



THE
COLORADO
EDUCATION
INITIATIVE

Contact Information:

Sara Bracken

720-502-4730

sbracken@coloradoedinitiative.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2014

Prominent Education Organization to Seek New CEO

DENVER – [The Colorado Education Initiative](http://www.coloradoedinitiative.org) announced today a leadership transition. Dr. Helayne Jones will resign effective July 1 as President and CEO. Jones plans to continue her work in education reform, but in a way that provides her with greater flexibility and more personal time.

“We want to thank Helayne for her deep passion and commitment to Colorado’s children,” said Monica Skok, board chair, The Colorado Education Initiative. “Under her dedicated leadership, The Colorado Education Initiative has flourished over the last five years with a singular focus on innovative ways to reach every learner, every day.”

The organization’s vision, mission and unique partnership with the Colorado Department of Education has garnered national attention as other states explore replicating the model. Jones leaves the thriving organization in a solid, healthy position.

“The Colorado Education Initiative is an amazing organization and I am very proud of the work we have accomplished,” said Dr. Helayne Jones. “I know that the organization will continue to flourish because our work is critical and our great staff is wholly dedicated to our mission. Thank you for giving me the opportunity. The past five years have been the most rewarding work of my career.”

Senior Vice-President of Initiatives Yee-Ann Cho will serve as interim President and CEO until a new CEO is selected. Jones will stay engaged during the transition period until a new CEO is in place.

A national search will be conducted for the next CEO. George Sparks, CEI board member and President and CEO of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, will chair the search committee.

###

About The Colorado Education Initiative

The Colorado Education Initiative (CEI) is an independent nonprofit working in partnership with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and public education stakeholders to accelerate bold improvement 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.