



February 8, 2024
Press Release

Paula Hans, Public Information Officer
[303-387-0031](tel:303-387-0031) | pmhans@dcsdk12.org

New DCSD Partnership with CU Denver for Administrative Licensure

The Douglas County School District (DCSD) is pleased to announce a groundbreaking partnership with the University of Colorado's Leadership for Education Organizations program. This collaboration is a testament to a mutually shared commitment to advancing DCSD education through innovative leadership.

In the realm of educational leadership, the ability to lead highly impactful schools is paramount. The principal licensure program is meticulously designed to impart the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully navigate the complexities of educational leadership. Participants will gain insight into innovative strategies and authentic leadership traits that are crucial for driving positive change in educational settings.

Equity, diversity, institutional change and outcomes are not just buzzwords for this partnership; they are fundamental principles woven into the fabric of the CU Denver licensure program. CU Denver believes in championing these causes and empowering students to become advocates for equity in education. Through a carefully crafted curriculum, participants will engage with theories and practices that promote inclusivity, ensuring that they are well-prepared to create environments that benefit all students.

The program is designed to align with and propel participants as educational leaders. Whether their goals involve ascending to a higher leadership position, spearheading transformative initiatives, or contributing to policy changes, the principal licensure partnership between Douglas County School District and the University of Colorado – Denver Leadership for Educational Organizations is the launching pad to success.

In this program, participants enroll in a 32-credit hour principal licensure program, and can earn a Master's degree at no additional cost or credit hour commitment. CU Denver believes in providing participants with a comprehensive educational experience that sets them apart in the competitive landscape of educational leadership. Depending on the cohort size, CU Denver guarantees no increase in tuition for the entire duration of the cohort. This commitment ensures financial predictability and transparency throughout the educational journey. This cohort will leverage the benefit of meeting face-to-face at a DCSD facility so that cohort members will be able to be in a local environment and to learn from faculty and each other in a more personalized environment. A distinct advantage of being a member of this cohort is a benefit from a unique blend of expertise as the faculty will be composed of distinguished university professors as well as leaders from DCSD. This collaborative

approach enriches your learning experience with both theoretical knowledge and practical insights from seasoned professionals.

Dr. Jim Christensen will serve as Faculty Chair of this licensure cohort.

"I am beyond excited to work with and mold the next generation of high-performing leaders in Douglas County School District," he said. "This partnership represents an incredible opportunity to bridge academia and real-world application, shaping leaders who will make a lasting impact on education."

"We are excited to announce an incredible opportunity for staff interested in Educational Leadership with our outstanding, long-time partner, CU Denver. This program was created for those who are interested in both school and district level leadership positions in more of a face-to-face instructional model," said Dan McMinimee, DCSD Executive Director of Schools for Pathways, Choice and Alternative Education. "This program is uniquely designed to meet the needs of staff seeking either a Principal Licensure or Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and will ensure that our future leaders are prepared to meet the opportunities available in DCSD schools."

In the Leadership for Education Organizations program, this partnership will mentor the next generation of leaders, aiming to inspire and guide individuals who will shape the future of education in Douglas County.

For more information, contact Dan McMinimee at dmcminimee@dcsdk12.org or Dr. Jim Christensen at James.Christensen@ucdenver.edu.

Additional information on the program is available [online](#), or at one of three [informational meetings offered this spring](#).

###

About DCSD

Douglas County School District is Colorado's third largest school district and serves 63,000 students. Learn more at www.dcsdk12.org.