

Colorado Communique



A Newsletter of the National Core Knowledge® Coordinator of Colorado
Fall 2002



Greetings from Holly Hensey

I would like to welcome you to the latest edition of the *Colorado Communique*, the newsletter of the National Core Knowledge Coordinator of Colorado!

I am entering into my fourth year of working with the Core Knowledge schools in Colorado and I continue to be amazed and impressed at the quality of the teachers, administrators, staff members, and students in these schools. I feel very lucky to get to work with such wonderful schools and people!

I am also excited to announce that I have received \$410,000 through the Colorado Department of Education Charter School Dissemination Grant. I would like to thank Twin Peaks Charter Academy for allowing me to once again write my portion of the grant through their school and for doing such a great job on the bookkeeping and administration aspects of the grant. This grant money will allow me to continue operation for another year and continue all previous events and services that have been provided over the last three years.

I look forward to a wonderful and productive year! I hope to see many of you at some of the upcoming events!

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What's New?

There are some exciting items that I would like to announce!

- There are forty-three new units from the 2002 Colorado Summer Writing Institute (see page 2 for more details).
- There are also seventy-three new units that were developed through the CO Unit Writing Project (see pages 4 and 5 for more details).
- Teacher Roundtable dates have been set for January and February of 2003 (see page 6 for more details).
- The Colorado Core Knowledge Assessment Project is now in its second phase (see page 10 for more details).



2002 Colorado Summer Writing Institute

The Colorado Core Knowledge Summer Writing Institute was held on June 24-28, 2002 at the Denver Public Library in downtown Denver. The Institute offered teachers the opportunity to pursue an in-depth study of a particular Core Knowledge topic that they were interested in learning more about and are responsible for teaching during the school year. Teachers learned the process of researching and organizing a complete unit in the Core Knowledge format while also developing meaningful activities and assessments that are ready to use during the school year. The Denver Public Library also provided a wonderful venue to hold the event at and was a fantastic resource for the teachers as they wrote their units.

Sixty-three teachers participated, representing twenty schools from Denver and surrounding cities, as well as Pueblo West, Calhan, Paonia, Keenesburg, Granby, Colorado Springs, and Johnstown. Forty-three units were written for Preschool through Eighth Grade, as well as for Art and Music. A great deal of talent and enthusiasm was gathered during this week and the units produced exemplify this!

I would like to thank the following people, because this week would not have been possible if not for the help and expertise provided by the Core Knowledge consultants who devoted a week of their summer vacations to work with our teachers: Angela Bell, Lisa Browning, Mike Munier, and Jere Percy. Their knowledge and support helped guide the participants to developing strong units and their perseverance helped to make the final products possible by the end of the week.

I also wish to express my deep gratitude to Denise Mund & the Colorado Department of Education who helped make this professional development opportunity possible for the teachers of Colorado. The units developed during this week will benefit countless teachers and students and have a positive impact on teaching & learning for years to come!

All forty-three units written at this Summer Writing Institute, plus the units written at the last three Summer Writing Institutes in Colorado, are available on the Colorado Core Knowledge website, at www.ckcolorado.org. I encourage you to visit the website and download some of these wonderful units that you can use in your classroom!

Units Written at the 2002 Summer Writing Institute

Preschool

- Preschoolers on the Move, by Linda Kozlowski

Kindergarten

- Teaching Language Arts with Sayings and Phrases, by Lori Montanez
- Poultry in Motion, by Tiffany Tipton
- Poetic Math, by Lisa Levesque and Jenifer Saltzman
- Taking Charge of Our Earth and Its Resources, by Lori Kawasaki and Bentley Ryberg
- Cursive Writing: A Lost Art?, by Cindee Will

1st Grade

- The American Revolution and Its Heroes, by April Dowdy
- Under the Deep Blue Seas, by Betsy Diggins
- Spinning Into Space, by Autumn Holland and Martha Hund

