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# Education Office Annual Report:

## A Year of Strategy, Culture Set Tone for Journey Ahead

By Amber Whetstine

Learning Services Executive Director

School District 49's education office team observed many measurable accomplishments last school year. From improving student reading scores to growing career and college readiness, District 49 results are positively impacting students.

### New Community of Care Role

With the hiring of a director of community care and a designated crisis response team, the District 49 family found support during times of need. The district celebrated many successes during the past year, but when needed, the new position and crisis response team supported students, staff and families in processing losses suffered by many. Support continued to ensure a strong end of the year for learners and educators alike.

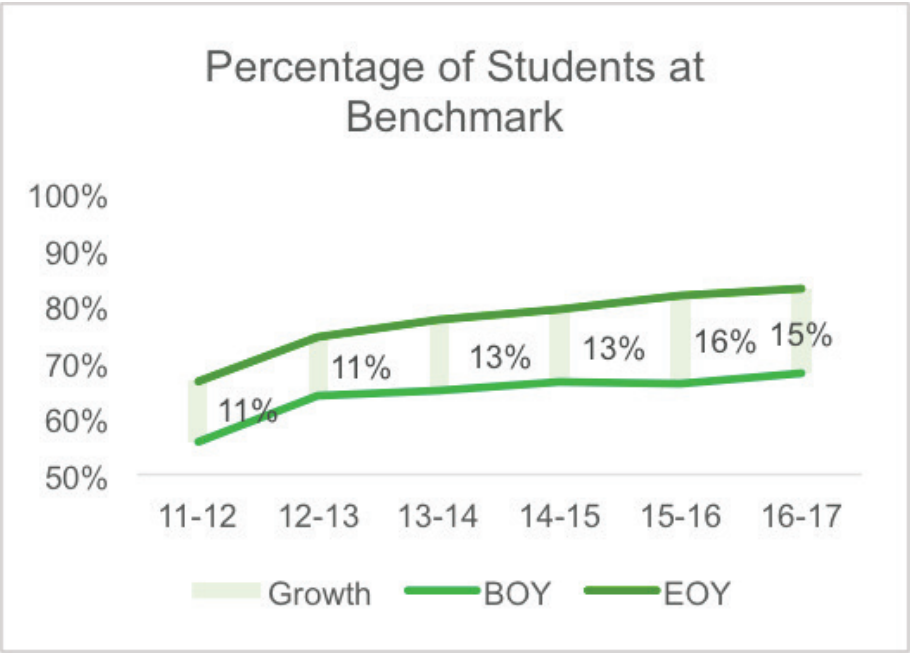
### Award of Excellence

To make the district the best it can be, it is essential to focus on reaching excellence inside the organization. District leaders continued to pursue performance excellence, using the national Malcom Baldrige Framework, and earned the region's

Rocky Mountain Performance Excellence Timberline Award. District 49 will continue to examine the delivery of educational services and how they are implemented, so staff can ensure District 49 is offering a quality education to every student.

### Reading Scores Improved

Students who learn to read will become students who read to learn. For the past three years, the district has continued a deliberate commitment to ensuring every student leaves third grade a reader. Last year, nearly 400 students participated in extra READ Camps during fall, spring and summer breaks. A total of 21,402 books were read at school and at home during the year on myON, our online library program. Principals were involved by improving instructional strategies for students, including adopting new curriculum, upgrading library collections, and enhancing intervention for struggling readers. As a result, District 49 students continued to experience great success in reading achievement. Partnerships with the University of Colorado Colorado Springs and the Olympic Training Center contributed to district results.



### Decrease in Summer Regression with Reading

During the summer break, District 49 students are retaining what they have learned. This is allowing students to score progressively better at the start of the year and ensuring more students are at benchmark by end of the year. The change in percentage of students scoring at benchmark between the beginning and end of the year in all four zones of the district is considered well above average when compared to a national sample. As a result, similar efforts will be implemented in the upcoming year to improve mathematics scores.

### College Readiness is Increasing

High school students today have many opportunities for earning college credits early, and District 49 students are taking advantage. The number of students participating in college-level courses while in high school and the number of credits earned continue to increase. The concurrent enrollment program within 49 Pathways facilitates free college learning for our high school students. New on-campus course offerings in 2016-2017

included psychology and U.S. History. We anticipate continued growth in the 2017-2018 school year as District 49 adds more college courses, including English composition II, career math and public speaking. Pikes Peak Community College continues to be a key community partner in this effort.

