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News Release

Legacy Foundation White Paper and Panel Discussion Focuses On Teacher Effectiveness

The Colorado Legacy Foundation announces the release of “Improving Teacher and School Leader Effectiveness: Designing a Framework for Colorado.” A related panel discussion will be held Thursday, Oct. 1 in Denver. The publication is available at <https://colegacy.org/teacher%20effectiveness>

“Research shows that one of the most important influences in children’s academic success is their teacher,” said Helayne Jones, executive director of the Colorado Legacy Foundation. “We have convened experts and stakeholders to develop a comprehensive plan to enhance teacher quality. This report is an integral part of this initiative.”

The paper credits the Race to the Top competition for providing a compelling process to address ways to produce more effective teachers and leaders in Colorado. Paul Teske from the School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver says in the executive summary that the Race to the Top competition “also provides an opportunity for actors and institutions that may have had different

agendas around broader issues in education policy to find their common ground, and to stake out the implementation mechanisms for producing effective teachers and leaders that are fair, straightforward and doable.”

Teske says the report enlists the nation’s top experts on teacher and leader effectiveness and applies Colorado knowledge to design elements suggested by the national conversation.

The panel discussion will address the questions, how can Colorado produce more effective teachers and leaders? What kind of strategies are nationally recognized education leaders using? How can we capitalize on those strategies within our own state? What can we do with the resources we have?

The discussion will be on Thursday, Oct. 1 from 8 to 10 a.m. at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Blvd., in Denver. Panel participants include national experts Barnett Barry from the Center for Teacher Quality, Joan Schunck of the New Teacher Project and Tony Salazar from the Colorado Education Association. Local superintendents Tom Boasberg of Denver Public Schools and Mike Miles of Harrison School District 2 will also participate.

“Improving Teacher and School Leader Effectiveness: Designing a Framework for Colorado” was commissioned by the Colorado Legacy Foundation as part of a grant from the Rose Community Foundation. The paper was researched and written by Paul Teske, Kelly Hupfeld, Ellen Strickland and Lucy Kinsella of the Center for Education Policy Awareness, a program of the School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver.

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

For more information on the Colorado Legacy Foundation visit www.colegacy.org

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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