

## **JEROME (JERRY) WARTGOW**

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### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Superintendent & Chief Executive Officer, Denver Public Schools (2001-Current)**

Dr. Wartgow was appointed as a “non-traditional” Superintendent of Denver Public Schools in 2001. Setting high expectations, improving academic achievement for all students, and closing the gap between better and poorer performing students are the overarching goals of the Superintendent and the District.

Since 2001, student achievement has increased and DPS has experienced a surge of momentum and a renewed bond with Denver’s many neighborhoods and communities. Working collaboratively with students, teachers, parents and a wide range of community-based and business and philanthropic partners, DPS has established a winning track record for reform and success. Of the twenty-one schools that received an unsatisfactory rating on the State Accountability Report in the fall of 2001, all but one had moved off that rating two years later. The District twice won the Governor’s award for the most improved school district in the state (2002 and 2003). The Colorado Charter School Association named DPS as Colorado’s “Most Charter Friendly District” in 2003. The acclaimed Denver Literacy Program was implemented in the elementary schools. In November 2004 Denver voters passed the largest bond and mill levy elections in the District’s history, by the largest margins in recorded history. Subsequently, DPS has seen a renaissance of the arts, with more than 100 new elementary art teachers added during the past year. Education opportunities for pre-schoolers have been broadened, revitalization efforts have been launched in dozens of schools, and a special citizens’ commission on secondary reform has outlined a progressive blue-print for secondary reform. Simultaneously, Denver’s new and innovative teacher compensation system, “ProComp”, has caught the nation’s attention as a seminal and powerful model for reform of educational compensation systems.

DPS serves a diverse student body of 76000+ students enrolled in programs from early childhood education through grade 12. Ethnic distribution of the student body is approximately 56% Hispanic, 20% White, 18% African American, and 6% other. Sixty-five percent of the students qualify for free & reduced lunch. More than ninety different languages are spoken by the 16000 DPS students who do not identify English as their first language. The annual combined operating and capital budget exceeded US\$1 billion in fiscal year 2004-2005.

#### **President and CEO, International Training & Education Alliance, Inc. (1998-2001)**

The International Training & Education Alliance, Inc. (ITEA) specialized in creating partnerships among businesses, governments and educational institutions to facilitate the development and delivery of customized training and education programs. ITEA applied state of the art technology and telecommunications to the development of new, web-based, customized curricula and delivery systems.

**President, Colorado Community College & Occupational Education System**

(1986-1998)

Founding President of the Colorado Community College & Occupational Education System (CCCOES). The President is the chief executive and academic officer of the System and is accountable to the State Board (a lay governing board appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate) for implementation of Board policy and administration and oversight of all operational aspects of the system.

During the period 1986-1998, CCCOES evolved from a loose federation of community colleges, area vocational schools and technical institutes into a single unified System comprised of 200,000+ secondary and post-secondary students, more than 800 full time and 4,000 part time faculty and an annual budget that exceeded \$300 million in operating funds and \$150 million in capital funds in 1998. Approximately 50% of the students are enrolled in liberal arts and general education programs that are articulated with, and guarantee transfer to, public four-year colleges and universities in Colorado. The remaining 50% of the students are enrolled in terminal vocational education degree and certificate programs that are designed to prepare graduates for direct entry into the workplace.

Through collaboration with business and industry and the application of state of the art technology to teaching, learning and the delivery of education, CCCOES earned an international reputation as a responsive and entrepreneurial educational enterprise. Using innovations such as the Higher Education Advanced Technology Center, Colorado Electronic Community College, the Education Technology & Training Center and Colorado Community College OnLine, the System delivers cost effective education to individuals, high schools and corporations throughout Colorado and the world through a variety of web-based, cable and satellite systems.

In 1998 I elected to exercise a self-imposed term limit and asked that the Board accept my resignation to permit me to pursue new opportunities. The Board graciously accepted this request and I was awarded the status of “**President Emeritus of the Colorado Community College & Occupational Education System**”.

