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News Release

Quality Teachers Commission Meets Thursday, February 25

The Quality Teachers Commission will meet Thursday, Feb. 25 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Colorado Children's Campaign (1580 Lincoln St., Suite 420 in Denver).

The Feb. 25 agenda will cover:

- Department of Education and Department of Higher Education progress reports on Identifier System;
- Pending state legislation on educator effectiveness and the QTC's role in pending legislation;
- Planning the commission's activities on analyzing the achievement gap in Colorado;
- Meeting schedule.

The meeting is open to the public.

The 13-member commission was established by Senate Bill 07-140 (The Quality Teachers Act) to examine the development and implementation of a unique teacher identifier system. The commission is also expected to examine the teacher gap in Colorado and gather data from school districts on how they are reducing that gap. The term "teacher gap" refers to the phenomenon that poor and minority students are more likely to be instructed by less-qualified or less-experienced teachers than their more affluent and white peers.

Already underway for two years, the commission was recently re-appointed by Gov. Bill Ritter Jr.'s office. Based upon their

recommendations, House Bill 09-1065 (Educator Identifier Pilot Act) calls for the creation of an educator identifier system. CDE is expected to build the identifier system this year in consultation with the commission.

For more information, contact Lisa Medler at medler_l@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-6993.

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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