

# ABOUT THE CANDIDATES



2016 CANDIDATE SURVEYS  
**DISTRICT 5**



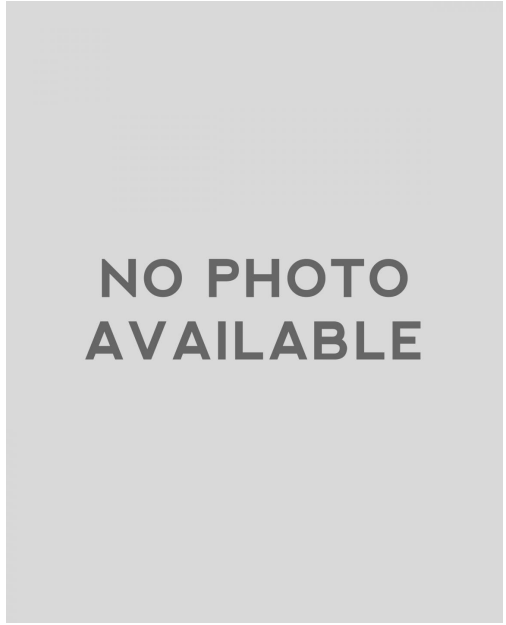
## STEVE DURHAM

Steven J. Durham was elected in December 2014 by the El Paso Republican Party to fill a mid-term vacancy in the 5th Congressional District seat on the State Board of Education. His term will expire in January 2017.. A former state legislator, Durham has lived most of his life in Colorado Springs and graduated from Cheyenne Mountain High School in 1965 and the University of Northern Colorado in 1969. He was elected to the Colorado General Assembly in 1974. He was re-elected to the House of Representatives in 1976 and 1978 and elected to the Senate in 1980. Steve resigned in 1981 to accept an appointment from President Reagan to serve as the Regional Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency for Region VIII. Steve Durham was re-elected to the Colorado State Senate in 1984 and retired in 1988. In 1975, his colleagues elected Steve Durham as "Outstanding Freshman Member of the House of Representatives" and in 1988 his colleagues voted him as the "Most Influential Member of the Colorado State Senate." Since 1988, Durham has

been a contract lobbyist and association manager representing business interests to the Colorado General Assembly. Durham is married to his wife of 36 years, Rose A. Durham and has one daughter, Lisa, a mother of two and an attorney in private practice in Buffalo, NY. Durham has lived in Colorado Springs since 1957 and has been a member of numerous civic organizations.

## JEFFERY WALKER, SR.

n/a



# PART 1: THE STATE OF COLORADO EDUCATION

What is your vision for Colorado Education?

**Steve Durham:** No answer (n/a)

**Jeffery Walker, Sr.:** No answer (n/a)

What are some specific challenges in the education system in your congressional district?

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

What is the greatest issue facing Colorado schools today and how are you going to address it?

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

Additional comments on the state of Colorado education

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

# PART 2: GOOD GOVERNANCE

What is the primary role of a State Board member?

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

What will be your two primary goals as a board member and how will the public know you are working towards these goals?

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

What will guide your decision-making when faced with appeals of local school board decisions?

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

What were the one or two best decisions the Colorado board has made in the last four years?

Durham: n/a

Walker: n/a

What were the one or two worst decisions that the Colorado board made in the last four years? And how would you work to change these policies?

Durham: n/a

Walker: n/a

Additional comments on good governance

Durham: n/a

Walker: n/a

## PART 3: DATA AND DATA ACCESS

Rate the following statements on a scale of 1-4, where 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=agree, and 4= strongly agree.

	Steve Durham	Jeffery Walker, Sr.
The Department of Education has appropriately protected personally identifiable student information in the past.	n/a	n/a
Stakeholders in the education system, including students, families, communities, policy makers, advocacy and grassroots organizations, researchers, and professional organizations, have adequate access to information about school and district outcomes.	n/a	n/a

It is important to have district-level and school-level data disaggregated based on students' race and ethnicity, eligibility for free or reduced price lunch, English language learners, special education students for which of the following?

