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Chairman of the State Board of Education

THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER MOLONEY

Today, at their regularly scheduled February State Board of Education meeting, the Colorado State Board of Education (SBE) and Commissioner Bill Moloney made public the impending close of one era and the beginning of another.

Commissioner Moloney announced he would be departing his post in June, which would enable the Board to complete the search for his successor.

The State Board also announced that they had commenced conversations with the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) regarding the search process.

SBE Chairman Pam Suckla praised Moloney and expressed gratitude for his service to Colorado:

“Bill pushed hard for the children of our state. He did not seek controversy but he did not shrink from it either. He often reminded us that our mission was about the needs of children not the comfort of adults. He was untiring in promoting the vision and the tasks that lead the State Board to summon him to Colorado ten years ago. Through his leadership, speaking, and op-eds he brought intellectual force and determination to the cause of reform. When the Board had occasion to be about the country, it was ever clear to us that no state had a stronger more articulate, or better chief than we did.”

Senior member of the Board Mr. Randy DeHoff reflected on his eight years of working with Commissioner Moloney:

“Bill embodied the State Board of Education’s commitment to change and our willingness to challenge the status quo on behalf of kids. The occasional brick

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bats that he and we got were a small price to pay for the strong communication of our message of reform.”

Chairman Suckla further noted: “Transitions are never easy. We are grateful that over a year ago Bill insisted that we begin thinking about the future. We are also most grateful to him for fulfilling his promise to stay with us through this period of transition.”

Board members have long been active in NASBE and noted its very strong credentials in the highly specialized area of Chief State School Officer searches. Mr. DeHoff, who is a Western Director for NASBE said:

“NASBE has served Colorado in past Chief searches and their experience in states across the nation gives them an invaluable expertise to be lent to our Board as it approaches this all important task.”

Moloney said he looked back with fondness and satisfaction on his decade as Colorado’s chief:

“The stability and continuity of Colorado’s reform program going back to the work of Governor Romer and earlier State Boards of Education has rightly put Colorado at the front of the line regarding education reform. Much has been accomplished for children through the splendid work of countless Colorado educators. Of course, so much remains to be done. The names of those who have fought this good fight may change but the journey never ends and the cause never dies.”