2nd Grade

- Cells, Cells, and More Cells, by Martha Fleming and Melody Landaiche
- Interesting Insights Into India, by Diana Burditt and Mary Crow
- South America, by Jill Allen and Cindy Green
- Giving Second Graders the Write Skills, by Tracy de Nieves
- CK Poetry & More, by Kim Young

3rd Grade

- We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands: Geography-Spatial Sense, by Wendy Hyndman and Doreen Jennings
- Animals are Classified!, by Lisa Cole and Julie Davis
- New England News, by Rebecca Mongeau
- Multiplication Madness, by Amy Collins and Grace Van Horne
- Gone Green-Ecology, by Melissa Packer

4th Grade

- We're Writing the Constitution, by Krystal Kroeker
- Heroes, Legends, and Folktales, by Connie Vincent

4th Grade, continued

- Say It With Meaning, by Holly Varnum and Kayla Rotz
- Where in the World is Mt. Kilimanjaro and Mt. Aconcagua?, by Brenda Jaynes and Judy Owens

5th Grade

- Everything in Its Place-Science Classification, by Cyndie Stanley
- Pre-Civil War, by Jared Johnson
- Myths and Legends, by Susan Nelson and Rose Wilson
- A Matter of Matter, by Brian Selling

6th/7th/8th Grade

- Celebrate Character Development!, by Penny Gibson and Ellen Hall

6th Grade

- Earth: The Water Planet, by Christi Marchant
- Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, by Jessica Fawcett
- Heat and Energy Transfer, by Lisa Glauner
- Oceans, by Kimberly Graham

7th Grade

- A Research Paper on World War I, by Colleen Hare
- Cyrano de Bergerac, by Aniele Karuschak
- Why Do We Say That?, by Caroline Tuiolosega
- The Cell Cycle, by Patricia Baechler

8th Grade

- Essays and Speeches, by Donna Seekamp
- Middle East and Oil Politics, by Kerri Benzel and Michelle Yurchak
- The Good Earth, by Jerry Hollis

Art

- Northern Renaissance Awakenings, by Christopher Hecker
- East Meets West, by Sarah Sykes

Music

- The Hidden Music of Southeast Asia, by Tommy Reddicks
- The Big Three, by Jim Gunn

Technology/Science

- Force and Motion, by Ember Babcock and Charlene Campbell



2002 Summer Writing Institute Participants

The following teachers participated in the Summer Writing Institute and we would like to congratulate them on all of their hard work:

Academy of Charter Schools

- Patricia Baechler

Aurora Academy

- Kerri Benzel
- Christi Marchant
- Donna Seekamp
- Caroline Tuiolosega

Cardinal Community Academy

- Lisa Cole
- April Dowdy
- Martha Hund
- Judy Owens

Cheyenne Mountain Charter Academy

- Tracy de Nieves
- Kayla Rotz
- Brian Selling
- Holly Varnum
- Cindee Will

Elbert County Charter School

- Jill Allen
- Penny Gibson
- Cindy Green
- Ellen Hall

Frontier Academy

- Sarah Sykes

Frontier Charter Academy

- Rose Wilson

Indian Peaks Charter School

- Autumn Holland

Jefferson Academy

- Ember Babcock
- Charlene Campbell
- Amy Collins
- Martha Fleming
- Jerry Hollis
- Jared Johnson
- Lori Kawasaki
- Melody Landaiche
- Bentley Ryberg
- Cyndie Stanley
- Grace Van Horne

Knowledge Quest Academy

- Julie Davis
- Brenda Jaynes

Lincoln Academy

- Christopher Hecker
- Doreen Jennings
- Lisa Levesque
- Janelle Nelson
- Susan Nelson
- Jenifer Saltzman

Normandy Elementary

- Betsy Diggins
- Tiffany Tipton

Paonia Elementary

- Connie Vincent

Platte River Academy

- Jessica Fawcett
- Kim Young

Ridgeview Classical Schools

- Joe Bailey
- Lisa Glauner

Rocky Mountain Academy of Evergreen

- Kim Graham

Swallows Charter Academy

- Lori Montanez

The Classical Academy

- Diana Burditt
- Mary Crow
- Colleen Hare
- Wendy Hyndman
- Krystal Kroeker
- Heather Needham

