

February 19, 2010



Jeffco's Stevenson honored at national conference

Colorado Superintendent of the Year Cindy Stevenson was honored last week at the National Conference on Education, held by the American Association of School Administrators (AASA). Stevenson is superintendent of the Jefferson County Public School District, and as we shared with you in December, was named one of four finalists for National Superintendent of the Year.

Stevenson was recognized on the first day of the conference along with the other state Superintendent of the Year winners. Though she was not named the National Superintendent for 2010, her Jeffco colleagues and fellow Colorado school leaders couldn't be prouder of her accomplishment.

CASE Executive Director John Hefty and Deputy Executive Director Bruce Caughey attended the AASA Conference. "Cindy is an exceptional superintendent and provides energetic leadership at a time when we as educators are facing many difficult challenges," said Hefty. "That she was named one of four finalists for the National Superintendent of the Year award speaks to the profound positive impact she has on students, Jeffco educators, and her community. We are so proud of her and the work that she does."

Last Friday, a dinner was held in Stevenson's honor at the Wrigley Mansion in Phoenix. Her husband Peter and CASE members in attendance at the conference were on hand to celebrate her accomplishment, and the evening included a special visit from former U.S. Secretary of Education Ron Page. Many thanks to Scantron and Stifel Nicolaus for sponsoring the event.

All of us at CASE congratulate Cindy!



New CASE Affiliation

We're very pleased to share with you a new upcoming affiliation between CASE and the Jefferson County Administrators Association (JCAA). Beginning in April, we'll enter into a two-year pilot program in which JCAA will be an affiliate member of CASE. JCAA will pay a flat amount to cover the affiliate costs, and JCAA members will receive some benefits through this affiliation, including receiving our member communications and legislative advocacy services. Because JCAA members will not be individual members, their benefits will be less than what active CASE members enjoy. JCAA members will not receive liability insurance, access to legal assistance, the member rate on our professional development activities, or be able to serve on any CASE governing board.

We are confident that this will be a positive relationship for all of our members. We've talked about this new affiliation extensively with the Coordinating Council, which unanimously approved the affiliation at their January meeting. On the legislative front, the opportunity to expand our influence by representing more school leaders in Colorado will be tremendously helpful. Additionally, during this very difficult economic time, CASE is tightening its belt right along with school districts. The affiliation with JCAA will provide an important new source of revenue.

During the two-year period of the affiliation, we'll be regularly assessing the arrangement to make sure it proves beneficial to our organization. We'll also be seeking your input as we move forward, so don't hesitate to let us know if you have any questions.

We're excited about this new opportunity and chance to "grow" CASE during a time of economic contraction. If you'd like to have further conversation about the affiliation, don't hesitate to get in touch with CASE Deputy Executive Director Bruce Caughey at bcaughey@co-case.org, or Director of Communications Melissa Gibson at mgibson@co-case.org.

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Last Chance! CASE Website Survey

As you know, CASE has begun work on a complete revamp of our website. In addition to creating a more fresh and professional look, we will be offering some new features that enhance your association experience and ensure ease of navigation and use.

We want your input! If you haven't already, please take a few minutes to complete an online survey sharing with us your preferences for the new Web site. Just click on the link below to access the survey:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9LTSBR2>

We'll use your feedback and ideas as we create the new CASE Web site. The online survey will close next Wednesday, February 24.



Colorado school districts awarded healthy schools grants

Congratulations to the 10 Colorado school districts who were recently awarded grants by the Colorado Legacy Foundation to support their work around health and wellness. The one and two-year grants are intended to assist school districts in implementing new or continuing existing programs related to such areas as nutrition, physical activity, health education, and employee wellness.

CASE Director of Communications Melissa Gibson was a member of the committee that reviewed the applications. “The proposals that districts submitted were so impressive and creative,” said Gibson. “It’s clear that there is a strong commitment to healthy schools in Colorado, and it was difficult to choose only 10 grant recipients. As CASE continues its work around healthy schools, we look forward to engaging with and learning from the districts involved in these important efforts.”

The districts awarded grants are: Bethune School District, Campo School District Re-6, Durango School District 9-R, East Grand School District, Elizabeth C-1 School District, Monte Vista C-8 School District, Boulder Valley Re-2 School District, Colorado Springs School District 11, Thompson School District, and Weld County School District 6.

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Update

Cancelled CDE Conference Call

In the last *Member Bulletin*, we shared with you that CDE was holding a conference call on February 11 to update stakeholders on the implementation of Senate Bill 163. We received notice after the call was scheduled to occur that it had been postponed unexpectedly due to technical difficulties. CDE apologized for the inconvenience this caused. If and when the conference call is rescheduled, we will let you know.

Please do not reply to this message. Questions? Contact Melissa Gibson at mgibson@co-case.org.