

**Contact Information:**

Sara Bracken

720-502-4730

[sbracken@coloradoedinitiative.org](mailto:sbracken@coloradoedinitiative.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 10, 2014

## Colorado Education Initiative Announces Vice President of Strategic Engagement and Communications

DENVER, CO – Today the [Colorado Education Initiative](http://coloradoedinitiative.org) (CEI) announced that Lesley Dahlkemper has been selected to serve as the organization’s Vice President of Strategic Engagement and Communications. Prior to joining CEI Dahlkemper served as the Founder and President of Schoolhouse Communications, Inc. Dahlkemper has more than 25 years of combined experience in strategic communications, public policy, politics and journalism in the private sector and nonprofit sector.

“We are excited to welcome Lesley Dahlkemper to the CEI team,” said Dr. Helayne Jones, President and CEO of the Colorado Education Initiative. “Lesley has an extensive communications and strategy background. She brings the ability to provide strong strategic engagement leadership, communications plan execution, the ability to bring together groups of diverse interests and strong management skills. She will be a wonderful addition to our organization.”

“Colorado is a national leader in education innovation and the Colorado Education Initiative is at the forefront of this work,” said Dahlkemper. “I am honored to be a part of this creative, dedicated team that collaborates with teachers, principals, parents and other stakeholders to ensure every student is successful.”

Dahlkemper holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Master of Arts in Public Affairs Reporting.

CEI is an independent nonprofit working in partnership with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and public education stakeholders to accelerate bold improvements in student achievement through innovation, collaboration, and capacity building. CEI believes that increased student achievement for all Colorado students requires effective leaders in every school, effective educators in every classroom, and healthy and engaging environments that ignite a passion for learning in every student.

To learn more about the Colorado Education Initiative, please visit [coloradoedinitiative.org](http://coloradoedinitiative.org)

###