## PRESS RELEASE



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## THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION KICKS OFF YEAR-LONG CELEBRATION OF LITERACY IN SCHOOLS

**Carson City, NV** – The Nevada Department of Education will kick off a year-long celebration of literacy in schools this Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> entitled "*Nevada Reads*: Celebrating Literacy in 150 Schools" in recognition of Nevada's Sesquicentennial, the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nevada's admission to the Union. Superintendent of Public Instruction Dale Erquiaga will read to first grade students at a school in Carson City.

"Literacy is the foundation for all learning," said Superintendent Erquiaga. "One's ability to effectively read, write, speak, and listen ultimately becomes the primary factor for determining one's overall success in life – no matter what profession one chooses."

Throughout Nevada's 150 celebration year, Governor Sandoval and Superintendent Erquiaga, along with Members of the Governor's Cabinet and other key members of the Governor's Administration, will honor the legacy of literacy by visiting 150 schools across the entire state. Each of these individuals will become models of literacy to Nevada's students in preschool through high school classrooms by providing a powerful read-aloud experience. Each *Nevada Reads* book read in a classroom has been written by a Nevada author.

Reading to students is part of the Administration's ongoing effort to focus on education reform and reading proficiency. Exact locations and dates of the *Nevada Reads* school tour are forthcoming and will be announced on the Department of Education's website: <a href="http://www.doe.nv.gov/">http://www.doe.nv.gov/</a>.

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