### Workforce Preparedness is Improving

We know that a number of our students will prefer to enter the workforce after high school. The number of students participating in career and technical education (CTE) is increasing, and with the recent hiring of a manager of workplace learning, opportunities for student internships within the community will continue to multiply. For students interested in construction, the Housing and Building Association, and Falcon Community Builders for Classrooms, provided \$500,000 to fund a program at Patriot High School. Our students competed and received numerous state-level awards and recognitions in a number of professional programs in healthcare and cybersecurity. Dave Kranz, Falcon High School instructor, was selected by the Walt Disney Company

# GEAR UP!

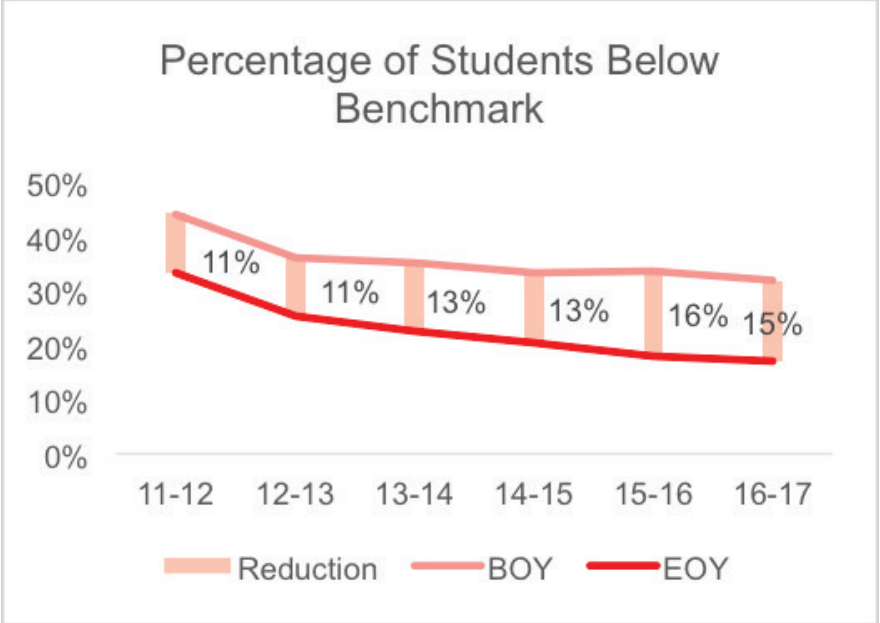
## WE'RE BACK TO SCHOOL AUGUST 2

### WIN A \$200 SHOPPING SPREE

#### ENTER TO WIN: D49.org/BacktoSchool

Find school supply lists, orientation activities and open house opportunities, plus contest details!

5 WINNERS WILL BE SELECTED!





# Busy Construction Season Blasts Off with Wall-Breaking Ceremony

By Amy Matisek  
Internal Communications Manager

The walls at Sand Creek High School started tumbling down June 6 for a groundbreaking, or rather “wall-breaking,” ceremony. Administrators, students and board members took turns knocking down walls to make way for a variety of school improvements and additions. The event marked the official kick-off for \$83.5 million of projects across District 49 made possible by ballot issue 3B. Last November, voters overwhelmingly approved 3B by a 2 to 1 margin.

“Sand Creek High School is celebrating their 20th anniversary this year, and we are so excited to start the next 20 years with enhancements,” said Audra Lane, SCHS associate principal. Renovations at the school totaling \$7.5 million will include a major remodel for flexible learning space, extracurricular activity areas, safety enhancements, new flooring, paint, and more efficient LED lights.

“I am really excited, especially for the freshmen. It’s my last year [at Sand Creek], and it will be cool to see all the new stuff,” said Daja Jones, 17, SCHS twelfth-grader.

3B ballot language defines priorities for the new investment in District 49 schools, including funds to attract and retain highly effective teachers, build two new elementary schools, create new learning spaces at the three largest high schools, and refresh and refurbish every existing facility.

“On behalf of the D49 Board of Education, our staff, and most importantly the 20,000 students we serve, I’d like to thank our community for the overwhelming endorsement of an investment in our district,” said Marie LaVere-Wright, Board of Education president. “We strive to be the best choice to learn, work, and lead, and we can only do that with the trust and support of the community.”

“We are incredibly grateful for the faith you have placed in us.”

Nunn Construction, the company leading the project at Sand Creek, was onsite for festivities.

“We get to participate and help learning through our great buildings. Our goal is to be good communicators with the community so you know how your dollars are being spent,” said Tyson Nunn, Nunn Construction president.

The renovations are expected to be complete when the school year begins Aug. 2.



Madelyn Wells, 14, tenth-grader at Sand Creek High School, smiles after smashing a wall June 6. The day’s festivities helped mark the official kick-off for \$83.5 million of projects across District 49 made possible by ballot issue 3B. Last November, voters overwhelmingly approved 3B by a 2 to 1 margin. (District 49/Amy Matisek)

## DISPATCH

### Board of Education:

President, Marie LaVere-Wright  
Vice-President, John Graham  
Secretary, Tammy Harold  
Treasurer, Kevin Butcher  
Director, Dave Cruson

### Administration:

Chief Education Officer, Peter Hilts  
Chief Business Officer, Brett Ridgway  
Communications Director, Matt Meister

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# 2017 Teachers of the Year Honored

The 2017 teachers of the year were recognized during ‘Fantastic 49’ ahead of a monthly board meeting June 8 in District 49.