**Executive Director, Auraria Higher Education Center, Denver**

(1978-1986)

The Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) is a unique educational complex wherein three institutions - Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State College, University of Colorado at Denver - share facilities and centralized services on a campus that is owned and managed by a fourth entity, the Auraria Board of Directors. The executive director was responsible for planning, budgeting and managing the campus and for administration of a wide range of centralized student and instructional support services on behalf of the constituent institutions and the more than 30,000 FTE students who attend classes on the campus.

**Research Fellow and Visiting Professor, East-West Center and University of Hawaii, Honolulu**

(Sabbatical Leave – 1985-1986)

Received a Fellowship at the East-West Center and designated a Visiting Professor in the Graduate School of Education at the University of Hawaii. The East-West Center is (Jerome F. Wartgow, resume, page 2)

an educational institution established in Hawaii in 1960 by the United States Congress. The Center's mandate is "to promote better relations and understanding among the nations of Asia, the Pacific and the United States through cooperative study, training and research". Throughout the year, graduate students, scholars, professionals in business and government, and visiting specialists engage in research with the Center's international staff on major issues facing the Asian and Pacific region. Activities during the fellowship focused on issues of development and policy planning in higher education in Asia and the Pacific Rim.

**Deputy Executive Director & Acting Executive Director, Colorado Commission on Higher Education** (1973-1978)

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education is the official statewide coordinating and planning agency for all public higher education institutions in the State of Colorado. The Executive Director is one of fourteen members of the Governor's Cabinet.

Responsibilities included serving as lead staff person in development of the first Colorado Master Plan for Higher Education to be adopted by the State Legislature and approved by the Governor; development of criteria and guidelines for master planning; liaison to legislative committees and the Governor's staff; collaboration with college and university staff in the development of role and mission statements for each of the higher education institutions in Colorado; development of computer based information systems for use in analyzing budget requests, and developing and securing funding for The Colorado Statewide Plan for Removal of Architectural Barriers in Higher Education.

**Visiting Professor, Graduate School of Education, University of Denver** (1973-78)

Taught one or two graduate seminars each year. Courses included "Current Issues in Higher Education", "Organization and Administration", "Management of Complex Organizations" and "Introduction to Public Policy".

**University Professor, College of Business, Director of Research & Evaluation, Governors State University, Illinois** (1972-1973)

Designed and taught upper-division and graduate level learning modules in the areas of management information systems and statistical methodology in research design. Administrative responsibilities included design and implementation of the evaluation model for this new, non-traditional upper division university.

**Dean of Students, International School of Bangkok, Thailand** (1967-1970)

Responsibilities included direction and supervision of all student personnel services for 3,700 students in grades K-12; direction of a range of social and cultural activities for students representing thirty six different nationalities; chairing a nationwide fund raising campaign on behalf of hill tribe schools that was co-sponsored by the Royal Thai Air Force, Republic of Thailand Border Patrol Police and the United States Embassy.

**Mathematics Teacher, Anacapa Junior High School, Ventura, California** (1965-66)

**Mathematics Teacher, Rialto Junior High School, Rialto, California** (1964-65)

**EDUCATION**

**Doctor of Philosophy**, University of Denver, Higher Education/Business Major-1972

**Master of Education**, University of Hawaii, 1967

**Bachelor of Science**, University of Wisconsin - Superior, 1964

## **SPECIAL HONORS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

National Governors Education Symposium, Biltmore Estate, North Carolina, June 2004  
*One of a small group of individuals invited to discuss Education Reform in an invitation only seminar with thirty of our nation's Governors. Of special interest to the governors was Comprehensive Reform Efforts in Denver Public Schools, and ProComp, the District's innovative new teacher compensation system.*

Aspen Institute Congressional Program: The Challenge for Education Reform  
Cancun, Mexico, February 14 -19, 2003

*One of ten scholar/experts (the only school superintendent) invited to present and meet with approximately 30 bipartisan members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives in a five day retreat to evaluate and make recommendations related to the No Child Left Behind Act and to address other challenges of education reform.*

Special Tribute in the Congressional Record of the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress of the United States of America, February 15, 2005.