The Pinnacle

- Aniele Karuschak
- Linda Kozlowski
- Tammy Meyer
- Melissa Packer
- Tommy Reddicks

Twin Peaks Charter Academy

- Jim Gunn
- Michelle Yurchak

New Units Available from the Colorado Unit Writing Project

I am happy to announce that there are seventy-three new Core Knowledge units available. These units were developed through the 2002 Colorado Unit Writing Project and are in addition to the new units produced through the 2002 Summer Writing Institute. This project took place during the spring and summer of 2002 and gave teachers who were experienced in writing Core Knowledge units the opportunity to write three fully developed units that contain proven best practices and pedagogy. Eligible teachers had to have attended a Summer Writing Institute in the past or attended this summer's Writing Institute. Teachers were paid a stipend for their work, which was funded through the Colorado Department of Education's Charter School Dissemination Grant money. Those units are available through the Colorado Core Knowledge website, www.ckcolorado.org, under Lesson Plans/Units, for teachers throughout Colorado and the United States. Listed to the right are the talented teachers that participated in the project and listed on the next page are the units that were produced for Kindergarten-8th Grade, plus Music, Art, and Technology. This project will be repeated again during the spring and summer of 2003. If you are interested in participating, please contact Holly Hensey.

Colorado Unit Writing Project Participants



Aurora Academy

- Christi Marchant
- Donna Seekamp
- Caroline Tuiolosega

Cardinal Community Academy

- April Dowdy
- Julie Epple
- Michele Turner

Collegiate Academy

- Linda Schmale

Crown Pointe Academy

- Adina Felten

East Middle School

- Kerri Benzel

Elbert County Charter School

- Matt Swanson

Jefferson Academy

- Ember Babcock
- Charlene Campbell
- Martha Fleming
- Jared Johnson
- Melody Landaiche
- Cyndie Stanley

Lincoln Academy

- Lisa Levesque
- Mary Ann Mahoney
- Jenifer Saltzman
- Betsy Watwood

Normandy Elementary

- Betsy Diggins
- Connie Jones
- Tiffany Tipton

Paonia Elementary

- Connie Vincent

Peak to Peak Charter School

- Peggy Downs

Platte River Academy

- Brandy Brocka
- Shannon Millican
- Kim Young

Swallows Charter Academy

- Lori Montanez

The Classical Academy

- Colleen Hare
- Wendy Hyndman
- Krystal Kroeker

The Pinnacle Charter School

- Aniele Karuschak
- Tommy Reddicks

Trailblazer Elementary

- Lisa Browning

Twin Peaks Charter Academy

- Pauline Soderholm

Woodrow Wilson Academy

- Shannon Rechkemmer



Units Written for the 2002 Colorado Unit Writing Project



Kindergarten

- Taking Care of Your Body, by Michele Turner
- Exploring the Continents Through the Arts, by Michele Turner
- The Circle of Life: Plants and Plant Growth, by Michele Turner
- Thanksgiving With the Pilgrims, by Brandy Brocka
- Indians or Native Americans?, by Brandy Brocka
- Columbus Sailed the Ocean Blue, by Brandy Brocka

1st Grade

- Body Systems, by April Dowdy
- Introduction to Electricity, by April Dowdy
- Mexico: A Look at Its Culture and Geography, by Betsy Watwood
- Literary Terms: Take Me to the Theater!, by Betsy Watwood
- Tom Thumb Stories from Around the World, by Betsy Watwood
- Different Strokes for Different Folktales, by Betsy Diggins
- Poetry Playground, by Betsy Diggins

2nd Grade

- Games Galore, by Shannon Rechkemmer
- Japan, by Shannon Rechkemmer
- Cooking Up a Story, by Shannon Rechkemmer
- Simple Machines, by Melody Landaiche and Martha Fleming
- Dancing to the Water Cycle, by Melody Landaiche and Martha Fleming
- Creative Writing, by Kim Young
- Literature Circles Meet Core Knowledge, by Kim Young

