

**For Immediate Release**

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## Colorado Early Colleges Parker Wins John Irwin Award

DENVER, CO (November 18, 2019) – [Colorado Early Colleges Parker](#), a public charter school authorized by the [Colorado Charter School Institute](#) (CSI), was recognized today at the Colorado Department of Education’s Awards Ceremony for academic achievements in the 2018-2019 school year.

Dr. Terry Croy Lewis, CSI Executive Director, shared: “CEC Parker has consistently been a top performer not only in Douglas County but in the state. We are very proud of the work they are doing and are excited for them to be celebrated by the Colorado Department of Education.”



*Alex Tuel (CEC Parker Head of School) and Dr. Terry Croy Lewis (CSI Executive Director) with Colorado Commissioner of Education Katy Anthes and State Board Members*

Alex Tuel, school leader at CEC Parker, shared: “I am very humble and proud to lead the wonderful staff at CEC Parker; they are a dedicated group of individuals that embrace our mission and seek the very best for our students. Our students strive for excellence and have proven to be hard-working young adults who want to succeed in their chosen path.”

Colorado Early Colleges Chief Executive Administrator Sandi Brown shared: “Colorado Early Colleges commends Alex Tuel, CEC Parker Executive Director and Head of School, and his amazing staff for receiving the John Irwin School of Excellence award for the fourth year in a row. Year after year, this campus consistently demonstrates exceptional academic performance while serving all students with excellence. This award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of both school staff and its students.”

This is the fourth year in a row that CEC Parker has earned the [John Irwin Schools of Excellence Award](#), which honors schools that demonstrate exceptional academic achievement over time and receive an Exceeds Expectations rating on the Academic Achievement indicator of the School Performance Frameworks reflecting exceptional performance in Math, English Language Arts, and Science. In the 2018 School Performance Framework, CEC Parker earned an Exceeds rating for every reportable indicator in academic achievement, including the Colorado PSAT- Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, Colorado PSAT- Math, and CMAS Science. Learn more about the award [here](#).

[Colorado Early Colleges Parker](#) opened in 2014 as part of the Colorado Early Colleges (CEC) network of schools. CEC Parker is a Distinction school that [earned the 25<sup>th</sup> highest SAT score](#) in the state and the highest SAT score in Douglas County. The CEC Network provides students in

grades 6-12 the opportunity to start working on college-level courses as soon as they are college ready, allowing students to earn a combination of high school and college credits as they pursue a high school diploma and an Associate degree or higher.

Colorado Early Colleges Parker has [recently received approval from the CSI Board of Directors](#) to expand to Inverness and Castle Rock. CEC Douglas County—the recently updated name for CEC Parker—will include campuses in Parker, Castle Rock, and Inverness.

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***About the Colorado Charter School Institute (CSI)***

*CSI is a statewide charter public school authorizer in Colorado, currently authorizing 40 schools from Durango to Steamboat Springs, Grand Junction to Colorado Springs and serving over 18,000 PK-12 students. As a charter authorizer, CSI focuses on the outputs—that is, the quantitative evaluation of academic, organizational, and financial school performance—providing schools the flexibility to focus on and make decisions about inputs like instructional strategies, educational programming, internal assessment system, facility selection, and staffing. The focus on outcomes rather than processes allows CSI to be neutral on educational model and maintain a diverse portfolio of school models, which include Classical, Early College, Alternative, and Montessori models. Learn more at [www.csi.state.co.us](http://www.csi.state.co.us) or read our [Media Kit](#), and follow CSI on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).*