

**MICHAEL GAAL, SUPERINTENDENT
COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11**

"The Colorado Springs School District 11 is extremely pleased to see strong, positive growth and feedback on our Best First Instruction strategies. This time last year, District 11 had fifteen schools on the state watchlist. In a single year with investments in Best First Instruction, we have reduced that list by half. We are further buoyed by no schools dropping onto the watchlist in 2023–2024. District 11 is doubling down on providing the highest quality Tier I instruction to ensure all students succeed."

**DR. WENDY BIRHANZEL, SUPERINTENDENT
HARRISON SCHOOL DISTRICT 2**

“One test cannot tell the whole story for a student. We know that there is work to do across our state, and we are using CMAS testing as one data point in D2 to plan for instruction. I am honored to chair a Colorado Accountability Committee to examine the attributes of a successful school. Every school in our community has great things happening and we want to make sure our students have the skills they need to live successful lives full of opportunity, and we may also want to broaden the lens through which we look to tell whether we are achieving this for all students.”

**JINGER HABERER, SUPERINTENDENT
ACADEMY SCHOOL DISTRICT 20**

“Our positive results stem from our talented and dedicated staff who focus on educating the whole child through robust systems of support, our engaged parent community, and recent changes to district-wide Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).

We are elated our expanded learning opportunities for students and teachers resulted in increased district-wide academic growth. It is affirming the work we’re doing is making a direct impact on students.”

**CHARLOTTE MACALUSO, SUPERINTENDENT
PUEBLO SCHOOL DISTRICT 60**

“While we are pleased with the fact that most of our schools continue to maintain or increase their growth, we are aware that challenges remain due to lost learning opportunities during the pandemic. As we enter the new school year, we do so with a sense of optimism that a solid year of instruction will lead to even more schools meeting or exceeding state expectations following testing in Spring 2024.”

**ERIC MCMARTIN, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14**

“Manitou Springs School District 14 was one of only two districts to have met and exceeded 2019 test scores in both math and English, according to CDE data. We attribute the success to D-14’s commitment to leadership development and focus on professional learning communities, which give teachers time to develop shared goals and success measures.

Even as we have seen some higher levels of student learning, math scores remain below the state average at 29.7%, marking it as an area of focus. We implemented a new math curriculum resource in K-8 classrooms last year to better equip our instructional staff with materials that tightly align to the Colorado Academic Standards. With this change, we were expecting to see an “implementation dip” in test scores as teachers and students familiarize themselves with the new resource, however scores instead held steady. We really treat last year in those kindergarten- through eighth-grade years as a baseline. This is kind of our starting point. Now, we’re focusing on how teachers creatively augment, if you will, to make sure that they reach each student so that learning continues to increase for all Mustangs.”