

Richard H. O'Connell, Ed.D.

Rick O'Connell, Education Consultant, Inc.

Consulting services offered to public school district officials, including board of education members, school administrators, and teachers and to private corporations in all matters related to human resources, program development, finance, management, and school construction.

Currently working on the following projects:

- Denver Public Schools – facilitating the development and implementation of district wide evaluation system for all school administrators
- Denver Public Schools – serving on the Commission for Secondary School Reform
- Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates, Ltd. – associate and consultant for professional searches for superintendents and assistant superintendents in Colorado
- Lowry Range Project – consultant on educational issues related to the development of the project
- Love and Logic Institute, Inc. – board member and educational and business advisor
- Littleton Hospital – board member and advisor on operations
- Public Education Business Coalition – board member and advisor on educational policy

Dr. O'Connell was born in Hackensack, New Jersey, in 1943. He has a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Fairleigh Dickinson University, a master's degree in public school administration and supervision from Paterson State College, and a doctorate in public school administration from the University of Denver. At the University of Denver he was a research assistant in the Bureau of Educational Research.

Prior to coming to Colorado to pursue his doctorate, Dr. O'Connell taught 5th grade in an urban setting in New Jersey for four years. From 1971 to 1975, Dr. O'Connell was an assistant principal and principal in Jefferson County Schools (Colorado) serving at Swanson and Tanglewood Elementary Schools and at Manning Junior High School. In 1975 he came to Douglas County School District and six years as assistant superintendent prior to becoming superintendent.

Dr. O'Connell became the second superintendent of the Douglas County School District, on July 1, 1981. After serving in that capacity for 22 years he retired in July, 2003. He served the school district during a period of remarkable growth in which it has become recognized for the quality of its instructional programs, sound fiscal management, and unique approaches to managing the department of human resources and labor/union relationships. Dr. O'Connell was chief executive officer of the 60-campus public school system with an enrollment of 40,000 students, a staff of 5,000 and an annual operating budget in excess of \$275 million.

Dr. O'Connell has served on numerous boards and commissions including the Denver Area School Superintendents' Council; he has also served on the Governor's Math-Science-Technology Commission, the Colorado State Treasurers Committee on Investment Banking and the Children's Museum Board of Directors among others. He is frequent presenter at educational and other conferences and symposiums around the country and is noted for his expertise and presentations on

such topics as performance pay, charter schools, year-round education, community involvement, growth, impact fees, diversity, accountability, senior tax exchange, and school finance.