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News Release

Gerry Difford A “Passionate Leader, Dedicated Educator” – Commissioner Dwight D. Jones

Colorado Commissioner of Education Dwight D. Jones today issued the following statement on the passing of Gerry Difford, former assistant to the commissioner:

“The Colorado education community has lost a thoughtful and inspiring leader,” said Commissioner Jones. “Gerry Difford was a passionate leader and dedicated educator who devoted his career to improving education across the state. He worked in a variety of administrative positions but always kept the classroom in his heart. We will miss his engaging smile, easy-going attitude and his genuine sense of purpose.”

Gerry Difford recently retired from the Colorado Department of Education as assistant to the commissioner. He served as a special assistant to the commissioner since 1999 and he formerly worked as assistant superintendent in Cherry Creek Schools, executive director of the Colorado Association of School Executives, and as area superintendent and principal in Jefferson County Schools.

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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