**Teacher | School**

- Eric Canuel | Falcon High School
- Kendra Ramirez | Falcon Middle School
- Kirin Kinder | Falcon Elementary School of Technology
- Wendy Murphy | Woodmen Hills Elementary School
- Monica Tupper | Vista Ridge High School
- Desiree Streib | Skyview Middle School
- Amy Willis | Odyssey Elementary School
- Marcia Lee | Ridgeview Elementary School
- Pamela Liles | Stetson Elementary School
- Adriane Jasper | Sand Creek High School
- Heather Ullrich | Horizon Middle School
- Chrysauna Piccolo | Evans International Elementary School
- Heather Reading | Remington Elementary School
- Christi Geertsema | Springs Ranch Elementary School
- Eric Lustig | Patriot High School
- Julie Buttersworth | Pikes Peak Early College
- Jenny Olson | Springs Studio for Academic Excellence



Heather Reading, kindergarten teacher, is recognized as Remington Elementary School's teacher of the year during ‘Fantastic 49’ ahead of a monthly Board of Education meeting June 8 in District 49. In her Teacher of the Year nomination packet, she said, “Teach with heart, so that our students leave each day feeling better about themselves and their future. And we can feel better too, knowing that in our classrooms, there might be just one, or two or ten students that now want to become teachers themselves one day.” Trisha Butler, RES fellow kindergarten teacher, stated in a recommendation letter, “As I reflect on what qualities a Teacher of the Year should have, I can think of no better choice than Heather Reading. As a colleague, I truly would be honored to have her represent our school. Her knowledge, passion and work ethic make her a true role model and inspiration for others.” (District 49/Tori Reyes)



Kendra Ramirez, sixth grade mathematics instructor, is recognized as Falcon Middle School's teacher of the year during ‘Fantastic 49’ ahead of the monthly Board of Education meeting June 8 in District 49. “I love teaching kids to love learning and to be excited all the time,” she said. Brian Smith, FMS principal, remarked in his recommendation letter, “Kendra is committed to academic rigor, building relevance of the essential knowledge and skills to the real world, all while developing strong and genuine relationships with her students, parents and colleagues.” (District 49/Amy Matisek)



Jenny Olson, middle school mathematics teacher, is recognized as the Springs Studio for Academic Excellence teacher of the year during ‘Fantastic 49’ ahead of the monthly Board of Education meeting June 8 in District 49. “My goal is to have every student walk out of my class and think that wasn’t so bad. I can’t make them like it. I can’t make them love it. But I want them to feel confident when they walk out the door. That’s what I strive for,” she said. Jodi Fletcher, SSAE principal, commented in her recommendation letter, “Jenny understands that relationships are the key to student success. Her ability to develop and foster positive relationships with students, parents and staff are key.” (District 49/Amy Matisek)

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# Special Olympics Brings Social and Physical Support for Extended School Year Program



Hillary Douglas, Power Technical Early College and extended school year instructor, points at the pallina for Travis Alexander, a Sand Creek High School student, during an ESY bocce ball game June 7 at Sand Creek High School. Students with special needs enrolled in the extended school year program learned bocce ball from representatives of the southeast Colorado Special Olympics office. (District 49/Matt Meister)

**By Matt Meister**  
Communications Director

Representatives from the southeast Colorado Special Olympics regional office taught bocce ball to students enrolled in District 49’s extended school year program June 7 at Sand Creek High School.

The extended year program serves qualifying students with special needs for four weeks at the beginning of the traditional summer break. The program focuses on retaining information and skills that students learn during the traditional school year. The extra learning helps increase retention and ensures a strong start to the school year.

Secondary students from across the district attend ESY at Sand Creek High School. Students in younger grades attend ESY at one of three campuses. Students are bused to and from their home as part of the program.

“When we are in the classroom we are working hard on reading and math,” said Bridgette Martin, ESY coordinator

for secondary students. “A lot of the students have social goals too and this is a practical and fun way to work on those goals.”

“It’s an opportunity for a social environment and giving them exposure to something they don’t normally have.”

Bocce ball is played with eight large balls and one smaller target ball called a pallina, according to Jolie Nesmith, Special Olympics southeast Colorado regional manager.

“The object is for one or more of your balls to be closer than any of your opponents balls to the pallina at the end of every set,” said Nesmith. “The game promotes throwing, visual space and aiming at a target skills.”

Special Olympics Colorado entered into a formal partnership with District 49 special education during the 2016-2017 school year.

