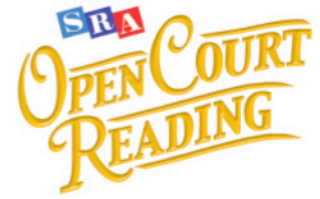


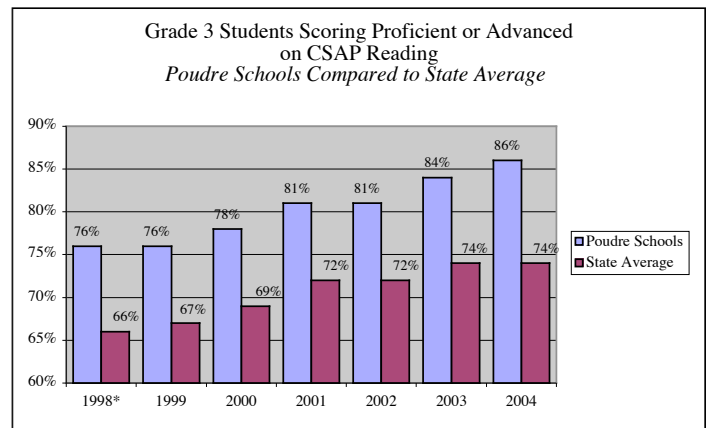
About the District:		About the Students:	
Grades:	K-12	African American:	2%
Number of Students:	24,000	Caucasian:	81%
Test(s):	CSAP	Hispanic:	13%
Reduced Price Lunch:	27%	Asian:	3%
		Other:	1%
		ELL	-



## Colorado School District Earns State's Top Rating of Excellent Since 2001

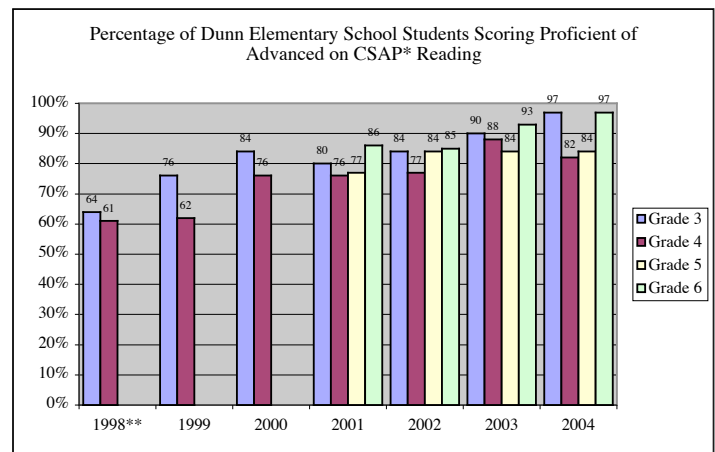
During Colorado's spring 2004 state testing, Poudre School District's Grade 3 students achieved an all-time high reading proficiency rate of 86%, showing steady improvement during the seven years since *Open Court Reading* was implemented in 1997.

The proportion of Proficient and Advanced readers in the Poudre School District increased as the number of years spent using *Open Court Reading* increased. Grade 3 students consistently surpass the overall performance of students statewide by about 10 percentage points each year in these two categories (Proficient and Advanced). In addition, the district has exceeded the state's targeted achievement levels of 80% or higher since 2001, earning it Colorado's top rating of Excellent each year.



\*Results after one year of *Open Court Reading*

Jan Borman, Principal of Dunn Elementary School within the Poudre School District, said her students have succeeded in reading for two reasons: *Open Court Reading* and excellent teachers. "If you give good teachers *Open Court Reading*, they can take the kids to the moon," she said.



\*CSAP was not given to Grades 5-6 in 1998-2000

\*\*Results after one year of *Open Court Reading*

Dunn Elementary School teachers have used *Open Court Reading* in Grades K-6 since the district adopted it in 1997. They also use *Kaleidoscope*, a reading intervention program from SRA for Grades 2-6. "Not only do we like the variety of themes within *Open Court Reading*," she explained, "but we also like *Kaleidoscope* for struggling students because they still study the same themes, just on their level."



The success of the program has pleased the teachers. Borman said one of Dunn's Grade 1 teachers was sold on the whole-language approach to teaching reading until she began using *Open Court Reading*. "Since she's seen such dramatic results with *Open Court Reading*, she's even become an *Open Court* trainer."

#### **Open Court Reading Matches State-Measured Reading Skills**

Now *Open Court Reading* is taught district-wide in Grades K-6. "It's not only a good curriculum, but it also matches the format by which our state measures reading skills," explained Tom Tonoli, retired Language Arts Coordinator. "*Open Court Reading*'s re-teach material and its Intervention Guides are well-received by our teachers."

Lamb Caro taught Grade 5 in the district for nine years before becoming K-6 Reading and Language Arts Facilitator. He said the elementary schools using *Open Court Reading* consistently have shown growth in state assessments. "*Open Court Reading* covers gaps missed in other reading programs," he explained. "Its variety of literature is especially strong."

#### **About Dunn Elementary School**

This Title I school serves more than 400 students in Grades K-6: 72% Caucasian, 11% Hispanic, 3% African American, 12% Asian, and 2% Native American. Twenty-six percent of the children qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. For more information about Dunn Elementary School, visit [schoolweb.psdschools.org/dunn](http://schoolweb.psdschools.org/dunn).

#### **About Poudre School District**

The district serves more than 24,000 students in 45 schools. The student population is 81% Caucasian, 13% Hispanic, 3% Asian, 2% African American, and 1% Native American. Twenty-seven percent of students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches. For more information about Poudre School District, visit [www.psdschools.com](http://www.psdschools.com).

#### **For More Information**

If you would like to learn more about success with *Open Court Reading* in your school or district, please contact us today at **1-888-SRA-4543**.