3rd Grade

- Sayings and Phrases Build Character, by Shannon Millican
- Folklore Festivities: Exploring Short Stories, by Shannon Millican
- C.L.U.B.S. = Comprehending Literature Using Book Sets, by Shannon Millican

3rd Grade, continued

- Patchwork Poetry, by Peggy Downs
- Seeing is (Sometimes) Believing, by Mary Ann Mahoney
- A-Viking We Will Go, by Mary Ann Mahoney
- Our Universe: Always Moving, Always Changing, by Mary Ann Mahoney
- Tales From Arabia, by Wendy Hyndman
- Early Exploration of North America, by Wendy Hyndman

4th Grade

- England in the Middle Ages, by Krystal Kroeker
- The Human Body, by Krystal Kroeker
- You Don't Say!!, by Connie Vincent
- Core Knowledge Poetry Taught in a Writer's Workshop, by Connie Vincent
- Meteorology Madness, by Adina Felten
- Electrifying Science, by Adina Felten
- Uncovering Earth's Secrets, by Adina Felten

5th Grade

- Journey to Japan, by Julie Epple
- Reflections of Russia, by Julie Epple
- Science Biographies and Methods, by Julie Epple
- What's in a Noun: Grammar and Usage, by Cyndie Stanley
- Our Civil War: The Divided Home, by Jared Johnson
- Reconstruction: Healing Wounds, Mending Fences, by Jared Johnson

6th Grade

- Verbs Rule!, by Connie Jones
- Little Strokes Fell Great Oaks, by Connie Jones
- Fun With Words, by Connie Jones
- Ocean Life, by Christi Glenn
- Motions of the Oceans, by Christi Glenn

7th Grade

- Seeing Red at the Winter Palace, by Matt Swanson
- America the Beautiful, by Matt Swanson
- Driven Back to War, by Matt Swanson
- Who's Who?: An Analysis of Main Characters in Short Stories, by Aniele Karuschak

7th Grade, continued

- Call of the Wild, by Aniele Karuschak
- Elements of Poetry, by Colleen Hare
- A Science Biographical Researched Speech, by Colleen Hare
- Better Communication Skills, by Caroline Tuiolosega
- Teaching Persuasive Speaking and History With Documents, by Caroline Tuiolosega

8th Grade

- The Civil Rights Movement in America: The Nightmares and a Dream, by Lisa Browning
- They Say the Neon Lights Are Bright: American Musical Theater, by Lisa Browning
- Methinks Ye Doth Protest Too Much: Social Activism in America, by Lisa Browning
- The Bread of the Sandwich (Canada and Mexico), by Kerri Benzel
- We the People, by Kerri Benzel
- Twelfth Night, or, What You Will...Learn!, by Donna Seekamp
- Poetry Parfait, by Donna Seekamp

Art

- Grant Wood, Regionalist (7th Grade), by Linda Schmale
- Picasso: Artist Extraordinaire (7th Grade), by Linda Schmale
- Faces of Vincent Van Gogh, a Study of Portraits (7th Grade), by Linda Schmale

Music

- The Percussion Family (2nd grade), by Pauline Soderholm
- Exploring the Brass Family (3rd grade), by Pauline Soderholm
- Introducing Keyboards (2nd Grade), by Pauline Soderholm
- Elemental Sequences in Music (6th Grade), by Tommy Reddicks
- Music Drama and Richard Wagner (7th Grade), by Tommy Reddicks

Technology/Science

- Let's Do the Wave!, by Ember Babcock and Charlene Campbell
- The Great Divide (Cell Division and DNA Replication), by Ember Babcock and Charlene Campbell



Teacher Roundtables Planned for January/February 2003

Grade level and subject area roundtables will take place during the months of January and February of 2003. Roundtables will be held for Preschool, Kindergarten, 1st grade, 2nd grade, 3rd grade, 4th grade, 5th grade, 6th grade, 7th & 8th grade Language Arts, 7th & 8th grade History, 7th & 8th grade Science, 7th & 8th grade Math, Art, Music, Special Education, Technology, Librarians, Foreign Language, and Physical Education.

