

## Points of Pride

- ♦ **Student achievement** continues to be a point of pride for Soaring Hawk Elementary. We are one of only nine percent of all schools in Colorado to achieve a rating of high in both overall student performance and academic growth.
- ♦ **Parental involvement** abounds through our volunteer program, Parent/Teacher Organization, and School Accountability Committee.
- ♦ **Technology innovation** is evident in our staff's commitment to providing opportunities for students to develop their full learning potential. An emphasis on technology will invigorate, expand and extend the district curriculum, while preparing students for their futures and connecting students to the greater world community.
- ♦ **Staff preparation and commitment** are reflected in the many hours of additional classes, book studies, and inservice time in which teachers participate throughout the entire school year. With our focus on critical thinking and reading development, our staff is committed to supporting each student in reaching his/her fullest potential as a thinker and reader.
- ♦ **Special programs to support students** include the following center-based programs: students with Significant Support Needs (SSN), special education resource program, English as a Second Language, and two Reading Recovery specialists. We also provide students with GT and advanced learning support, art, music, physical education programs, world language (Spanish) and information literacy support on a regular basis.
- ♦ **Our Positive Behavior Support** school-wide program (SOAR2) supports and develops positive behavior. Our school focus areas are Safety, Organization, Achievement, Respect, and Responsibility.

## 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.

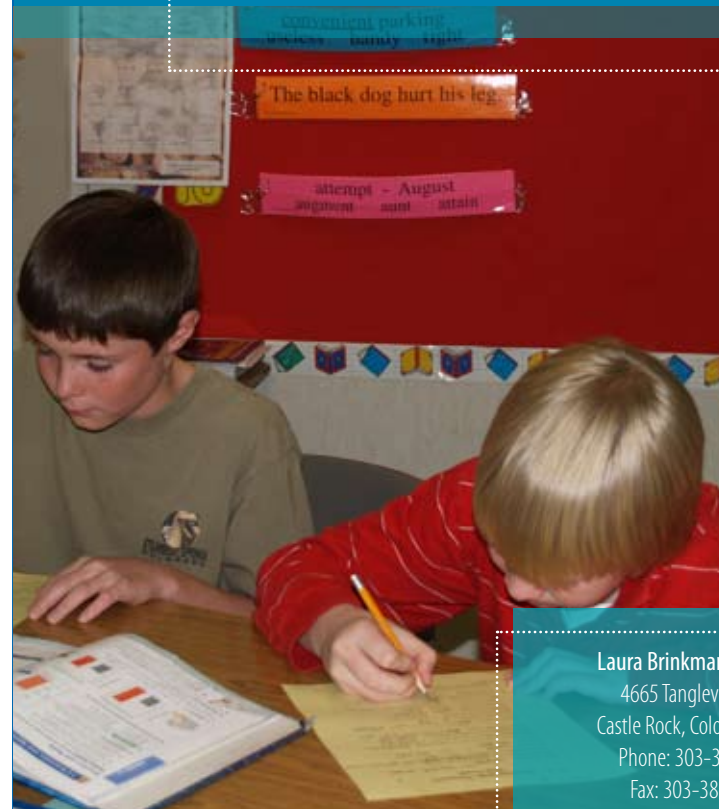
In addition to the information found in this school report, state-required accountability and accreditation information is also available in the Colorado Department of Education's "ONE REPORT," linked to the District web site at [www.dcsdk12.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org). Or, send an email to [communications@dcsdk12.org](mailto:communications@dcsdk12.org)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

As a child centered learning community, Soaring Hawk Elementary will achieve excellence by supporting and empowering all children to develop socially, creatively, and intellectually.

## Soaring Hawk Elementary School



Laura Brinkman, Principal  
4665 Tanglevine Drive  
Castle Rock, Colorado 80109  
Phone: 303-387-5838  
Fax: 303-387-5826  
<http://schools.dcsdk12.org/she>

## Principal's Perspective

Our fourth year at Soaring Hawk Elementary brought forth significant changes within our community. The opening of the new elementary school in the Meadows decreased our school population by over 200 students. This has created an opportunity here at Soaring Hawk to really focus on building our community. We have had events like our Harvest Hustle and Family Game Night that have really brought our community together.

Soaring Hawk continues to be a place where we strive to prepare students to be contributing members of a 21st century society. We are a school that values achievement but also wishes to nurture the whole child. This is illustrated in our visioning work that we have done this year. Our school has worked tirelessly to create a path to meet the District's learning goals for each student.

As a staff, we have focused on creating a culture of thinking within our classrooms, being responsive in meeting all educational needs of our students, and establishing a liberal arts program that emphasizes the whole child. In working to meet these goals, we believe that students who leave Soaring Hawk will continue on a path of being a responsible citizen.

We will continue to be reflective in this process of school improvement. We fully understand and embrace the great responsibility it is to educate the children of our community. We are excited about our future

Sincerely,

*Laura Brinkman*

Principal

*Dr. Anthony Farrell*

Assistant Principal

## Goals and Measures

### School Improvement Goal

- CSAP reading, writing and math scores will show that 90% of students in grades 3-6 will score at or above the District average in the proficient or advanced category.
- Soaring Hawk continues to have a school-wide goal that all of our students who are with us for a full year will make a minimum of one year's growth in all areas.
- Soaring Hawk will create structures and staff development opportunities through our three year vision planning to meet the District's Student Learning Goals:

**Goal One:** Shape our students, the leaders of tomorrow, by developing them as responsible citizens who demonstrate critical thinking and ethical behavior.

**Goal Two:** Close achievement gaps for subpopulations of students who are not proficient in acquiring the essential skills of reading, writing and mathematics by achieving a year or more growth.

**Goal Three:** Provide access for all students to a liberal arts education to ensure the acquisition of a core body of knowledge, exposure to the fine arts and exploration beyond the liberal arts through a continuum of services and choice programming.

### CSAP – 2007-2008 Results

#### Percentage of Students Proficient or Advanced

	3rd	4th	5th	6th
<b>Reading</b>	78%	73%	82%	85%
<b>Writing</b>	40%	53%	66%	76%
<b>Math</b>	73%	71%	78%	81%
<b>Science</b>	n/a	n/a	61%	n/a