a foreign language.
- ♦ **Enrichment to Engage:** Students have the opportunity to participate in Choir, Band and Orchestra, Science Fair, Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, Dream Team, and Junior Great Books. Cougar Run is a Positive Behavior Support School (PBS). Students are recognized and celebrated for the exhibiting positive, respectful, responsible and safe behavior.
- ♦ **Student Achievement:** Cougar Run continues to thrive by meeting all criteria to achieve Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). We are consistently rated as a high performing school, demonstrating growth and improvement.
- ♦ **Staff Preparation and Commitment:** More than 60 percent of CRUN staff have earned or are working toward a master's degree or higher. The implementation of best practices in core content areas is evident in classrooms. Teachers continually strive for improvement and are supported through extensive staff development. Many hours beyond the school day devoted to student programs and service.

## 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 Cougar Run is to inspire, encourage and empower children to achieve and learn in a safe and respectful learning environment.

## Cougar Run Elementary School



John Gutierrez, Principal  
Jeanne Ulrich, Assistant Principal  
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## Principal's Perspective

Dear Cougar Run Families,

The 2007-2008 school year was very positive and successful. Students are consistently performing above district and state averages in reading, writing, math and science. We are heavily invested in continuous improvement for all of our learners. Our staff works tirelessly and enthusiastically to support each student to reach their fullest potential. Our school wide improvement plan is focused on all content areas and special attention is directed towards improving writing skills. Our staff is heavily invested in utilizing assessment data to drive appropriate and challenging instruction for all students.

In addition to our academic goals, it is our desire to set goals around character development, leadership and behavior. We are one of several schools in Douglas County who are implementing the Positive Behavior Support Program (PBS). The PBS Program identifies and recognizes positive and appropriate behavior uniformly in grades K-6. Specifically, we are recognizing behavior related to Respect, Responsibility and Safety.

Cougar Run is an exciting place for children to learn and grow. We have a strong academic program with a clear focus to help all students become successful readers, accomplished writers and excellent problem solvers. Additionally, we provide a balance of skill building in science, social studies, computer literacy, art, music and physical education. We expect our students to become critical thinkers as well as responsible citizens. We take our roles as teachers seriously and are very proud of the combined efforts of our learning community to help each child reach their fullest academic potential. Our partnership with our parents is the most important relationship we have. We look forward to your next visit to the school.

Sincerely,

*John Gutierrez*

Principal

## Goals and Measures

### School Improvement Goal

Cougar Run Elementary will reduce the number of students scoring unsatisfactory or partially proficient in reading, writing, science and math by 15% and reduce the number of Individual Learning Plans (ILP) by 15%. Cougar Run Elementary will increase the number of continuously enrolled students scoring Proficient and Advanced on CSAP reading, writing, science and math by 15%.

### 2008 CSAP Information

2007	Reading			Writing			Math			Science		
Grade	CRun	DCSD	State	CRun	DCSD	State	CRun	DCSD	State	CRun	DCSD	State
6th	89	88	71	80	78	60	79	80	61			
5th	87	86	70	71	76	59	82	81	65	59	57	44
4th	79	79	66	65	66	52	85	83	68			
3rd	85	82	70	62	62	50	91	83	70			

### Strategies

- ✦ Instructional Framework and Staff Development
  - » Content Area Cadres Drive Staff Development
  - » Balanced Literacy Approach, LIFT Framework and Writer's Workshop
  - » Everyday Mathematics Program
  - » New Teacher Academies, District Learning Center
- ✦ Professional Learning Community Model
  - » What do students need to know? (Standards)
  - » How do we know that they know? (Assessment)
  - » What do we do when they don't know? (Interventions)
  - » What do we when they know it? (Enrichment)
- ✦ Professional Learning Communities Focused on Student Achievement
  - » Student Data Collection and Progress Monitoring Drive Instruction
  - » Marzano's research on strategies for increasing student achievement
- ✦ Community Satisfaction
  - » Continue to strive to reach high satisfaction with stakeholders