



INVESTING IN STUDENTS BY TRAINING TEACHERS

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Colorado Council for Economic Education Announces St. Vrain School District Teacher as Recipient of Economics Award

March 10, 2017 Denver – Ken Benson, social studies teacher at Niwot High School for the past thirteen years, has received the accolade of Koelbel Enterprising Teacher of the Year. Ken will be recognized at the annual Colorado Council for the Social Studies Conference on April 14, 2017 at the History Colorado Center in Denver.

This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> year that Colorado Council for Economic Education (CCEE) has selected a deserving teacher for the award.

When Ken started at Niwot High School 13 years ago, he was asked to teach a one-semester economics survey course. He has since grown the offerings at Niwot to include two full-year Advanced Placement classes and two International Baccalaureate classes, all in economics. Ken sponsors a student-led economics club. He has participated in economic study tours to South Africa and Peru. He has taken the lead in his district to help develop economic and personal finance curriculum. And he has served the role of Mentor Teacher for CCEE in its teacher training workshops.

This prestigious economics award is named in honor of Buz and Sherri Koelbel, long-time supporters of economic education and CCEE. The recognition of a passionate and effective teacher like Ken is precisely what they had in mind when they lent their name to CCEE's Enterprising Teacher of the Year Award in 2016. Donors created an endowment in the Koelbel's name to help subsidize the \$2,000 cash prize associated with the award.

#### Colorado Council for Economic Education

CCEE, a 45 year-old Colorado nonprofit, believes that learning fundamental economic and personal financial skills will help students make responsible, informed decisions as employees, voters, and citizens. By providing professional development classes for more than 1,000 teachers each year, CCEE is indirectly reaching more than 100,000 K-12 students with valuable life-changing skills. For more information visit [www.ccee.net](http://www.ccee.net) or call 303-752-2323.

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