



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Former Charter School Executive Sentenced for Embezzling Grant Money**

Former Eagle Ridge Academy executive director Robert Hughes DOB 07/24/50 has been sentenced to 60 days of home detention plus 10 years probation for embezzlement of public property from the charter school.

Eagle Ridge Academy, located in Brighton, was managed by Hughes Consulting, owned by Robert Hughes. According to the charges, Hughes embezzled funds from grant money awarded to the school for the purchase of notebook computers for students attending the school. Checks written to pay for computers went to a phony company he set up called Electronic Retrofitting and Finishing.

Hughes was sentenced Jan. 8 in Adams County District Court. He was originally charged with theft (F4) and embezzlement of public property (F5) and pleaded guilty to the embezzlement charge on Sept. 18.

Prosecutors have filed a motion for \$166,975.75 in restitution for the school district and will be seeking an additional amount of \$87,024.25 for Traveler's Insurance. A date for a restitution hearing will be set later.

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