

Colorado Department of Education – Communications Office 201 East Colfax Ave. Room 501 Denver, CO 80203 Phone: 303-866-3898 Fax: 303-866-6938

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News Release

Applications Being Accepted for New Facility Schools Board

The Colorado Department of Education today announced it is seeking applicants for a new Facility School Board that will work to improve the educational outcomes of students who are placed in residential, day treatment and hospital programs. Applications for the Facility Schools Board are due Friday, August 8.

House Bill 08-1204, the Facility Schools Bill, establishes a board that will consist of seven members appointed by the Colorado State Board of Education. Collectively, members of the board must have expertise in curriculum and assessment, educating students who are placed in facilities, mental health services, special education services and school finance.

The responsibilities of the board will be to adopt curriculum standards and set graduation requirements for facility schools; to adopt accountability measures, including academic performance measures and award high school diplomas to students in approved facility schools who meet the graduation requirements.

Representation on the board is specified as:

- Two members representing school districts in Colorado, one of whom has expertise in special education
- One member representing state level agencies making placements in facilities
- One member representing county departments of social services

- Two members representing facilities in Colorado
- One person representing students who receive educational services provided by facility schools in Colorado. This member may be a person who, as a child, received educational services provided by a facility school. This member may also be a parent of a student who is receiving (or formerly received) education services provided by a facility school.

In addition, the members of the board need to be representative of the geographic areas of the state and representative of the ethnic and racial diversity and gender balance within the state.

The term of membership is three years. Initial appointments will be designated such that two members will serve one-year terms and two members will serve two-year terms. Members of the board serve without compensation, except for reasonable reimbursement of expenses.

Any person meeting the qualifications for membership on the Facility Schools Board is invited to submit a personal resume along with a statement of interest. Applications are due by August 8, 2008. Applications can be sent to: Colorado Department of Education, Exceptional Student Leadership Unit, Attn: Kama Linscome, 201 E. Colfax Ave., Denver CO 80203. Applications can also be e-mailed to <u>linscome_k@cde.state.co.us</u>.

For more information contact Kama Linscome at 303-866-6976.

For more information, contact Mark Stevens, 303-866-3898, or Megan McDermott, 303-866-2334, 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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