



250 East 500 South  
P.O. Box 144200  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200  
801.538.7500

**UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

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Contact: Mark Peterson, public relations director  
801-538-7635 · [mark.peterson@schools.utah.gov](mailto:mark.peterson@schools.utah.gov)

## **State Superintendent Larry K. Shumway Announces Retirement**

SALT LAKE CITY – State Superintendent of Public Instruction Larry K. Shumway announced today that he would retire on Jan. 1, 2013. The Utah State Board of Education began immediate work on finding a replacement.

“It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve Utahns and the great educators we have in this state,” Shumway said. “It was always my intent to leave Utah’s public school system in better shape for the future and I believe our students are being better prepared for the future.”

“Superintendent Shumway’s contributions for the good of public education lie in many areas, but his role in the creation and articulation of the State Board’s vision and mission statement, Promises to Keep, is the legacy for which I am most grateful and for which he should be most proud,” said Utah State Board of Education Chair Debra G. Roberts. “We hate to see the superintendent retire, but understand that he has other areas where he desires to focus his attention.”

Shumway, 58, of Stansbury Park, is Utah’s 23<sup>rd</sup> State Superintendent of Public Instruction. He took over the position from Patti Harrington on July 1, 2009. Shumway has also served as deputy state superintendent, the head of educator licensing at the Utah State Office of Education,

superintendent of the Tooele School District, and director of alternative schools and programs in the Davis School District. He earned his doctorate degree in education at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas in 1993. His bachelor and master degrees are from Brigham Young University.

Under Shumway's tenure, Utah's public school system:

- Grew from 563,273 students to 587,745 students (up 4 percent)
- Grew from 1,009 schools to 1,094 schools (up 8 percent, which includes nine new charter schools)
- Grew student participation in ACT college entrance exams from 23,229 students to 32,835 students (up 41 percent and now includes 97 percent of Utah high school seniors)
- Grew student participation in AP exams from 15,274 to 17,350 (up 11 percent)
- Grew the percentage of Utah students passing English language arts criterion-referenced tests from 78.2 percent to 82.2 percent
- Grew the percentage of elementary/middle schools meeting acceptable levels of performance under the Utah Performance Assessment System for Students (U-PASS) from 91 to 97 percent
- Grew the percentage of high schools meeting acceptable levels of performance under U-PASS from 84 to 85 percent

All this took place at a time when Utah's public school system increased its percentage of low-income students from 33 to 38 percent, or 43,509 students.

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