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## **News Release**

### ***Kickoff Meeting For Teaching and Learning Survey is Tuesday, Jan. 13***

The Colorado Department of Education announced today the first organizational meeting to prepare for a statewide Teaching and Learning Survey planned for spring 2009. The survey was set in motion by House Bill 08-1834.

The meeting will be held Tuesday, Jan. 13 from 1—4 p.m. at 1560 Broadway in downtown Denver, Suite 1250. Space is limited so interested individuals are asked to confirm by e-mailing or calling Tina Tamayo ([tamayo\\_t@cde.state.co.us](mailto:tamayo_t@cde.state.co.us), 303-866-6705) by Monday, Jan. 12.

The meeting will provide detail about the survey initiative and plan for how the survey will be conducted. If you cannot attend the first meeting and would like to be involved, also contact Tina Tamayo at the information above.

House Bill 1384 authorized the Colorado Department of Education to conduct a biennial survey of teaching and learning conditions. The bill stated that “these conditions must be systematically studied and addressed for Colorado to develop a critical mass of teachers who are well prepared to teach and who will remain in hardest-to-staff schools long enough to make a significant difference for students and their families.”

CDE has selected the New Teacher Center (NTC) to conduct the statewide survey of all school-based licensed educators in spring 2009.

NTC, working with the Colorado Department of Education and a broad coalition of stakeholders, policymakers and practitioners will:

- Design a teaching and learning conditions survey—including core questions used in 21 iterations of similar surveys in 12 states—that best reflect the needs of the state.
- Provide an online survey process by which every school-based educator will receive an anonymous login code that identifies the school in which they work and ensures that they take the survey only once.
- Produce individual school and district survey results where a sufficient response rate was achieved.
- Produce an aggregate state report.
- Analyze teaching conditions results and explore connections between the presence of positive environments and other variables such as student achievement, teacher retention, including specific analyses for subsets of schools or educators as determined by the stakeholders.
- Design trainings materials that can be utilized by coalition partners to understand and use the survey results for school improvement planning.

“Our goal is to produce a high-quality survey instrument that gives us high-quality information,” said Lisa Medler, who is coordinating the initiative for CDE. “We invite interested stakeholders to assist in both the design of the survey itself and communication about the opportunity to participate in it. Ultimately, a high participation rate by teachers and educators will yield more meaningful results.”

To preview previous surveys, learn more about the initiative and view tools to improve teaching conditions, visit the New Teacher Center Web site at <http://newteachercenter.org/tlcsurvey/index.php>

**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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