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## **News Release**

### ***Quality Teachers Commission Meets Friday, Jan. 18***

The Quality Teachers Commission will meet Friday (Jan. 18) from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Colorado Education Association, 1500 Grant Street, in Denver. The meeting will be held in the board room on the fourth floor.

The 13-member commission was established by Senate Bill 07-140 (The Quality Teachers Act) to examine the development and implementation of a unique teacher identifier system. The commission is also expected to examine the teacher gap in Colorado and gather data from school districts on how they are reducing that gap. The term “teacher gap” refers to the phenomenon that poor and minority students are more likely to be instructed by less-qualified or less-experienced teachers than their more affluent and white peers.

The agenda includes:

- Commission business (including review of report to the education committees)
- Information session with invited guests on potential opportunities and pitfalls on using a teacher identifier system
- Commission discussion on hopes and fears for using a teacher identifier system
- Commission Task: Planning and discussion on how to examine the “teacher gap”
- Presentations of existing work that examine the “teacher gap”

Appointed by the governor for two-year terms, the commission members are: Evie Hudak, member of the Colorado State Board of Education from Congressional District 2; Karen Mock, deputy commissioner of Colorado Department of Education; Julie Carnahan, chief academic officer for the Colorado Department of Higher Education; Matt Gianneschi, senior policy analyst for Gov. Bill Ritter; Kim Ursetta, president of the Denver Classroom Teachers Association; Bill Hodges, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources with Douglas County Schools; Scott Groginsky, member of Gilpin County Re-1 School Board; Nate Howard, principal of Smiley Middle School in Denver; Maria Del Carmen Salazar, teacher with Littleton Public Schools; Deidre Roque, teacher in Pueblo; Lisa Kramer, parent in Littleton; Jacqueline Paone, executive director of the Alliance for Quality Teaching; and Nella Anderson, Director of Teacher Education at Western State College in Gunnison.

The public is welcome to observe the meeting.

**For more information, contact** Mark Stevens, 303-866-3898, or Tanya Price, 303-866-6397, in the CDE Office of Communications. To sign up for the CDE e-mail news service, please visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/index.html>.

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