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UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Superintendent Martell Menlove Announces Retirement

SALT LAKE CITY – State Superintendent of Public Instruction Martell Menlove today announced he would retire, but has agreed to remain on the job until the Utah State Board of Education can name a new superintendent and has offered to work through any transition time that may be helpful.

“It is with regret that we accept Superintendent Menlove’s decision,” said Utah State Board of Education Chairman David L. Crandall. “I believe we all have great respect for Martell and respectfully accept this decision.” Vice Chair David L. Thomas echoed Crandall’s sentiments and expressed gratitude for Menlove’s “leadership of the board and state office in some difficult times and situations.”

Menlove’s tenure as superintendent witnessed significant increases in the weighted-pupil unit, the basic funding mechanism of Utah public education. He holds a good reputation with the Utah Legislature and was noted for his ability to pull individuals and teams representing varied interests together to better meet the needs of public education.

“I do not have any immediate plans for the future,” Menlove said. “I do have a family cabin construction project at Bear Lake that has taken longer than it should have. Finishing that project sounds like a great place to start.” Menlove also plans to spend more time with his wife, Rep. Ronda Menlove, who recently announced she would not be seeking reelection to the Utah State House of Representatives, their five children and 10 grandchildren. He and his wife would also like to devote additional time to service in their church.

Menlove began his career in public education in 1976 as an elementary teacher in Jordan School District. He has spent time as a classroom teacher, a school counselor, and as an administrator in Tooele, Rich, and Box Elder County school districts. Menlove was named Utah Superintendent of the Year in 2006 and in 2007 received a Distinguished Service award from Utah State University. He came to the Utah State Office of Education in 2009 as Deputy Superintendent and was named State Superintendent in 2012.

The Utah State Board of Education will begin its search process for a new superintendent immediately. “We will take the time necessary to conduct a thorough search and appropriately vet all candidates,” Crandall said. Initial action will take place during the Board’s April 4 meeting in Salt Lake City.

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