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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Coeur d'Alene Education Partnership

Advancing quality public education

We are pleased to announce that Coeur d'Alene has a new non-profit organization dedicated to advancing quality public education. Coeur d'Alene Education Partnership was founded in 2012 by a group of parents, business leaders, and community members committed to ensuring the continuation and furtherance of excellent public schools in their district and state. "This is an exciting time for public education in Coeur d'Alene," says Amy Evans, President of Coeur d'Alene Education Partnership.

The Coeur d'Alene Education Partnership envisions a school district that is a state and national model for excellence, characterized by the following: Students of all ability levels will receive the tools necessary to maximize their potential in college, career, or other post-secondary pursuits; Programs will succeed in developing the whole child as a life-long learner, and students will become citizens who productively contribute to the nation and the world; Educators will be drawn to the district for a superior work environment that nurtures their talents and values their contributions.

Coeur d'Alene Education Partnership believes in the value of open and vigorous public dialogue over key decisions affecting public education and strives to ensure that the community is well informed about the issues, challenges, and choices that our state and our district face. Founding board member, Lisa Overby explains: "We saw the opportunity to raise awareness

of important educational issues affecting students, teachers, and our community." CEP strives to provide timely, accurate and critical information regarding local and regional educational issues that affect Coeur d'Alene schools.

The organization also envisions a school district that is financially robust, fiscally responsible, and efficiently managed. CEP aims to help the Coeur d'Alene School District to become and remain a flagship in the community that spurs economic growth and development. "We recognize the compelling connection between exemplary public schools and a strong local economy. A vibrant local school system will allow Coeur d'Alene to attract and maintain quality jobs, local business, and talent by enhancing quality of life for all in the community," says Rebecca Gershenson Smith, founding board member.

One of Coeur d'Alene Education Partnership's primary goals is to increase the number of volunteers in our public schools in order to support our teachers and help guide our students toward excellence. CEP has begun partnering with local organizations, such as The Coeur Group, whose enthusiasm has initiated the Volunteers In Play (VIP) program, CEP's first volunteer program. Founding board member, Katie Kladar explains, "CEP believes it will take all facets of the community working together to provide a truly excellent education for our community's students. As an organization, we seek to find common ground and shared values whenever possible."

Please visit cdaep.org to learn more about Coeur d'Alene Education Partnership or to become a member, business partner, volunteer, or donor.

If you would like more information about CEP or to schedule an interview please call, Amy Evans, President of CEP, at 208.640.3451.