This set of roundtables will be slightly different from those in the past. Each roundtable will last from 9:30-3:00 and lunch will be served. Teachers attending will once again be asked to bring items to share with the group. On the registration form, teachers will be given the opportunity to list topics they would like other teachers to bring ideas for and items that they would like to discuss during the roundtable. The topics and items listed on the registration forms will be shared with registered participants on the confirmation letter. The first 20 teachers to register for each roundtable will be guaranteed \$100 for sub pay, which will be reimbursed to their school. After the first 20 participants have registered, more people are welcome to register, and there is the possibility that they could receive the sub pay reimbursement, but it is not guaranteed. Receiving the sub pay will depend on whether the first 20 people to register show up for that particular roundtables and whether all other roundtables have 20 people register for them. The location for the roundtables is still undecided, but will be somewhere in the central Denver area.

Teacher Roundtable Dates

Preschool:	January 14, 2003
Kindergarten:	January 15, 2003
1st grade:	January 16, 2003
2nd grade:	January 21, 2003
3rd grade:	January 22, 2003
4th grade:	January 23, 2003
5th grade:	January 24, 2003
6th grade:	February 4, 2003
7th/8th grade Science:	January 27, 2003
7th/8th grade Math:	January 28, 2003
7th/8th grade History:	January 29, 2003
7th/8th grade LA:	January 30, 2003
Art:	February 5, 2003
Music:	February 6, 2003
Librarians:	February 11, 2003
Technology:	February 12, 2003
Special Education:	February 13, 2003
Foreign Language:	February 19, 2003
Physical Education:	February 20, 2003

Invitations for the roundtables will go out to the schools in late November. They will go to the administrator at each Core Knowledge school. Registration will be available by faxing in or mailing the registration form or on-line at www.ckcolorado.org.

Listed above are the dates for each specific roundtable. I have worked hard to schedule the roundtables at times that do not conflict with the schedules of most schools and before the CSAP window begins. Please call Holly Hensey with any specific questions.

Colorado Representation at 2003 CK National Conference

Colorado will have fifty-three individuals presenting forty-three units at the Core Knowledge National Conference. This is the highest number ever for Colorado!

I am very proud of these individuals and they need to be commended for the amount of time and energy that is going into this endeavor! Writing a unit is hard work, much less presenting it at a national conference. They are truly "sharing the knowledge" with their peers and that is part of what makes the Core Knowledge movement so strong! We also had many teachers that submitted excellent units that were not chosen for presentation because of the amount of units that were submitted this year, not because they were not quality units. This speaks volumes for the amount of dedication and professionalism that so many of you have! Please see the following page for a listing of the Colorado presenters.

Thirty-three of the units being presented were written at either a previous Colorado Summer Writing Institute or through the 2002 Colorado Unit Writing Project. Many of these presenters also presented their units at the 2002 Colorado CK Conference.

I look forward to continuing to work with all of you and cannot wait to see the exceptional units that will be produced at next summer's Summer Writing Institute! I hope that our state continues to be well-represented at future National Conferences!

2003 Core Knowledge National Conference

The 2003 Core Knowledge National Conference will take place on March 6-8, 2003 in Phoenix, AZ. Thursday will offer sessions for Beginning and Sustaining Core Knowledge Implementation. Content sessions will be presented on Friday and "Share the Knowledge" sessions will be provided on Saturday, which is where teachers from Core Knowledge schools will present units for each grade level, preschool * 8, as well as for the areas of art/music, special education, technology, media, P.E., gifted/talented, ESL, and administrative issues. Preschool Institutes will also be offered on March 3-5. The headquarter hotels are the Hyatt Regency Phoenix at the Civic Plaza and the Crowne Plaza. You can make reservations through the Core Knowledge website, www.coreknowledge.org or get information about the hotels. Southwest Airlines and United Airlines are offering discounted rates for conference attendees. You can visit the Core Knowledge website for all the details and you can even register on line! Register by January 10, 2003 to receive the early-bird discount (\$300). Teachers attending the pre-conference Preschool Institutes and/or the Core Knowledge National Conference are eligible to receive Professional Development university credits through an arrangement with California State University Fullerton. You can get more information about obtaining college credits at the Core Knowledge website.

