

## Points of Pride

- ♦ **Student Council and the Prairie Crossing community** work on projects that give back to the global community. Among the projects are a food drive for the Parker Task Force and school supplies and books for an elementary school in Belize.
- ♦ **A variety of programs and curriculum** support the diverse learning needs of Prairie Crossing students. These programs include: music, physical education, technology, art, band, orchestra, special education, English as a Second Language, Reading Recovery and Reading Together.
- ♦ **Prairie Crossing students** have appeared in an internet publication and on television for their work collecting food for the Parker Task Force and selected students reported about Prairie Crossing in a Rocky Mountain PBS "Super School News" segment.
- ♦ **The Prairie Crossing Educational Alliance** supported teacher initiatives with grants in excess of \$5,000.
- ♦ **Before and after school care, intersession and kindergarten enrichment programs** are offered to Prairie Crossing families.
- ♦ **After school enrichment activities** offered to students include physical education, games, choir, band and orchestra for primary students, and cultural diversity classes.
- ♦ **Prairie Crossing Elementary students outperformed the state average** on 13 out of 13 of the CSAP tests.

## 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.

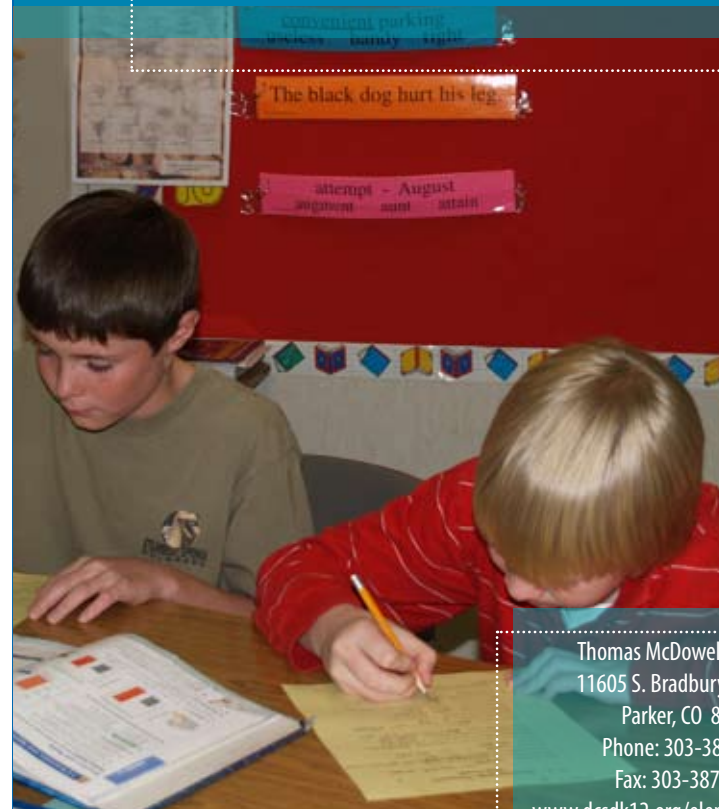
In addition to the information found in this school report, state-required accountability and accreditation information is also available in the Colorado Department of Education's "ONE REPORT," linked to the District web site at [www.dcsdk12.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org). Or, send an email to [communications@dcsdk12.org](mailto:communications@dcsdk12.org) 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

Inspired by our belief that all children are unique treasures, we challenge students to develop socially, creatively and intellectually, empowering them to realize their fullest potential.

## Prairie Crossing Elementary School



Thomas McDowell, Principal  
11605 S. Bradbury Ranch Dr.  
Parker, CO 80134  
Phone: 303-387-8200  
Fax: 303-387-8201  
[www.dcsdk12.org/elementary/pce.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org/elementary/pce.org)

## Principal's Perspective

*Mission: Inspired by our belief that each child is a unique treasure, we challenge students to develop socially, creatively, and intellectually - empowering them to realize their fullest potential.*

Prairie Crossing has returned to the modified calendar after a couple of years on the four-track calendar. The information in the SAR this year includes the 840+ students that Prairie Crossing had at its largest student population. With the opening of Gold Rush Elementary, Prairie Crossing is just under 500 students.

With the change in calendar, we have once again been able to easily offer after school activities and child-care during fall, spring, and summer breaks. We have created a consistent literacy block during which all students receive instruction in reading and writing and all staff is available to give students literacy help. Another area of emphasis is the increased use of technology teachers and students have experienced in part due to the mil levy override funds discussed in the School Advisory Council (SAC).

The SAC meets monthly and contributes a parent's perspective on the successes and needs of Prairie Crossing. Topics covered include school improvement and safety. This year, the SAC has reviewed action plans written and implemented by all grade levels. Additionally, the SAC will continue discussions around advancing World Languages at Prairie Crossing.

Thank you for taking time to read this report. Included are this year's School Improvement Plan goal and action plan details as well as our Points of Pride. To learn more about Prairie Crossing, please take some time exploring our website. You can also contact the Prairie Crossing office if you have any other questions.

Sincerely,

*Tom McDowell*

Principal

## Goals and Measures

### School Improvement Plan Goal in Literacy

The students of Prairie Crossing Elementary will demonstrate a year's growth or more in literacy.

#### Action Plans Used to Achieve Our Goal

GRADE LEVEL ACTION PLAN - The students will be able to retell and summarize text at a proficient level.

Each grade level will develop an action plan targeting specific students performing low in the reading skills of retell and summarization (critical thinking skill of determining importance).

CULTURE OF THINKING - The students will be able to verbalize and label their thinking. The teachers of Prairie Crossing will work to increase their knowledge of a culture of thinking and create a common vision, language, and framework.

EVERY CHILD A WRITER - The students of Prairie Crossing will be proficient in all areas of writing. Prairie Crossing teachers will utilize the targets and rubrics provided by the program Every Child A Writer (ECAW) to establish a K-6 continuum of learning.

TARGET BOYS - The boys of Prairie Crossing Elementary will receive targeted instruction to increase their performance in writing.

LITERACY BLOCK - All students will participate in literacy during a common block of time. During the 2008-2009 school year, a literacy block from 8:30 - 10:00 AM was established for every classroom. Specials teachers will assist with students needing interventions.