“District 49 came in as an entirely unified school district,” said Nesmith. “It’s creating an inclusive environment in the schools. Putting students from the general population on the same team as a student with special needs helps break down barriers.”

Nesmith says participating in different activities helps grow camaraderie within a school’s student body.

“The sense of community in their school is huge,” she said.

“I love it how excited he gets when he’s throwing the ball,” said Elena Villaseñor, Remington Elementary School nurse, about her son, James, 12, seventh-grader at Horizon Middle School. “It’s only three days in and he’s getting up excited to come every morning.”

Villaseñor said the ESY program is providing unique learning opportunities to James outside of the traditional school year.

“He’s doing things I never through he’d be able to do,” said Villaseñor. “Even though he’s wheel chair bound, yesterday he was climbing over boxes.”

Students from Power Technical Early College in District 49 built the plywood boxes for the ESY students to use as part of a cross fit introduction.

“Watching them grow and expand is amazing,” said Villaseñor.

# Take us with you!

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Helpful Links On D49.org

Services & Information

3B Projects

D49.org/3B

49 Pathways

D49.org/49Pathways

Before and After School Care

D49.org/KidsCorner

Board of Education

D49.org/BOE

Bus Fees

D49.org/BusFees

Calendar

D49.org/Calendar

Enrollment

D49.org/Enroll

Financial Information

D49.org/FinancialTransparency

Gifted Education

D49.org/Gifted

Human Resources

D49.org/HR

Job Postings

D49.org/Career

Map

D49.org/Map

Meal Fees

D49.org/MealFees

Mill Levy Oversight Committee

D49.org/MLO-Oversight

Nutrition Services

D49.org/Nutrition

School Nurses

D49.org/Nursing

Special Education

D49.org/SPED

Transportation

D49.org/Transportation

Direct to the Schools

Falcon High School

D49.org/FHS

Falcon Middle School

D49.org/FMS

Falcon Elementary School of Technology

D49.org/FESoT

Meridian Ranch Elementary School

D49.org/MRES

Woodmen Hills Elementary School

D49.org/WHES

Vista Ridge High School

D49.org/VRHS

Skyview Middle School

D49.org/SMS

Odyssey Elementary School

D49.org/OES

Ridgeview Elementary School

D49.org/RVES

Stetson Elementary School

D49.org/SES

Academy for Literacy, Learning & Innovation Excellence

D49.org/ALLIES

Sand Creek High School

D49.org/SCHS

Horizon Middle School

D49.org/HMS

Evans International Elementary School

D49.org/EIES

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2017-2018

District Calendar



CALENDAR

RSS, iCAL Feeds at D49.org

JULY 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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AUGUST 2017

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SEPTEMBER 2017

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OCTOBER 2017

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NOVEMBER 2017

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DECEMBER 2017

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31						

Important Dates

July 4 ..... Independence Day

July 24 ..... New Teacher Orientation Begins

July 27 ..... Teachers Return From Summer Break

Aug. 1 ..... First Day for Kindergarten, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Aug. 2 ..... First Day for All Students

Aug. 11 ..... Elementary School Assessments\*

Sept. 1 ..... Professional Development, No Students

Sept. 4 ..... Labor Day

Sept. 29 ..... End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

Oct. 5 ..... Work Day, No Elementary Students

Oct. 6 ..... Parent Teacher Conferences, No Students

Oct. 9-20 ..... Schools Closed for Fall Break

Nov. 10 ..... Schools Open for Veterans Day

Nov. 20-24 ..... Schools Closed for Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 8 ..... Elementary School Assessments\*

Dec. 15 ..... Work Day, No Elementary School Students

Dec. 15 ..... End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Dec. 18-29 ..... Schools Closed for Christmas Break

Jan. 1 ..... New Year's Day

Jan. 2 ..... Professional Development, No Students

Jan. 15 ..... Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday

Feb. 16 ..... Parent Teacher Conferences, No Students

Feb. 19 ..... Presidents Day

March 9 ..... Professional Development, No Students

March 9 ..... End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

March 16 ..... Work Day, No Elementary School Students

March 19-30 ..... Schools Closed for Spring Break

May 4 ..... Professional Development, No Students

May 11 ..... Elementary School Assessments\*

May 25 ..... End of 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

May 28 ..... Memorial Day

May 30 ..... Teachers' Last Day

\* Elementary school assessment days are used to assess student progress at different points in the school year. See school websites for information on schedule impacts at each campus.



