



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

UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

May 22, 2013

For Immediate Release

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

Finalists for Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind Superintendent Named

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah State Board of Education has named three finalists to replace retiring Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB) Superintendent Steven W. Noyce. They are: Joel Coleman, Larry S. Taub, and Karl A. Wilson. The Board will publicly interview the finalists during a Board meeting on June 6 and intend to vote on and announce their choice on June 7.

Coleman, of West Jordan, is an elected member of the Utah State Board of Education representing District 6, and is chair of the Board’s USDB Committee. He is also a founder and trustee of the Monticello Academy charter school in West Valley City, a former West Valley City Councilman and is employed as a teacher for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints seminary program. He holds a master’s degree in public administration from Brigham Young University.

Taub, of Blue Bell, Penn., is the executive director of the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf & Center for Community and Professional Services in Philadelphia. He was formerly the

superintendent of the Maine Education Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing & Governor Baxter School for the Deaf in Falmouth, Maine. He holds a doctorate in educational administration from Columbia University.

Wilson, of West Jordan, is state director of Title I and Federal Programs at the Utah State Office of Education. He is the former state director of special education and was the principal of Western Hills Elementary in the Granite School District. He holds a master's degree in educational leadership from Brigham Young University.

The Utah State Board of Education will interview the candidates on June 6 from 4 – 5:30 p.m. at the Utah State Office of Education, 250 E. 500 South, Salt Lake City. The interviews will be public and an interpreter for the deaf will be in attendance. The Board will meet in executive session following the interviews and is scheduled to vote and announce their decision on Friday morning, June 7.

The Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind serve about 1,700 students throughout the state and on the schools three campuses in Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Orem. 57 percent of students are served in local classrooms and 18 percent in USDB classrooms. Another 25 percent are served through parent-infant services. 61 percent of the students served are deaf and 39 percent blind.

www.schools.utah.gov