

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 12, 2008**

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**Mayor Ralph Becker to Hold School Summit**

*Educators to Gather for Discussion on Engaging the Community in Public Education*

**Salt Lake City** – This week, educators and community leaders will gather to share ideas about improving the City’s public education system. Thursday evening, Mayor Ralph Becker will hold a school summit at Horizonte Instruction and Training Center from 6 to 8 p.m. Attendees will participate in a questions and answer panel on the topic of “Engaging the Community in Public Education.”

Thursday evening’s panelists will include Superintendent McKell Withers; Andrea Rorrer, Director of the Utah Education Policy Center; and special guest Dr. Marilyn Cochrane-Smith, Professor of Education and noted author on diversity and teaching from Boston College. They will be addressing a wide array of crucial public education issues, including the achievement gap, high school drop-out rates, early education, and equal opportunity in post-secondary education. The panelists will also address ways to create an educated and skilled workforce.

Attending the summit will be school administrators, principals, teachers, and school community council chairs. Business leaders from the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club education subcommittees, along with state legislators who represent the City have also been invited to attend.

The Mayor’s school summits serve a vital purpose in improving the City’s public education system. Educators and community leaders come together to share ideas on how the City administration and its policies can improve support of the Salt Lake City School District.

The event will be open to the public and members of the media who wish to attend.

**WHO:** Mayor Ralph Becker, Educators, Public Officials, & Business Leaders

**WHAT:** School Summit

**WHERE:** Horizonte Instruction and Training Center  
1234 South Main Street  
Salt Lake City

**WHEN:** Thursday, November 13, 2008  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

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