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## **Press Release**

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### **Downtown Denver Expeditionary School Wins \$645,000 Grant**

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) Wednesday awarded the Downtown Denver Expeditionary School (DDES) a three-year, \$645,000 charter school start-up grant.

DDES' application was one of only two to earn "Distinction" status during this grant cycle, which added an extra \$60,000 to the final award which will be allocated in annual amounts of \$215,000.

The grant is another milestone in DDES' efforts to open in August and implement the innovative and academically rigorous Expeditionary Learning model. In November 2012, DDES received the prestigious Walton Family Foundation charter school start-up grant of \$250,000.

The CDE grant comes from the federal Charter Schools Program that provides money to expand the number of high quality charter schools, school authorizers and leaders around the country. CDE will award \$44 million from the program between 2010-2015.

DDES will locate in a building at 1860 Lincoln St. that DPS recently purchased to also house the Emily Griffith Opportunity School and high school, and DPS administrative offices. DDES will be located at the former Smedley Elementary at 4250 Shoshone St. for its first semester while renovations on the building at 1860 Lincoln are completed. DDES will move into its permanent home in January 2014.

DDES is now enrolling grades K-2 and will grow a grade a year to K-5. Further information and enrollment forms can be found at <http://www.ddeschool.org/enrollment>, or call 720-357-9388.