Judy Montero (District 9)
Education is a concern to everyone. In particular I support public education for our communities. We need to help our Denver Public School system serve our children. Public education needs all the support we can provide. Unfortunately, the City and Denver Public Schools (DPS) are two separate entities. However, there are many ways both entities can provide for each other. The City does not have a say in policy decisions made by DPS, but it can work together on creative solutions to leverage and maximize resources. In addition to having a qualified person who serves as a City to DPS liaison we need to hear the concerns of the parents that are faced with the day-to-day realities of DPS. As a councilperson I would listen to these concerns and do what I can and find out who else can help address the tribulations that we are facing in public education.

Recently (November 2002 election) we were able to preserve our bilingual educational system here in Colorado. I am referring to the proposed Amendment 31 that would have eliminated bilingual education in Colorado. I am pleased to say that I worked closely with the campaign that defended bilingual education, the "No on 31" campaign. Our immigrant population deserves all the opportunities to succeed in our educational system. By offering various choices to families on how they want to learn bilingual education we give children a true chance to make it in school. I am also pleased to say that my 3-year-old daughter, Hope, will be attending the Ana Marie Sandoval Dual language/Montessori school (Denver Public Schools) next year. There she will be raised bilingual and bicultural.