..... Important Date



..... No Students



..... No Students, No Teachers



..... District Closed

Check school websites for campus-specific events at D49.org

JANUARY 2018

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FEBRUARY 2018

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MARCH 2018

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APRIL 2018

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MAY 2018

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JUNE 2018

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Remington Elementary School

D49.org/RES

Springs Ranch Elementary School

D49.org/SRES

Banning Lewis Academy

D49.org/BLA

Falcon Homeschool Program

D49.org/FHP

GOAL Academy

D49.org/GOAL

Imagine Classical Academy

D49.org/ICA

Patriot High School

D49.org/PHS

Pikes Peak Early College

D49.org/PPEC

Pikes Peak School of Expeditionary Learning

D49.org/PPSEL

Power Technical Early College

D49.org/PTEC

Rocky Mountain Classical Academy

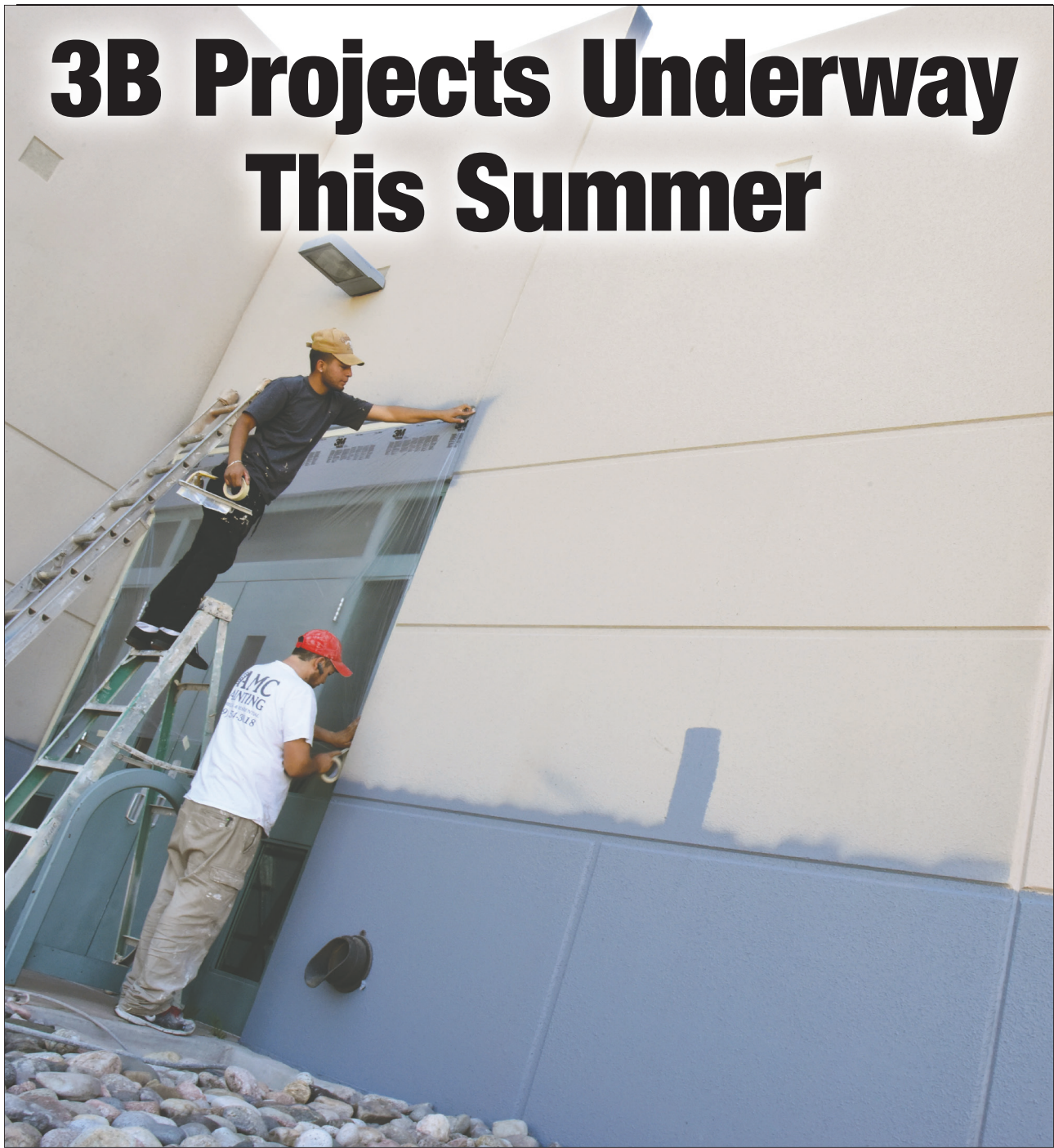
D49.org/RMCA

Springs Studio for Academic Excellence

D49.org/SSAE



# 3B Projects Underway This Summer



Contractors mask off an entrance to Skyview Middle School for painting July 5. \$83.5 million dollars of projects, made possible by the passage of ballot issue 3B in November 2016, are underway across District 49.

**By Matt Meister**  
Communications Director

Priority two of ballot issue 3B provides \$20 million each decade to renovate and refresh existing District 49 schools. It's an investment to help provide warm and inviting learning spaces across the district. The list below only includes projects funded through priority two.