Executive Order by Governor Richard Lamm proclaiming, "JERRY WARTGOW DAY" in the State of Colorado in recognition of outstanding public service – October 15, 1986

University of Colorado Distinguished Service Award, 2004

University of Denver Distinguished Alumni Award, 2002

Listed among the "100 Outstanding Alumni of the 20th Century", University of Wisconsin-Superior, 1994

Special Commendation for Outstanding Service by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Colorado-1998

Special Commendation for Outstanding Service by Colorado Governor Roy Romer, 1998

President Emeritus Resolution and Commendation by the Colorado State Board for Community Colleges & Occupational Education-1998

Namesake for the "Wartgow Teacher Innovation Program", an annual lecture, scholarship and education program for faculty that is endowed by the Education Foundation

Community College of Denver Champion of Education Award-2004

American Society for Public Administration/University of Colorado "Outstanding Public Administrator Award" - 1995

United States Trade Center - Mexico City "Award of Appreciation" for exceptional service in support of trade partner programs of the US Foreign Service, International Trade Administration and US Department of Commerce-1992

Outstanding Service Award from the Office of The Secretary of Education, Republic of Mexico-1992

Federal Executive Board “Excellence in Government Award” in recognition of outstanding contributions toward improving intergovernmental cooperation among city, state and federal governments - 1982

Goodwill Industries of Colorado “Community Leadership Award” - 2005

Computer Access Centers for the Disabled “Communicator Award of Distinction”, 1995

Honorary State FFA Degree: the highest honor bestowed by the Future Farmers of America -

Red Rocks Community College “Person of the Year” - 1993

“Outstanding Service Award” for support of the GI Bill from the Veteran’s State Approving Agency for service and support -1988

“Keeping America Working” State Partnership Award - A national award given by the Sears Foundation and the American Association of Community Colleges to the nation’s most outstanding program in forging partnerships for economic development – 1995

Admitted to the MENSA Society of America - 1975

### **REPRESENTATIVE PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

Western Governors University Board of Trustees (2005 - )

Common Good Colorado – Board of Trustees (2005 - )

Denver Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors (2001 - )

Denver Public Schools Foundation; Board of Directors (2001 - )

Public Education & Business Coalition; Board of Directors (2001 - )

Editorial Board, Headfirst, *the magazine of educational reform* (2002 - )

Junior Achievement: Board of Directors (2001 - )

The Education Foundation; Board of Directors (1988 - )

Denver Zoo Board of Trustees; (1996 - )

Colorado Educational & Cultural Facilities Authority; Board of Directors (1999 - 2001)

Chair, Colorado Council on the Arts (1991-1995)

National Commission on Workforce Development (1995 - 1998)

Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Board of Directors (1991-1995)

Colorado Minority Engineering Association, Board of Directors (1987-1989)

Rocky Mountain Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Board of Directors (1986-1989)

Auraria Higher Education Center, Board of Directors (1989-1992)

Founding President, Auraria Foundation, Board of Directors (1983-1987)

Downtown Denver, Inc., Board of Directors (1980-1984)

Denver World Trade Institute, Board of Directors (1984-1988)

Children's Museum of Denver, Board of Directors, Treasurer (1979-1984)

Planning Commission, City of Lakewood (1975-1978)

### **PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS**

Literally hundreds of publications, keynote addresses and invited panel presentations at the local, state and national level.

### **PERSONAL AND FAMILY**

Birth Date: August 20, 1942 in Wisconsin

Interests: International travel and education, hiking, camping

Wife of 41 years, Diane C.: B.S. University of Wisconsin; M.S. Governors State University; National Association of Local Boards of Health, Board of Directors; Jefferson County Board of Health - president 1995-98. Two grown sons, Joel and Jeffrey.

April 2005