

Points of Pride

- **Our supportive parent and community members** logged almost 10,000 volunteer hours last year.
- **Our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) provided over \$60,000** to our classrooms and school-wide programs that support students and teachers. Two incredible community events, The Fall Festival and the Boot Scootin' Boogie, raised these funds.
- **Our teachers in music, physical education, art and technology** provide exceptional learning experiences.
- **Enrichment to Engage** – We were able to provide fall and spring enrichment classes (six weeks in length) through our Larkspur Enrichment Committee. The Enrichment Committee also provides multiple opportunities for students to view high quality assemblies. This year, all students will be given the opportunity to participate in the spring play.
- **Our focus on monthly Core Virtues and character building** helps our students know how to “Head True North”.
- **Student achievement** – Our 4 year average scores for CSAP:
Reading - 82% of our students tested were proficient/advanced
Writing - 71% of our students tested were proficient/advanced
Math - 83% of our students tested were proficient/advanced
- **Extra reading services** are provided to students in grades K-6 through Reading Recovery and other literacy support resources.
- **Sister School** – Our school works closely with WatchCare Academy in Denver to gather school supplies and Christmas presents for the community of students and teachers at this north Denver school. Our 6th grade students are given the opportunity to attend the National Western Rodeo with the students from WatchCare Academy.

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!

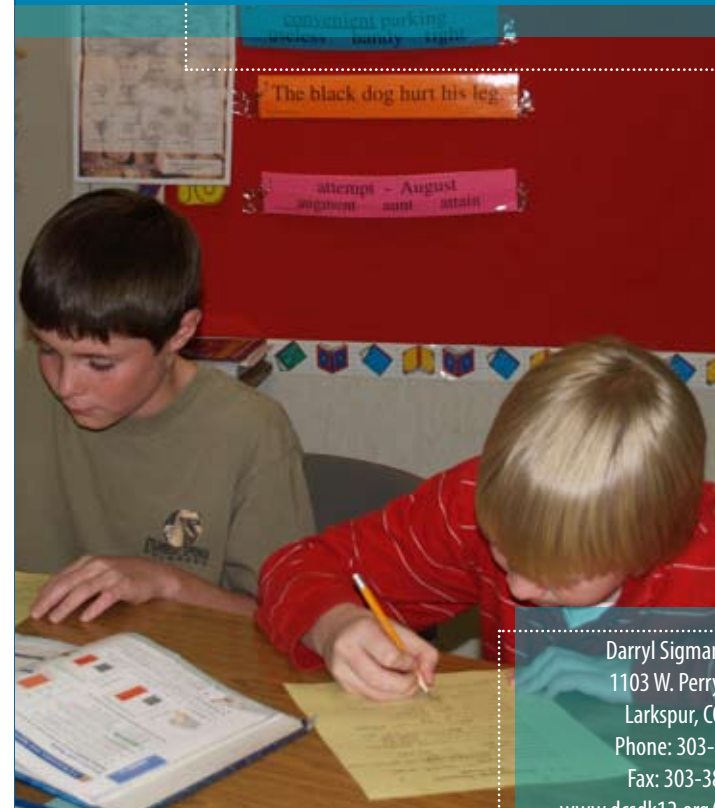
School Mission Statement

“We’re Heading True North”

At Larkspur Elementary School we believe that we are here to:

- Care For Others • Think We Can • Work Hard
- Learn Everyday • Enjoy The Journey

Larkspur Elementary School



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Principal's Perspective

It is with great pleasure that I take the opportunity to communicate with you about this year's School Accountability Report (SAR). The 2007-2008 SAR is another means for us to provide the Larkspur community with pertinent facts, statistics and information about our school and District.

We, the staff and the students of Larkspur Elementary, believe that our school is a wonderful place where people care about each other, believe in ourselves, work hard, learn every day and enjoy the journey. We believe that education is a partnership among the school's staff, parents and community members.

Communication among these groups is a vital component of this partnership. We believe that the education provided at Larkspur Elementary is of high quality and academic rigor, but we also strive to continually improve our efforts to help each individual student reach his/her potential.

Our goal is to provide educational opportunities that meet the needs of our learners through individual pacing, strategies, curriculum and activities. We believe in not only helping our students reach their potential in academics, but in character as well. We focus on the core virtues of respect, responsibility, honesty, generosity, self-discipline, perseverance, and compassion.

We know that educating children is an important job and, in order to accomplish these goals, we need to enlist the help of parents, staff and community members in this noble task. We are very proud of who we are as a learning community, and we invite you to join us on our journey towards excellence.

If you have any questions about our school or your students' progress, please contact your child's teacher or call the school's office at (303) 387-5375. Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Sincerely,

Darryl Sigman

Principal

Goals and Measures

School Improvement Goal

Larkspur Elementary students will focus on improving writing instruction over the next three years. We will be re-examining writing and spelling processes, assessments, and instruction across all grade levels. All students will continue to receive consistent daily instruction in literacy using the Literacy Instructional Framework for Teaching (LIFT) elements to support their reading and writing. Student achievement will be measured by reaching grade-level standards, CSAP proficiency, and whether or not students are making one year growth in reading and writing as measured by standards and CSAP.

Measures

Assessment: Classroom teachers collect and analyze data about individual student writing and spelling using formal and informal assessments in all subject areas. Assessments include CSAP, reading inventories, unit assessments and student observation.

Instruction: Teachers utilize assessment data to differentiate learning for students. Differentiation may include remediation or enrichment/acceleration. Students are grouped throughout the day, based upon their instructional level.

Learning is tailored to meet the needs of all learners through the following school-wide programs: AIMS Web, Every Child A Writer, Every Child A Reader, and integrated science and social studies.

Remediation is provided through Reading Recovery, a Literacy Support Teacher, special education, and Individual Literacy Plans, as well as a wide range of learning opportunities in each classroom/grade level.

Enrichment is provided through opportunities in individual classrooms, cross grade level movement, accelerated groups, enrichment assemblies, and our after school enrichment programs.

Staff Development: Staff members, as well as students, are encouraged to be lifelong learners at Larkspur Elementary School. Opportunities for teachers to be on the cutting edge of education and instruction include embedded staff development, Larkspur University, Literacy Instructional Framework for Teaching (LIFT), Every Child A Reader training and collaboration, as well as ongoing work within the Professional Learning Communities framework.

Goals and Measures: Each student at Larkspur Elementary will reach his/her highest potential as a reader, writer and mathematician. Our hope is that every child will make one year of growth in each subject area as measured by CSAP and the Elementary Progress Report.