Projects on this list have been identified as a collaborative effort between school leaders and the district facilities and operations team. School accountability committees and the mill levy oversight committee (a sub committee of the district accountability and advisory committee) have endorsed the projects as meeting ballot language specifications. Mill levy oversight committee work can be tracked at [D49.org/MLO-Oversight](http://D49.org/MLO-Oversight).

Many of the projects on the list are underway and scheduled to be completed prior to students returning. Some projects are still in bidding and design phases and are scheduled for work to be done during major breaks in the school year. At some campuses, additional projects are planned from those that are listed here. Those projects are not scheduled to move forward until the budget of current projects can be verified.

Major addition and renovation projects at the three large high schools and the construction of two new elementary schools are not included in this list.

## FALCON ZONE

### Falcon High School

- Exterior and Interior Security Cameras
- Increase Security System File Storage
- HVAC System Upgrade
- Paint Gym, 25 Classrooms, Exterior Doors and Trim
- Auditorium Light & Sound Upgrade
- Baseball Field Turf

### Falcon Middle School

- Reconfigure Library/Office
- Science Lab
- Flooring Refresh
- Roof Replacement for Remaining Decks
- LED Lighting Upgrade
- Refresh Fixed Furnishings

### Falcon Elementary School of Technology

- Safe Entry and Office Reconfiguration
- Intercom System
- Basketball Courts
- ADA Accessible Walkway



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- Fencing Upgrades
- Asphalt Upgrades
- Pour-in-Place Soft Playground Surfaces
- Playground Equipment

**Meridian Ranch Elementary School**

- Secure Front Entry
- Interior and Exterior Paint Refresh
- Flooring Refresh Throughout
- Restroom Refresh (8 Restrooms)
- Pour-in-Place Soft Playground Surfaces

**Woodmen Hills Elementary School**

- Secure Front Entry
- Flooring Refresh Throughout
- Interior Paint Refresh
- Modular Paint Refresh
- Pick-up/Drop-off Parking Lot Enhancements

**POWER ZONE**

**Vista Ridge High School**

- Exterior and Interior Security Cameras
- Increase Security System File Storage
- ADA Accessibility to Athletic Areas
- HVAC System Upgrade
- Pave Access Road (South Side)
- VRHS Logo Landscape and Retaining Walls
- Improve Concession Ground Surface

**Skyview Middle School**

- Secure Front Entry
- Flooring Refresh Throughout (122,317 sq. ft.)
- Interior and Exterior Paint Refresh
- HVAC System Upgrade

**Odyssey Elementary School**

- Secure Front Entry
- Lighting and Security Upgrades
- Replace Modulares with Permanent Structure

**Ridgeview Elementary School**

- Secure Front Entry
- Fencing for Modulares and Back of School
- Interior and Exterior Security Cameras
- Increase Security System File Storage
- Remove Wallpaper/Interior Paint Refresh
- Flooring Refresh Throughout (50,223 sq. ft.)

**Stetson Elementary School**

- Secure Front Entry
- Restroom Refresh
- Two Turf Play Areas
- Pour-in-Place Soft Playground Surface
- Drainage Improvements
- Flooring Refresh Throughout (50,223 sq. ft.)

**SAND CREEK ZONE**

**Sand Creek High School**

- Secure Front Entry
- Flooring Refresh
- LED Lighting Upgrade
- Interior and Exterior Paint Refresh

**Horizon Middle School**

- Office Remodel and Addition, New Classroom Space
- Reconfiguration of Media Center
- ADA Accessibility, Concrete Path to Football Field
- Replace Four Exterior Door Sets
- LED Lighting Upgrade
- Exterior Paint, Trim

**Evans International Elementary School**

- Secure Front Entry, Vestibule, Reception Area
- Interior and Exterior Security Cameras
- Increase Security System File Storage
- Intercom Speakers Upgrade
- HVAC, Fire, and Building Automation System Upgrades
- Pour-in-Place Soft Playground Surfaces
- Playground Drainage Improvements
- Flooring Refresh Throughout (53,101 sq. ft.)

**Remington Elementary School**

- Secure Front Entry
- Replace Playground Equipment
- Interior and Exterior Security Cameras
- Increase Security System File Storage
- Pour-in-Place Soft Playground Surface
- Flooring Refresh
- Wallpaper Removal and Paint Refresh

**Springs Ranch Elementary School**

- Secure Front Entry
- Interior and Exterior Security Cameras, Lighting
- Increase Security System File Storage



Nunn Construction crews work inside Sand Creek High School July 5. \$83.5 million dollars of projects, made possible by the passage of ballot issue 3B in November 2016, are underway across District 49.



A new secure front entry is under construction at Falcon Elementary School of Technology. \$83.5 million dollars of projects, made possible by the passage of ballot issue 3B in November 2016, are underway across District 49.

