

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER,
STATE OF COLORADO
RESOLUTION NO. _____**

RESOLUTION ENSURING ONLY THE BEST TEACHERS SERVE DPS STUDENTS

WHEREAS the Denver Public Schools Board of Education is committed to ensuring that every student is taught by a highly-qualified education professional and;

WHEREAS the Board of Education believes that the single factor that has the most direct effect on student achievement is the quality of the student's teacher and;

WHEREAS the Board of Education believes that high-quality teachers will contribute to closing the achievement gap and consequently create educational opportunity for Title I students, including students of color and/or of socioeconomic disadvantage and;

WHEREAS 65 to 70 percent of all DPS students are currently categorized as Title I students and;

WHEREAS the fact that 99% of all non-probationary DPS teachers receive a satisfactory evaluation, in some cases after having had no in-person classroom observation by school administration personnel and;

WHEREAS the Board of Education believes that every teacher employed by Denver Public Schools must receive a satisfactory performance evaluation so as to eliminate the risk that unassigned, non-probationary teachers perform at sub-par levels and;

WHEREAS the Denver Public Schools has recently been awarded a \$10M grant from the Gates Foundation to improve our teacher evaluation and professional development program; and

WHEREAS an agreement with the Denver Classroom Teachers Association regarding placement of unassigned, non-probationary teachers, as delineated in the Teacher Staffing 2009/2010 Principals' Manual, has already been reached; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education believes that any policy change regarding the direct placement of unassigned, non-probationary teachers should be made by the Board only after a revision of the current teacher evaluation system has been made and after the appropriate data has been collected and the corresponding adjustments in human capital have been made.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Denver Public Schools Board of Education instructs the Superintendent of Schools to adhere to the agreements with the Denver Classroom Teachers Association as codified in the Principals' Manual referenced above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to immediately produce, in collaboration with the Denver Classroom Teachers Association and any other appropriate stakeholders as deemed by the Board, a plan for a teacher evaluation, mentorship and professional development system within 90 days of the date of this resolution, the first phase being ready for implementation no later than the end of the 2009-2010 school year, and to be phased in completely within three school years, or by the 2012-2013 school year.

Nate Easley, Jr.
President

Jeanne Kaplan
Secretary