



# COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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**Dwight D. Jones**  
Commissioner of Education

**Robert K. Hammond**  
Deputy Commissioner

**Kenneth R. Turner**  
Deputy Commissioner

April 7, 2009

Jonathan Will  
Office of the Honorable Kent Lambert  
200 East Colfax, Room 271  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Will:

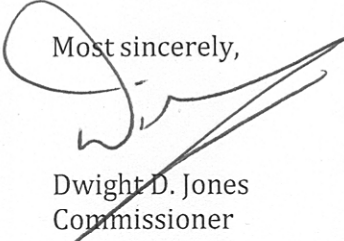
I write this letter to you in your capacity as the point of contact as designated in Mr. Lambert's letter of March 23, 2009, expressing concerns and requesting information regarding textbooks from Mexico.

The books are a gift to Colorado made possible by a bilateral agreement between Mexico and the United States. This agreement, now called the Binational Migrant Education Program, was initiated between California and Mexico in 1976 and formalized in August 1990 through an MOU signed by the U.S. Department of Education and its counterpart in Mexico. Annex V was added to this MOU in June 1998 to re-establish the U.S. department's commitment to coordination and cooperation between the countries. The Annex also prompted the office of migrant education to encourage more state migrant programs to participate and to support existing state BMEP efforts.

Colorado has received this gift annually for the past 12 years. Each resource collection provided this year contains 53 books, both fiction and non-fiction. Neither the department nor the state board makes any decision with regard to the content of these or other resources – that is the sole prerogative and responsibility of individual school boards, districts, school leaders and teachers. With regard to these donated books, the department distributes them at the request and expense of schools or districts. To obtain sample copies of these books, please contact CJ Grace in the department's office of Language, Culture and Equity at 303.866.6129.

Thank you for inviting us to provide additional information. We appreciate the opportunity to clarify the misunderstanding that surrounds this gift.

Most sincerely,



Dwight D. Jones  
Commissioner

cc: Colorado State Board of Education