- Flooring Refresh/Carpet (56,914 sq. ft.)
- Pour-in-Place Soft Playground Surface
- Playground Picnic Table Canopy
- Metal Storage Container To Replace Wood Shed

- Pour-in-Place Soft Playground Surface
- Playground Equipment

**iCONNECT ZONE**

**Banning Lewis Ranch Academy**

- Secure Front Entry
- Playground Equipment and Landscaping
- Exterior Paint Refresh
- Refresh and Stripe Parking Lot
- Convert Locker Room to Media Center
- Classroom Desk and Chair Upgrades (8)
- Recarpet Two Modular Classrooms

**Mohawk Facility**

- Door Alarm System Upgrade
- Interior Security Cameras
- Observation Room
- Fencing Upgrade
- Paint Refresh
- Carpet Refresh

**Rocky Mountain Classical Academy**

- Reconfigure Office Area to Classrooms

**Springs Studio for Academic Excellence**

- Loft Wall System
- Three Form Wall System
- Pour-in-Place Soft Playground Surface
- Pikes Peak School of Expeditionary Learning
- Turf Play Area
- Repair Fire Lane

**Falcon Legacy Campus**

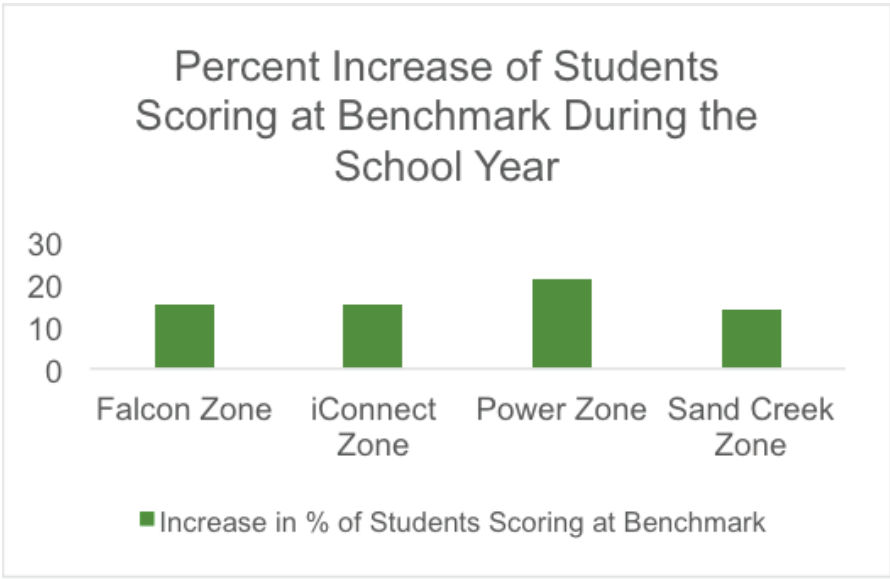
- Two Secure Front Entries
- Culinary Arts Learning Space Expansion

**Imagine Classical Academy**

- Basketball Court



From page 1



as one of 15 sponsored teachers at their national landscaping conference.

The Portfolio of Schools is Growing

District 49 welcomed two new schools to the district last year. Power Technical Early College (PTEC) opened in August through a partnership with James Irwin Schools. PTEC provides learning opportunities for students beginning in sixth grade and extending through college-level coursework in technical trades like welding, electronics, machining, and manufacturing. District 49 also launched Pikes Peak Early College (PPEC), the state’s first blended online early-college program. PPEC provides a rigorous, individualized, college preparatory curriculum for students.

This year, two more schools will open to serve the needs of learners. The Academy for Literacy, Learning & Innovation Excellence (ALLIES) began as a three-year pilot program at Odyssey Elementary School to support students with dyslexic-like characteristics. The new school will enable District 49 to serve up to 85 of these students. Banning Lewis Ranch Academy will expand its program beyond sixth grade, adding a new charter high school for students. The new Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy building can be seen south of Woodmen Road between Mohawk and Golden Sage.

Growing our portfolio of distinct and exceptional schools is earning the attention of a variety of students inside and outside the district boundaries. Over the last five years, more families are choosing District 49 schools and programs while living in other districts.

New BRIGHT Program

Overall student success requires supporting students emotionally and socially. District 49 earned a \$1.5 million Department of Defense grant to be distributed over the next five years to support a Building Restorative Interventions and Growing Honorable Traditions (BRIGHT) initiative. The BRIGHT program will provide staff training recognized by the International Institute of Restorative Practices to promote positive behavior strategies in the classroom. The funds provide District 49 with a military student transition consultant to support

the transition in and out of the district for military students and their families.