	Steve Durham	Jeffery Walker, Sr.
PARCC results	n/a	n/a
AP completion and test results	n/a	n/a
SAT/ACT results	n/a	n/a
Discipline practices (suspensions/expulsions of students)	n/a	n/a
Concurrent Enrollment	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a

Additional comments on data and data access

**Pacheco-Koveleski:** n/a

**Rankin:** n/a

## PART 4: STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT

Rate the following statements on a scale of 1-4, where 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=agree, and 4= strongly agree.

	Steve Durham	Jeffery Walker, Sr.
The current Colorado Academic Standards adopted in 2010 reflect what I believe Colorado students should be learning.	n/a	n/a
Students should take annual summative assessments in English Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies.	n/a	n/a

Additional comments on data and data access

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

## PART 5: SCHOOL AND DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY

Rate the following statements on a scale of 1-4, where 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=agree, and 4= strongly agree.

	Steve Durham	Jeffery Walker, Sr.
The school and district performance frameworks include the right measures.	n/a	n/a
Charter, innovation, and traditional district-run schools should be held to the same performance standards.	n/a	n/a

At the end of the school accountability clock, check all of the improvement options below that you believe can be effective.

	Steve Durham	Jeffery Walker, Sr.
Replacing district-run school with a charter school	n/a	n/a
Restructuring a district-run school as an innovation school	n/a	n/a
Hiring a lead turnaround partner	n/a	n/a
Closing a school	n/a	n/a
Other		

At the end of the district accountability clock, check all of the improvement options below that you believe can be effective.

	Steve Durham	Jeffery Walker, Sr.
Converting one or more of a district's school into charter schools	n/a	n/a
Designating one or more of a district's schools as innovation schools	n/a	n/a
Closing one or more of a district's schools	n/a	n/a
Reorganizing or consolidating a district	n/a	n/a
Having a public or private entity take over the district and/or one or more district schools	n/a	n/a
Removing a district's accreditation	n/a	n/a
Other		

Additional comments on school and district accountability

Durham: n/a

Walker: n/a

## PART 6: FEDERAL LEGISLATION

What changes do you hope to see as Colorado implements the new federal legislation Every Student Succeeds Act?

Durham: n/a

Walker: n/a

Additional comments on federal legislation

Durham: n/a

Walker: n/a

# PART 7: TALENT PIPELINE

Rate the following statements on a scale of 1-4, where 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=agree, and 4= strongly agree.

	Steve Durham	Jeffery Walker, Sr.
Colorado is doing a good job of recruiting, compensating and supporting great teachers, particularly in hardest to staff school	n/a	n/a
Teachers should be evaluated and held accountable to student outcomes	n/a	n/a
School leaders should be evaluated and held accountable to student outcomes.	n/a	n/a
District leaders should be evaluated and held accountable to student outcomes.	n/a	n/a

**What do you believe is the greatest challenge Colorado faces in recruiting and retaining great talent in the education system? How do you suggest the state enhance or change its approach to this challenge?**

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

**Additional comments on talent pipeline**

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

# PART 8: RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Rate the following statements on a scale of 1-4, where 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=agree, and 4= strongly agree.

	Steve Durham	Jeffery Walker, Sr.
The Colorado education system has adequate funding to provide an effective education for all kids	n/a	n/a
The Colorado school funding formula is equitable	n/a	n/a
The Colorado Department of Education has the capacity to fulfill its mission	n/a	n/a
There should be equitable sharing of locally raised Mill and Bond funds with charter schools	n/a	n/a

In terms of resources allocation (people/time/money), what is working and not working in Colorado Education?

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

Additional comments on resource allocation

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a

## PART 9: COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

A likely task for the State Board in the coming years will be selecting a new Commissioner of Education. What qualifications would you want in the ideal candidate?

**Durham:** n/a

**Walker:** n/a