

**From:** ED, Thomas Gluck [<mailto:RA-ThomasGluck@state.pa.us>]

**Sent:** Monday, April 26, 2010 10:08 AM

**Subject:** New Education Secretary Named

Dear Friends:

This morning Governor Rendell nominated me to be the next Secretary of Education beginning on May 10th. It will be my great honor to serve in that capacity and to work closely with you to prepare all of our students for success.

I have had the good fortune to be involved in nearly every educational policy conversation in Pennsylvania over the last 20 years. As PDE's Executive Deputy Secretary for the past five years, I have been most proud of the hard work we have done together to translate that policy and those big ideas into action and results where it really matters: in our schools and classrooms on behalf of the children of the Commonwealth.

Under Governor Rendell's leadership, we have increased our state investment in public education by more than \$4 billion. We have implemented the first rational school funding formula in twenty years; made quality early childhood education available to thousands of children; developed college- and career-ready graduation standards and the supports for students and schools to achieve them; put 145,000 laptops in the hands of students across Pennsylvania and gave their teachers the tools to change instruction; built deep support for how Pennsylvania schools and students will 'Race to the Top' and much more.

We have done that hard work together. And the hard work is paying off – student achievement is on the rise at all grade levels in Pennsylvania.

No one knows better than you, however, that there is more to do. There are many children we still need to reach. There are schools where growth in student achievement has been too slow. There are communities that still have significant gaps between the resources they need to ensure all children can succeed, and the resources they have to do that essential work.

I look forward to working with you in continuing the progress we have made, and meeting these challenges head-on. Our children's future and our Commonwealth's future depend on our success.

Sincerely,

Tom Gluck