

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Conference to highlight minority education

Parents and educators targeted as tools for student success

Salt Lake City – Utah's Deputy of Education, Christine Kearl, will be one of three educational guest speakers at this year's Education Conference. The conference, which will specifically address education needs of minority students, will also include Dr. Theresa Martinez of the University of Utah, and Pastor France Davis of the Calvary Baptist Church.

The conference will be held November 8, 2008, 8:30 am to 2:30 pm, at West High School in Salt Lake City. This conference is free. Meals will be provided, and provisions for child-care and transportation will be available.

Organizers acknowledge that few programs specifically target minority education programs and goals. The conference curriculum uniquely targets collaboration between parents and educators as success tools for students in meeting education goals.

"Parents are a child's most important teacher, said Kearl. "This conference equips parents with essential tools for their child's success. Their future success hinges on educational attainment."

Attendees will also break into classes designed to inform on issues such as parent-teacher interaction and understanding school culture. Topics about American Indian education and for Spanish speaking parents will also be included.

"A state-wide conference that brings parents and teachers from a variety of community sectors is very timely. As our demographics continue to expand, public schools must do more to reach out to these citizens," said Dr. Forrest Crawford, Assistant to the President for Diversity at Weber State University.

For information about Education Conference or to register please visit call 801-538-8628 or visit www.ethnicoffice.utah.gov.

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