

Dear Colorado Superintendents and BOCES Directors,

I hope this message finds you well and that you are getting some well-deserved time off over the holiday weekend. I am writing to introduce myself and let you know how excited I am to join the Colorado Department of Education as the new commissioner. I am honored and eager to begin serving in this role, working alongside you to continue advancing education in our beautiful state. As a former superintendent, I know how hard your jobs are and have tremendous respect for your commitment to serving your communities.

I am a Colorado native through and through. My father grew up in Walsenburg and Pueblo in Southern Colorado, and moved to Denver where he met my mother. I have deep roots in Colorado and am proud to have grown up here. I served over 31 years in the Denver Public Schools, where I spent the formative years of my life and career in education, including as a teacher, principal and ultimately superintendent. Our rich and diverse landscapes, our commitment to local control, our dedicated communities, and our shared belief in the role of education in growing the next generation of learners and leaders are just a few reasons why Colorado holds a special place in my heart.

For the past 2.5 years, I have been working outside of Colorado; most recently, I have been supporting a network of superintendents in small, rural, and midsize districts. This experience has not only increased my understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities present in diverse communities but has also equipped me with a deeper understanding of how important it is to support local communities in leading their schools. I have seen firsthand the amazing things superintendents can do in their communities when they have the space to innovate.

As I take on this role, I am eager to meet with you. I believe in the power of collaboration and am committed to working closely with you to achieve our common goals. As I transition into my role, I will be reaching out to hear from you directly about your experiences, your successes and your challenges, and your aspirations for your schools and districts. I hope to see many of you in person at the CASE conference!

I am excited for the journey ahead. Together, we will strive to create an education system that empowers all of our students to reach their full potential, and a state where every child has access to a world-class education.

I look forward to supporting you, learning from you, and partnering with you to serve the wonderful students of Colorado.

Warm Regards,

Susana Cordova

Susana Córdova  
Commissioner

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