

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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**Steamboat Springs High School Counselor Honored by Colorado's CollegeInvest**  
*Gayle Dudley named February Counselor of the Month*

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS— CollegeInvest, in partnership with the Colorado Council on High School/College Relations, is proud to honor Gayle Dudley of Steamboat Springs High School as February's Counselor of the Month.

The Counselor of the Month program is designed to give counselors the recognition they deserve. "High school counselors are unsung heroes, encouraging students to dream and accomplish their goals," said Misti Ruthven of CollegeInvest, Colorado's not-for-profit higher education financing resource. "Counselors often go unrecognized as champions for students to go on to bigger and better things and to follow their dreams."

Dudley was nominated by her colleague Cynthia Jamison Gay. Jamison Gay speaks highly of Dudley's commitment to helping the students of Steamboat Springs High School make thoughtful decisions about their postsecondary education, and reach their goals.

Dudley is dedicated to providing valuable opportunities and resources to her students. She created and manages an ever growing community based scholarship fund which raised over \$134,000 in scholarship funds for graduating seniors in Routt County last year.

"The college preparatory program that Gayle has established is a comprehensive, four-year program," Jamison Gay writes. "Gayle has developed a series of programs and seminars for each grade to help students understand who they are, their strengths and challenges, as well as their interests and affinities."

Dudley has run the career and college counseling center successfully for eight years and, over that time, she has developed a program through which community members can volunteer to advise and mentor students. She also started an internship program by connecting local professionals with students to help them gain work experience.

"Gayle truly understands that each student is unique and is able to provide hands-on, authentic experiences that have benefited countless students over the years," writes Jamison Gay.

To nominate a high school counselor for a future counselor of the month award, visit [www.collegeinvest.org/mycounselor](http://www.collegeinvest.org/mycounselor).

**About CollegeInvest**

CollegeInvest is a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Since 1979, CollegeInvest has helped more than half a million families break down the financial barriers to college by providing expert information, simple planning tools, scholarships, college savings plans, and low-cost student and parent loans. For more information, visit [www.collegeinvest.org](http://www.collegeinvest.org), call 1-800-448-2424 or contact your financial advisor.

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