The Core Knowledge National Conference is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Core Knowledge and also to network with other CK teachers. I hope to see you in Phoenix!



Colorado to be Well-Represented in Phoenix

At the 2003 Core Knowledge National Conference in Phoenix, AZ, Colorado will be very well-represented! The following is a list of Saturday presenters from Colorado:

Aurora Academy

- Donna Seekamp
- Caroline Tuiolosega

Cardinal Community Academy

- April Dowdy
- Martha Hund
- Judy Owens

Cheyenne Mountain Charter Academy

- Colin Mullaney
- Kayla Rotz
- Brian Selling
- Holly Varnum
- Cindee Will

Collegiate Academy

- Linda Schmale

Crown Pointe Academy

- Adina Felten

East Middle School

- Kerri Benzel

Elbert County Charter School

- Penny Gibson
- Ellen Hall
- Cynthe McFarland
- Matt Swanson

Frontier Academy

- Sarah Sykes

Indian Peaks Charter School

- Autumn Holland

Jefferson Academy

- Martha Fleming
- Lori Kawasaki
- Melody Landaiche
- Mike Munier
- Bentley Ryberg

Knowledge Quest Academy

- Brenda Jaynes

Lincoln Academy

- Jeri Bisbee
- Christopher Hecker
- Doreen Jennings
- Lisa Levesque
- Mary Ann Mahoney
- Jan Polzin
- Jenifer Saltzman
- Linda Siebert
- Betsy Watwood

Normandy Elementary

- Tiffany Tipton

Paonia Elementary

- Connie Vincent

Peak to Peak Charter School

- Peggy Downs

Platte River Academy

- Jean Fanning
- Jessica Fawcett
- Christine Spangler
- Mike Willsea
- Kim Young

Rocky Mountain Academy of Evergreen

- Kimberly Graham

Swallows Charter Academy

- Lori Montanez

The Classical Academy

- Catharine de Wet
- Wendy Hyndman

The Pinnacle Charter School

- Melissa Packer
- Tommy Reddicks

Twin Peaks Charter Academy

- Kate Ault
- Sara Gallagher
- Pauline Soderholm
- Michelle Yurchak

Woodrow Wilson Academy

- Shannon Reckhemmer

2002 Colorado Core Knowledge Conference a Success!



The 2002 Colorado Core Knowledge Conference took place on October 18, 2002 at Jefferson Academy in Broomfield, CO. Over 650 teachers, staff members, and administrators from 53 different schools and organizations attended the one-day conference, making this our biggest conference ever! Many of the Core Knowledge schools in Colorado put this day on their school calendar as a non-teaching day and brought their entire staff.

Jim Weiss, storyteller and nationally-renowned recording artist, kicked off the conference by speaking in the morning. He spoke about the importance of storytelling, especially as it relates to Core Knowledge. We were honored to have him at the conference and he also presented three different sessions during the day. The conference offered over 140 sessions throughout the day that covered a wide variety of topics, ranging from generalized schoolwide topics to specific grade level units. Almost all of the sessions offered were presented by teachers and administrators from Colorado Core Knowledge schools. We certainly have a talented group of teachers and administrators here in Colorado! The evaluations from the conference show that participants were very pleased with their experience and gained much new information and knowledge.

I want to give a special thank you to all of the presenters for the time and energy that they put into their presentations! Putting together a quality presentation takes a lot of work and the commitment of the presenters was very evident in all of the sessions. Thank you also to all of the volunteers who offered their time and help. You are greatly appreciated! The conference could not have taken place if it had not been for Mike Munier, Jere Percy, and the entire staff at Jefferson Academy, thanks to all of you! A final thank you goes out to Denise Mund and the CO Department of Education for their generous support of the conference through the Charter School Dissemination Grant.

