

August 18, 2026

Board of Education

Montezuma-Cortez School District RE-1
Cortez, Colorado

Dear Members of the Board of Education:

After 47 years of continuous service to public education and public schools, I have made the decision that it is time for me to step away from my professional career and dedicate my time and attention to my family. Therefore, I am submitting my **immediate resignation as Superintendent of Montezuma-Cortez School District RE-1, effective August 18, 2026.**

This decision has not been made lightly. Throughout my 47 years in education, my family has always been incredibly supportive of the time, commitment, and sacrifices required to serve students, staff, families, and communities. Now, I believe it is time for me to give back to them by being more attentive and present for my children and grandchildren and to enjoy this next chapter of my life with them.

I am proud of the work accomplished during the past four years in Montezuma-Cortez. Together, we have worked diligently to establish greater coherence and alignment across the organization, including **finance, facilities, transportation, child nutrition, school safety, and academics.** These improvements have strengthened the district's operational systems, increased accountability, enhanced safety and security, and established a stronger foundation for continued improvement in student achievement.

I am particularly proud that these accomplishments were not the work of one individual. They were made possible through the dedication and commitment of our staff, administrators, teachers, support personnel, parents, Board of Education, and community partners. The fidelity demonstrated by so many individuals to the improvements and initiatives undertaken throughout the Montezuma-Cortez organization has been both encouraging and greatly appreciated.

I want to sincerely thank the **staff of Montezuma-Cortez School District RE-1** for their professionalism, resilience, and commitment to students. I also extend my appreciation to our **parents and families** for entrusting us with their children and supporting the work of our schools. Finally, I thank the **Montezuma-Cortez community** for its support, partnership, and belief in the importance of providing our students with strong schools and opportunities for success.

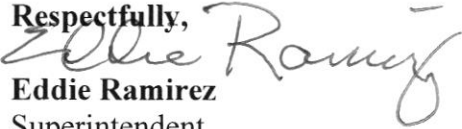
It has been an honor and privilege to serve the students, staff, families, and community of Montezuma-Cortez. I leave with great pride in what we have accomplished together and with confidence that the systems, protocols, and organizational improvements established during these years will continue to serve the district and its students well.

After 47 years of service, I am grateful for the opportunity to close this chapter of my professional life knowing that I have given my very best to public education. I look forward to

the opportunity to devote this next chapter to my family and, especially, to being more present in the lives of my children and grandchildren.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eddie Ramirez". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Respectfully,".

Eddie Ramirez

Superintendent

Montezuma-Cortez School District RE-1