

# Public Policy Day Biographies

## **Dr. Morgan Medlock Behavioral Health Commissioner State of Colorado**

Dr. Medlock was appointed the Behavioral Health Commissioner for the State of Colorado and a member of the Governor's Cabinet in January 2022. An emergency psychiatrist and addiction medicine specialist by training, Dr. Medlock previously served as the Chief Medical Officer and Director of Crisis and Emergency Services for the Washington, DC Department of Behavioral Health. She also served on the faculty of the Massachusetts General Hospital Center for Law, Brain, and Behavior and Howard University College Of Medicine and has held a previous appointment as a Clinical Fellow in Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Among her many leadership positions, Dr. Medlock served on the American Psychiatric Association's Council on Minority Mental Health and Health Disparities, including a term as Vice Chair from 2019-2020. She also participated in the District of Columbia Hospital Association's Opioid Taskforce, serving as Co-Chair from 2019-2020.

Dr. Medlock received her Masters in Public Health from Harvard T.H. Chan School Of Public Health, her MD from the Mayo Clinic School Of Medicine, her Masters of Divinity from Andrews University, and her BS from Oakwood University.

## **Nancy Todd Former Colorado State House and Senate Representative**

Hon. Nancy Todd is one of the few legislators who served the full eight years in the Colorado House and eight years in the Colorado Senate, where she was President Pro Tempore in her final session (2020). Her 16-year legislative career was highlighted by her work on education and technology. During her tenure, Nancy held leadership positions in several national legislative organizations.

She was honored for her work by the United Veterans Coalition (UVC), Colorado Auto Dealers Association, Community College System, Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) and Colorado Student Leaders Institute (COSLI). She was also named Woman of the Year by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce.

Prior to her legislative career, Nancy was a professional educator for 25 years in the Cherry Creek School District 5.

In 2013, she was inducted into the Lawrence Kansas High School Hall of Honor, joining her father Dr. Carl Knox, former Superintendent of Schools. They are the only father and daughter to hold this honor.

Nancy received her bachelor's degree in education from the University of Kansas in 1970 and master's degree in reading from the University of Northern Colorado in 1990.

**Michelle Quattlebaum**  
**Community Relations Director**  
**Wellpower (Denver Mental Health)**

Michelle Quattlebaum is the Community Relations Director for Wellpower (Denver Mental Health). She also serves on the Denver Public Schools Board of Directors and the Colorado Black School Board Caucus, and she is the secretary for both organizations.

She specializes in addressing communication barriers, building relationships, and forging unique ally partnerships. Michelle holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication, focused on Intercultural Communications, and a Master's degree in Organizational Leadership, specializing in Human Resource Performance.

Director Quattlebaum is a champion for students and their families regarding access to quality educational options. While prioritizing mental health wellbeing, she is dedicated to creating and supporting community, staff, and student programs focused on increasing culturally responsive education and engagement. Representing the DPS Shared Core Values, she believes a community of empowerment and collective accountability begins with collaboration, purpose, and diversity.

Michelle is a non-indigenous Colorado native, wife and mother.

**Dafna Michaelson Jenet**  
**Colorado State House Representative**

Dafna Michaelson Jenet was elected to her fourth term in the Colorado House of Representatives in November 2022. She represents the northern Denver metro area. Rep. Michaelson Jenet's legislative work primarily focuses on youth, particularly foster care youth, mental health, and healthcare access.

Prior to her work in the legislature, Rep. Michaelson Jenet spent a year traveling to all 50 states in search of ordinary people doing extraordinary things to solve problems in

their communities. She chronicled her experiences in *It Takes a Little Crazy to Make a Difference* which won the social change category of the International Book Awards.

Her second book, *Peanut's Legacy* details the loss of the pregnancy of her son at 20 weeks and her journey through her grief. *Peanut's Legacy* was a finalist in the International Book Awards.

After the 50 States Project, Representative Michaelson Jenet and her husband Michael co-founded the Journey Institute, which trains organizations and individuals in community problem solving and next-level team building.

Rep. Michaelson Jenet earned her MBA from the University of Denver Daniels College of Business and her bachelor's degree from Yeshiva University's Stern College for Women.

**Dr. Tony Poole**  
**Assistant Superintendent**  
**Cherry Creek Schools**

Dr. Tony Poole is a Colorado native. After growing up in Englewood and attending college at the University of Northern Colorado, Dr. Poole started his educational career as a social studies teacher at Prairie Middle School in the Cherry Creek School District in 1989.

Over the past 34 years, he has served as a teacher, principal, and district level administrator. In 2019, he became the first Assistant Superintendent of Special Populations in the Cherry Creek School District, overseeing the departments of Special Education, Gifted and Talented, English Language Learners, Preschool, and 504/Manifestations.

His deep experience with the mental health crisis facing adolescents in Colorado led Dr. Poole to propose a first of its kind therapeutic level, day treatment facility, built and run by the school district. Cherry Creek is partnering with the CU School of Psychiatry and Children's Hospital to provide the therapeutic interventions at the facility, bringing three powerful Colorado organizations together to address the continued mental health crisis facing our youth.