



## Greeley-Evans | Weld County School District 6

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### NEWS RELEASE

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## **McAuliffe Elementary Ranks among Colorado's Best**

### **School cited on list of 161 schools with highest sustained academic growth**

McAuliffe Elementary School has been listed among 161 Colorado schools that have demonstrated the highest sustained rates of student academic progress over three consecutive years. The list, published on Friday by the Colorado Department of Education, includes schools that demonstrated 60th percentile or higher median academic growth in any one subject for at least three years running (2007, 2008 and 2009).

"I'm very proud of our students, our teachers and our support staff," said principal Sandy Cosner. "Our parents and entire school community have high expectations of our students and we are committed to providing our students with the support they need to get those results."

Cosner said she is especially proud of the school's high-quality teachers and support staff.

"They are an awesome staff and I am very fortunate to be working with such great people committed to making a positive difference for kids," she said. "Our educators are dedicated to providing the rich and rigorous educational opportunities that enable our students to achieve their every dream."

A thoughtful and effective school improvement plan has been another key to McAuliffe's success, according to Cosner. Building and maintaining supportive relationships with students and parents has been a third component of success.

"We strive to create positive relationships with our students, so that they are more willing to work hard and push to get to where we want them to be," she said. "We also work with our parent community so that they support our efforts 100 percent. McAuliffe staff spend many hours outside of the regular school time building those relationships and communicating our expectations."

The complete list of the state's top schools is posted on the CDE Web site:

[www.cde.state.co.us/communications/download/PDF/2009schoolslist080709.pdf](http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/download/PDF/2009schoolslist080709.pdf)

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