



**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **Jeffrey to Help Provide Recommendations to Next U.S. Secretary of Education**

**DES MOINES, Iowa** – Iowa Department of Education Director Judy Jeffrey has been selected to serve on a task force that will develop education-related recommendations to the next U.S. Secretary of Education appointed by president-elect Barack Obama.

“It’s great for our state’s students, teachers and parents to know that our director of education will be able to share Iowa’s perspective on the opportunities and challenges facing education,” said Governor Chet Culver.

Jeffrey was appointed to the Council of Chief State School Officers’ (CCSSO’s) presidential transition task force during the council’s annual policy forum and business meeting held recently. The eight-member task force is a geographically and politically diverse group focused on building recommendations on federal education legislation. Specifically, the group will address how the reauthorization of No Child Left Behind and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) impacts public schools throughout the United States.

“Iowa has long been a leader in education, so I am pleased that our state will have a voice at the table and our concerns and opinions will be valued,” said Jeffrey.

In addition to the task force, Jeffrey was named to CCSSO’s board of directors. The council is a nonpartisan, nationwide organization of public officials who head departments of elementary and secondary education in the states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity and five U.S. extra-state jurisdictions. CCSSO provides leadership, advocacy and technical assistance on major educational issues.

Jeffrey has served on several of the council’s committees in the past, including the Math and Science Education Task Force and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Reauthorization Task Force. She is also representing CCSSO on the National Association of State Universities and

Iowa Department of Education

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Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC) Science and Mathematics Imperative Commission, which is an effort to increase the number, diversity and quality of science and math teachers across the nation.

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*The Iowa Department of Education works with the State of Iowa Board of Education to provide oversight, supervision and support for the state education system, which includes public elementary and secondary schools, nonpublic schools that receive state accreditation, area education agencies, community colleges and teacher preparation programs. The department is committed to high levels of learning, achievement and performance for all students, so they will become successful members of their community and the workforce.*