Enhanced Pathways and Programs

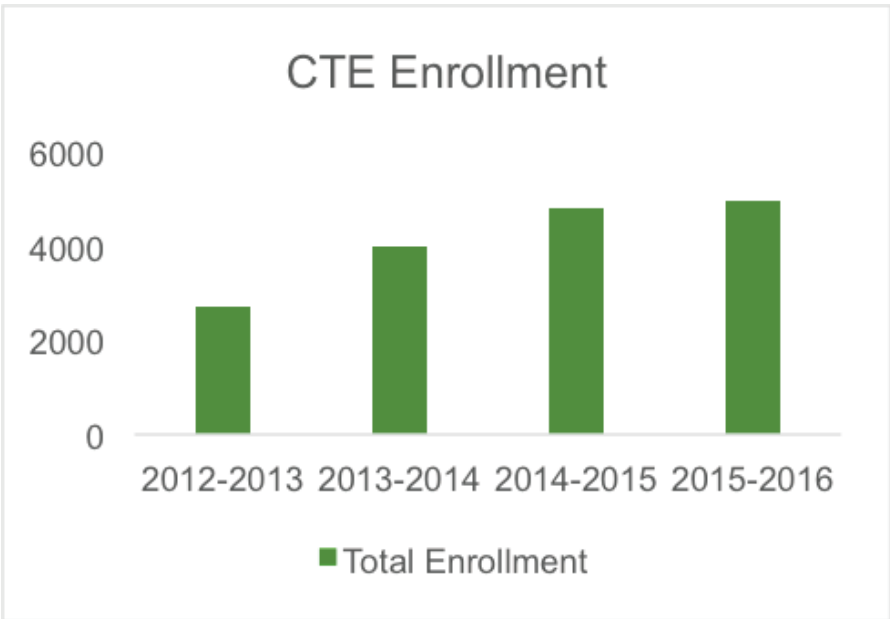
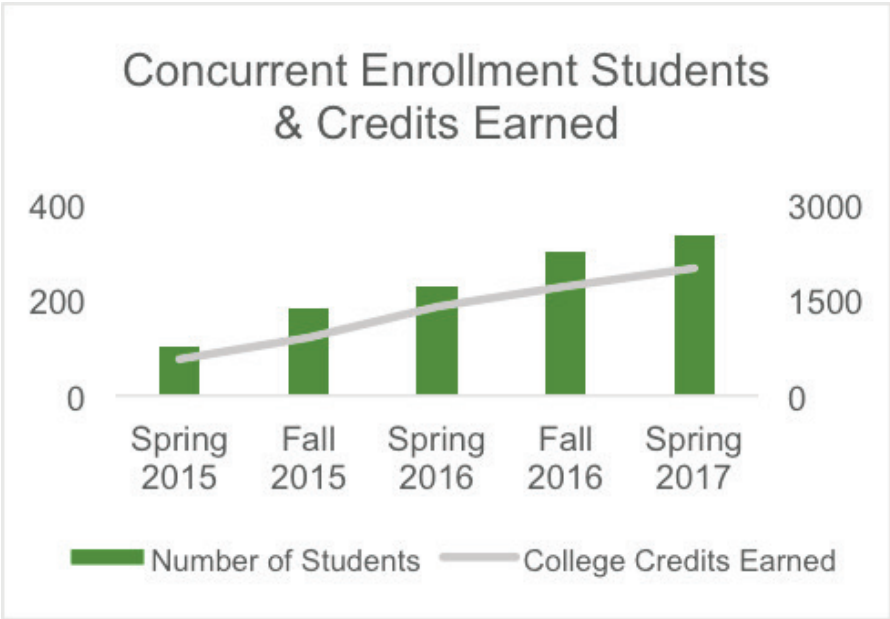
As District 49 strives to prepare every student for success after high school, we continue to tailor programs to align better with student interests. Sand Creek High School’s pathways program added a freshman academy as an introduction into career exploration. The academy is followed by options such as advanced academics, business, performing arts, computer science and engineering.

District 49’s Peak Program will launch this year to support students who were previously receiving special education services out of the district. Meeting the needs of students with severe needs or with autism in-district will reduce overall costs for outsourcing and transportation, and serve students in their own community.

For students whose first language isn’t English, the English language development program facilitates mastery of English through listening, speaking, reading and writing. Last year, expert teachers worked with staff to tailor programming and techniques to support English learners and align with each building’s curriculum. During the year, District 49 served nearly 1,000 English learners speaking more than 25 languages, including Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Russian and Vietnamese.

Last year District 49 served more than 1,100 students formally identified as gifted. The district doubled identification of twice-exceptional students in the past year and positioned the first student in the Pikes Peak region to be recognized as gifted in dance. The approach to recognizing and qualifying this dancer has since been adopted as the state model for gifted identification in dance. District 49 also qualified its first student as gifted in instrumental music in 2016.

We witnessed many success on the path last year. The future for students and staff is bright as the journey continues with a brand new school year ahead.



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