



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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### **Six Leaders – Including Three Incumbents – Appointed to National Assessment Governing Board**

WASHINGTON (October 30, 2008) – Six leaders from around the country representing fields that include education, business, and policymaking have been appointed to the National Assessment Governing Board to serve a four-year term, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings announced today. Three of the six appointees are incumbents, and terms for all begin October 2008.

The six appointees will help set policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), commonly known as The Nation's Report Card™. The assessment makes objective information on student performance available to policy-makers and the public at the national, state, and local levels, and has served an important role in evaluating the condition and progress of American education since 1969.

In overseeing The Nation's Report Card, the 26-member Governing Board – a group of governors, state legislators, local and state school officials, educators and researchers, business representatives, and members of the general public – determines subjects to be tested and the content and achievement levels for each test, and works to inform the public about the results.

"We are delighted to have such an array of talent and expertise on the Governing Board," said Governing Board Chairman Darvin M. Winick. "Their insights and experience will be a major asset in efforts to oversee The Nation's Report Card—the most valuable benchmark we have for monitoring student progress."

The members and the categories they will serve under include:

- **David Alukonis** (local school board member, Hudson, N.H.); a current Board member who, since 2001, has been Hudson School Board chairman, where he is responsible for the operations of the Hudson School District—New Hampshire's ninth largest with 4,100 students.

- **Carol D'Amico** (business representative, Indianapolis); President and CEO of Conexus Indiana, a private organization focused on the state's advanced manufacturing and logistics sectors.
- **Anitere Flores** (Republican state legislator, Miami); a Florida House of Representatives member who served as education advisor to Gov. Jeb Bush.
- **Andrew Porter** (testing and measurement expert, Philadelphia); a current member and Dean of the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education.
- **Mary Frances Taymans** (nonpublic school administrator, Washington, DC); a current member and executive director of the Secondary Schools Department of the National Catholic Educational Association.
- **Eileen Weiser** (general public, Ann Arbor, Mich.); a civic leader and parent who previously served on the Governing Board (from 2003-2007) and as a Michigan Board of Education member.

More information about the Governing Board and its work can be found at <http://www.nagb.org>. More information about The Nation's Report Card™ can be found at <http://nationsreportcard.gov>

The official announcement from the U.S. Education Department can be found at <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2008/10/10302008.html>.

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