

Bio submitted by Denver Board of Education Member Barbara O'Brien:

Barbara O'Brien is vice president of the Denver School Board. She is also Senior Fellow for the Campaign for Grade Level Reading, a national initiative to increase the number of third-graders who are reading at grade level. Prior to this, she was Lieutenant Governor of Colorado from 2007-2011, and president of the Colorado Children's Campaign for sixteen years.

As a member of the school board, O'Brien helped develop the Early Literacy Plan 2020, co-chaired the committee that created the Early Literacy Roadmap that will link city and school district services for literacy and language development, co-sponsored a new district policy to reduce suspensions and expulsions in early education through third grade, and has worked to expand funding for social and emotional supports for students.