Next year's Colorado Core Knowledge Conference is planned for Friday, October 17, 2003, but the location is still undecided. Details and invitations will go out close to the end of the school year. Once again, we will be looking for people interested in presenting sessions, so if you are interested or know of someone that would make a great presenter, please contact Holly Hensey. Remember that the motto of the Core Knowledge Foundation is "Share the Knowledge" and the willingness of teachers and administrators to share their knowledge is what makes the Core Knowledge movement in Colorado so strong!



Scholarships for the Core Knowledge National Conference Awarded

For the third year running, scholarships for the Core Knowledge National Conference will be awarded to eligible schools and teachers. Last year, thirty-five \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to schools that were sending teachers to the conference to present units and sessions and the year before thirty-four scholarships were awarded. This year, over forty \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. The scholarship money was awarded to the National Core Knowledge Coordinator of Colorado through the Colorado Charter School Dissemination Grant. The scholarships will be distributed to schools on behalf of teachers at that school that are presenting a session at the 2002 Core Knowledge National Conference and that also presented their unit at the 2002 Colorado Core Knowledge Conference. Due to the high number of teachers presenting at the National Conference, only teachers that presented at the Colorado Core Knowledge Conference will be awarded scholarships. Notification to schools receiving scholarships will go out in December. The scholarship money will go out to schools early in 2003. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Holly Hensey.

New Teacher Orientations Planned for Fall of 2003

A very successful New Teacher Orientation was held on August 5, 2002. Ninety-two teachers from seventeen different schools attended and were introduced to Core Knowledge through an abbreviated version of the Core Knowledge training. To better accommodate the varying start dates of the 62 Core Knowledge schools and also so that the trainings can be smaller and more individualized in nature, two New Teacher Orientations will be held. One will be held on August 5, 2003 and the second will be held on September 9, 2003.

The cost of the training is \$100, but fifty \$50 scholarships will be available for each date. Invitations will go out close to the end of the school year.



Colorado Core Knowledge Assessment Update

The Colorado Core Knowledge Assessment Project is in its second phase. Ultimately, the project seeks to gather and develop a collection of Core Knowledge assessments to evaluate the specific content in the units and lessons being taught in Core Knowledge classrooms throughout the year. The assessments will be for specific units, like the American Revolution or Astronomy, not a year-end assessment. When the project is completed, all the assessments developed will have a similar format and will be directly correlated to the Colorado Standards as well as the CSAP. The assessments will eventually be available through the Colorado Core Knowledge website.

We would like to thank all the teachers that submitted assessments last year. Currently, a committee of teachers is working to develop a format for the assessments that will be used in the project. Once the format is developed, we will be looking for teachers to help write specific assessments. Teachers would be paid a stipend for their work. If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact Holly Hensey.

Core Knowledge Leadership Conference Planned for April

The 2nd Annual Colorado Core Knowledge Leadership Conference has been planned for April 15, 2003. The conference is intended for Core Knowledge administrators and coordinators and will bring in speakers and presenters outside of the Core Knowledge administrators. If you have any ideas for speakers or presenters that you would like to see at the Leadership Conference, please contact Holly Hensey.



CORE KNOWLEDGE SCHOOLS ACROSS THE STATE

Note: While the Core Knowledge schools listed are in different stages of implementation, **schools listed in bold are Official Core Knowledge Schools.**

Arvada	Excel Academy Lincoln Academy Woodrow Wilson Academy
Aurora	Aurora Academy
Blanca	Sierra Grande School District
Boulder	High Peaks Elementary
Broomfield	Jefferson Academy Jefferson Academy Junior High Meritor Academy
Calhan	Frontier Charter Academy
Castle Rock	Academy Charter School
Canon City	Mountain View Core Knowledge School
Colorado Springs	Cheyenne Mountain Charter Academy Leadership Preparatory Academy The Classical Academy
Denver	Academy of Charter Schools Garden Place Academy Three Bears Learning Center (Preschool)
Elizabeth	Elbert County Charter School
Englewood	Cherry Creek Academy
Evergreen	Evergreen Mountain School Rocky Mountain Academy of Evergreen
Ft. Collins	The Academy at GK Gymplex (Preschool) Boltz Junior High School Liberty Common School Moore Elementary Ridgeview Classical Schools Spring Creek Country Day School Traut Core Knowledge School Zach Elementary
Granby	Indian Peaks Charter School
Greeley	Frontier Academy Trinity Lutheran School

CORE KNOWLEDGE SCHOOLS, CONT.

