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**UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

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For Immediate Release

## **Martell Menlove Named Utah's New State Superintendent**

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah State Board of Education today named Deputy State Superintendent Martell Menlove of Garland as Utah's 24<sup>th</sup> State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Dr. Menlove will succeed Dr. Larry K. Shumway who will retire at year's end.

“This has been a robust process and our finalists were all excellent candidates. But, Martell Menlove with his depth of experience, absolute integrity and gift for bringing people together to move forward in positive ways, is the best person for this moment in time,” said Utah State Board of Education Chair Debra Roberts. “Utah is blessed to have a man of his competence and character to serve as the state superintendent of public instruction.”

Menlove said, “I am humbled and excited for the opportunity to serve. I appreciate the support I felt from others around the state as I went through this process. My promise is that we will focus on students and I will do all that I can to move public education forward.”

Menlove has been deputy superintendent at the Utah State Office of Education since 2009. He previously served as superintendent of both the Box Elder and Rich school

districts. He holds a Ph.D. in special education from Utah State University and also has teaching or administrative experience in the Tooele and Jordan school districts.

As State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Menlove will be the executive officer of the 15-member elected Utah State Board of Education which constitutionally exercises “general control and supervision” of the state’s public education system. Utah’s public education system includes more than 600,000 students, more than 1,000 schools, 88 of which are charter schools, and close to 30,000 licensed educators.

Quotes from members of the Utah State Board of Education:

“Martell is an educational leader who has proven himself to be loyal, passionate and committed to education in this state, and to every child who comes to our doors. He is respected by the Board first and foremost for his integrity.”

“We know Dr. Menlove is a man of integrity. He will build trust among all the differing factions in public education.”

“Martell Menlove has both the roots and the branches spread throughout the state of Utah. He is a master educator and consensus builder. “

“Martell Menlove has developed strong relationships with stakeholders throughout the state—parents, educators, administrators, legislators and other community organizations. He is experienced, articulate and passionate about providing the best possible educational experience for all Utah students.”

“Martell has a marvelous breadth and experience. Martell is concerned for ‘all’ students.”

“He has vast experience and understands public education. Dr. Menlove will exemplify great leadership as we move our state ahead.”

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