

COLORADO HANDWRITING STANDARDS

Colorado Department of Education

www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/standards

Updated 2009

STANDARD 2:

Students write and speak for a variety of purposes and audiences. In order to meet this standard, students will “use handwriting and at the most appropriate time, word processing to produce a product that is legible”.

Rational:

Writing and speaking are essential tools for learning, for success in the workplace, and for responsible citizenship. Developing a range of writing and speaking abilities requires extensive study, practice, and thinking. Students need frequent opportunities to write and speak for different audiences and purposes, and they need to be able to communicate expressively, informatively, and analytically. Growth in writing and speaking abilities occurs by applying skills to increasingly challenging communication tasks.

Grades K-4

In grades K-4, what students know and are able to do includes “creating readable documents with legible handwriting or word processing at the appropriate time”.

STANDARD 3:

Students write and speak using conventional grammar, usage, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling. In order to meet this standard, students will

- Know and use correct grammar in speaking and writing
- Apply correct usage in speaking and writing
- Demonstrate correct punctuations, capitalization, and spelling

Rational:

Students need to know and be able to use standard English. Proficiency in this standard plays an important role in how the writer or speaker is understood and perceived. All skills in this standard are reinforced and practiced at all grade levels and should be monitored by both the teacher and student to develop lifelong learning skills.

Grades 5-8

As students in grades 5-8 extend their knowledge, what they know and are able to do includes:

- Identifying the parts of speech such as nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, conjunctions, prepositions, and interjections
- Using correct pronoun case, regular and irregular noun and verb forms and subject-verb agreement involving comparisons in writing and speaking
- Punctuating and capitalizing titles and direct quotations, using possessives, and correct paragraphing in writing