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## **News Release**

### ***Colorado Legacy Foundation Names Helayne Jones Executive Director***

The Colorado Legacy Foundation board of trustees today announced the selection of Helayne Jones, Ed.D., as executive director.

“Dr. Helayne Jones specializes in bringing people together to improve education for children,” said Board Chair Stephen H. Shogan, M.D. “We’re pleased Helayne will lead the Colorado Legacy Foundation. Her expertise matches our mission to build strategic, public-private partnerships that improve the way our public schools prepare Colorado students for success in today’s rapidly expanding, knowledge-centered economy.”

An education consultant, Jones promotes the involvement of business, community and faculty in education reform, and encourages leadership and innovation in the management of education.

For the past 15 years, Jones has consulted with school districts and education foundations in Colorado and throughout the country to implement school reform by improving business processes in education systems. She also has worked extensively with private-sector and nonprofit organizations to facilitate strategic planning, board communications and manage the impact of change.

The Colorado Legacy Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization created to support the Colorado Department of Education.

“Helayne Jones is a well-established leader in education innovation,” said Commissioner of Education Dwight D. Jones. “Her experience working directly with public schools in Colorado will be an asset as we share meaningful ways schools can beat the odds and improve student learning.”

In the past year, the foundation:

- Held the inaugural Commissioner’s Cup luncheon celebrating the 39 schools featured in the “Profiles of Success” report about schools that are closing the achievement gap.
- Released the first edition of the “Best Practices Guide” publication and companion DVD that offers a primer on strategies common to the 39 schools proven to improve student achievement.

The Colorado Legacy Foundation board of trustees consists of 11 committed members with a range of professional experiences and a common passion for helping transform Colorado’s education system.

Jones replaces the foundation’s first executive director, Kelly Leid, who recently joined the staff of Denver Public Schools.

Jones currently serves as president, Boulder Valley School Board; trustee, Rose Community Foundation; chair, Rose Education Committee; advisory member, Gov. Bill Ritter’s P-20 Education Council; and board member, Presidents Leadership Class, University of Colorado at Boulder.

Jones is a past board member of the Colorado Commission for High School Improvement; Impact on Education; Allied Jewish Federation; Harvard Women’s Studies in Religion Program; Congregation Har HaShem; Etown; Dairy Center for the Arts; and Boulder High School Parent Council.

Prior to consulting, Jones spent three years as an adjunct professor at Iona College in New Rochelle, N.Y., and 12 years in the technology industry including several executive marketing positions at Wang Laboratories.

Jones received her doctoral degree in educational administration in May 1995 from the Columbia University Teachers College with an emphasis on school reform. She received a master’s in English, Magna

Cum Laude, in October 1977 from the University of Massachusetts and a bachelor's, honors college, from the University of Michigan in 1975.

Jones and her husband have two sons Adam, 22, and Matthew, 19. They reside in Boulder, Colo.

**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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