

## Points of Pride

- ♦ We serve a wonderfully diverse student population, including students with special needs and students from a variety of cultures and backgrounds.
- ♦ Our supportive parent community logged 9,531 volunteer hours last year representing 348 different volunteers. Parents serve on our School Advisory Council and our Heritage Educational Alliance. In addition, our parent volunteers work in the library and computer lab, facilitate Junior Great Books, do projects at home, create scenery for our school choir and help in our classrooms.
- ♦ Our Heritage Educational Alliance funds grants for our library and technology program, classroom leveled readers, software and musical instruments. HEA sponsors literacy week and author visits, as well as organizes our Explorers in Action activities for charities within the community.
- ♦ Our Positive Behavior Support program supports the Board of Education goals to develop respectful citizens. Positive Behavior Support encourages students and staff to “Give Respect, Promote Safety and Show Responsibility” at school and in the community.
- ♦ Our teacher specialists in music, physical education, art, technology and science provide exceptional learning experiences including instrumental music, choir, bell choir, spelling bee, science club, green team, DARE program, Read Together and other before and after school enrichment opportunities.
- ♦ Our student council and HERO students focus on community service, including coordinating food and toy drives, supporting energy conservation, recycling and organizing school spirit events.
- ♦ The integration of technology in classrooms includes the use of document cameras and projectors in every classroom along with CPS Clickers, SmartBoards and laptop carts.
- ♦ Our teachers are of the highest caliber. All teachers at Heritage participate in professional learning communities to plan lessons, develop common grade level assessments and discuss issues that impact student learning. Several of our staff have advanced degrees.

## 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

Our mission is to inspire, encourage and empower all children to achieve their highest potential.

## Heritage Elementary School



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## Principal's Perspective



### Inspire! Encourage! Empower! Achieve!

These are the key words of our Heritage mission statement that proudly hang on banners in our main Galleria. The banners serve as a constant reminder as to what our mission is each and every day at Heritage Elementary.

Our staff is committed to delivering instruction to meet the needs of every student at our school. We have a rich curriculum in the areas of reading, writing, math, science and social studies. Our programs that support

our curriculum are the McGraw Hill Treasures reading series, Everyday Math, Every Child a Writer, Handwriting Without Tears, Full Options Science Systems, Houghton Mifflin Science Discovery Works and McGraw Hill Social Studies. Teachers meet with grade level teams on a regular basis to plan instruction and assess current practices.

Heritage Elementary provides a variety of programming for our children. The Instructional Support Services team collaborates with the classroom teachers to provide programming in the areas of Gifted and Talented facilitation, English as a Second Language and special education

Our school improvement plan has three areas of focus. Those areas include all students being proficient or advanced in all content areas, all students making at least one year or more of growth and the continued use of critical thinking skills in all that we do.

We are working in tandem with the district goals of developing our students as responsible citizens and critical thinkers. This past year we implemented the Positive Behavior Support program. Our students are always monitoring their "GPS"-Giving Respect, Promoting Safety and Showing Responsibility. Our students are taking the lead in seeking out opportunities to be responsible citizens by connecting with the community. Examples include school wide food drive, book drives, writing letters to our soldiers and spending time with our senior citizens.

I hope this report helps verify our commitment to your children. Our staff works collaboratively with parents and students to provide the very best for all.

As always, please contact me if you have questions. Thank you for all you do to support our Heritage Community.

Sincerely,

*Mary Lams*

Principal

## Goals and Measures

### School Improvement Goals

Our School Improvement Plan for 2008-2009 targets three areas. First, we want all students to be proficient or advanced in all content areas, as measured by elementary progress report data, CSAP data, MAP data, daily work, common grade level assessments and other school district assessments. Second, we want all students to make one year or more growth in all academic areas. Third, we continue to embed critical thinking in all content areas. Further, we will continue our successful results across all content areas.

### 2008 CSAP Results

(Percentage of students at or above proficient)

Reading			Writing			Math			
Grade	HE	DCSD	State	HE	DCSD	State	HE	DCSD	State
3	88	82	70	79	62	50	88	83	70
4	84	80	65	72	67	52	88	83	68
5	76	85	70	64	76	59	82	81	65
6	93	89	71	89	78	60	88	80	61
Science									
	HE	DCSD	State						
5	43	57	44						

### Strategies

#### Professional Learning Community Model:

- What do students need to know?
- How do we know when students know it?
- What do we do when students have or have not met expectations?

#### Staff meetings and staff development focused on student achievement:

- Every Child A Writer program
- MAP data analysis/CSAP data analysis training
- Technology
- Instructional Best Practices and Critical Thinking
- Progress Monitoring Data

#### Community satisfaction:

- Collaborative work with the School Advisory Council
- Fundraising and planning with the Heritage Educational Alliance
- Community survey input