



Colorado Department of Education – Communications Office
201 East Colfax Ave.
Room 207
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: 303-866-3898
Fax: 303-866-6938

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News Release

State Board Member Jane Goff Will Travel To Japan With 23 Other U.S. Educators As Part Of Japan Foundation's Group Tour Program

Colorado State Board of Education member Jane Goff will travel to Japan Nov. 6-14, 2010, as part of the Japan Foundation's third annual Invitational Group Tour Program for U.S. educators.

The purpose of the program is to further Japanese-language education by promoting an understanding of Japan, nurturing an affinity toward the Japanese culture and expanding and improving the quality of Japanese-language education at the elementary and secondary levels in the U.S.

"I'm excited to be given this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Goff. "I am hopeful this trip will provide me with first-hand knowledge of the Japanese culture and educational system so I can return to the U.S. and share this experience with others around the state."

Many group activities are scheduled in Tokyo and other major Japanese cities during the tour. Lectures, visits to the Japanese Language Institute and various cultural facilities, school visits, discussions with school principals and other education officials, open training time and the opportunity to attend a Kabuki play are a few items on the nine-day itinerary.

Goff, a resident of Arvada, represents the 7th Congressional District on the Colorado State Board of Education. She retired from teaching in 2006 after 34 years in Jefferson County Schools, where she taught

middle and high school French and Spanish and served as Jeffco's coordinator of world languages and international student exchange.

Goff serves as the state board's liaison to the State World Language Advisory Council. She provided valuable insight and advice to the world language teachers as they wrote the new Colorado Model Content Standards for World Languages.

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

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