Highlands Ranch	Platte River Academy
Hotchkiss	Hotchkiss Elementary
Keenesburg	Cardinal Community Academy
Lafayette	Lafayette Elementary Peak to Peak Charter School
Lamar	Alta Vista Charter School
Littleton	Collegiate Academy Littleton Academy Littleton Preparatory Charter School Normandy Elementary Twin Peaks Charter Academy
Longmont	Louisville Elementary
Louisville	Bright Beginnings Preschool
Loveland	Knowledge Quest Academy
Milliken	Moffat Elementary/Middle School
Moffat	Monument Academy
Monument	Naturita Middle School
Naturita	Nucla Elementary
Paonia	Paonia Elementary
Parker	Parker Core Knowledge School
Pueblo	Cesar Chavez Academy
Pueblo West	Laughing Place Childcare Center (Preschool) Swallows Charter Academy
Sanford	Sanford School District
Superior	Superior Elementary
Thornton	The Pinnacle
Wellington	Creative Kids Corner (Preschool)
Westminster	Crown Pointe Academy
Windsor	Windsor Charter Academy

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN OFFICIAL CORE KNOWLEDGE SCHOOL?



If you are interested in becoming an Official Core Knowledge School, please contact the Core Knowledge Foundation. To become an Official Core Knowledge school, your school must complete a School Profile Form (available from the Core Knowledge Foundation), send copies of your school's Yearlong Plan, and sample lesson plans from each grade level. Your school agrees to implement 80% of the Sequence, with a plan to implement 100% and not to switch content between grade levels. Once recognized, your school will receive a plaque from the Core Knowledge Foundation and camera-ready artwork.



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"This newsletter is produced by the National Core Knowledge Coordinator of Colorado to support the implementation of the Core Knowledge Sequence. National Core Knowledge Coordinators are independent agents and are not employees of the Core Knowledge Foundation."



**Calendar
of Events**

- Nov. 20, 2002 Core Knowledge Administrator Meeting
- JAN./FEB., 2003 Teacher Roundtables (see p. 6 for complete schedule)
- MARCH 4, 2003 Core Knowledge Administrator Meeting
- MARCH 6-8, 2003 Core Knowledge National Conference in Phoenix
- APRIL 15, 2003 Leadership Conference
- MAY 7, 2003 Core Knowledge Administrator Meeting
- JUNE 23-27, 2003 Colorado Summer Writing Institute
- AUG. 5, 2003 Core Knowledge New Teacher Orientation
- SEPT. 9, 2003 Core Knowledge New Teacher Orientation
- OCT. 17, 2003 Colorado Core Knowledge Conference

Colorado Core Knowledge Website Continues to Grow!

I am so excited to announce that the Colorado Core Knowledge website, which has been up and running for a little over a year now, continues to grow. In the month of Oct. 2002, over 18,000 people visited the site! Many of the popular features of the website have continued to expand and some new features have been added.

The Calendar of Events section continues to have the updated Core Knowledge events in Colorado and access to on-line registration for most events. The Lesson Plans and Units section has grown and now has over 260 units available and ready to download for Preschool-8th Grade, plus Music and Art. The Statistical Data for all CSAP tests for all the Colorado Core Knowledge schools has been updated to reflect the 2002 CSAP tests. In the next few weeks, the School List will be updated with even more details about the Core Knowledge schools.

The address of the website is www.ckcolorado.org. Make sure to visit the website soon!