



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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### **Chicago Community Trust Head Appointed to National Assessment Governing Board President and CEO Is One of Six Members Named by U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan**

WASHINGTON (August 21, 2012) — Terry Mazany, president and CEO of The Chicago Community Trust, has been appointed to serve a four-year term on the National Assessment Governing Board, U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan announced yesterday. Five other Board members—three of them also new appointees—were announced as well. Their terms begin October 1, 2012.

Mazany, who oversees one of the nation's largest community foundations, will serve in the category of "general public representative" on the Governing Board, which sets policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), known as The Nation's Report Card. NAEP is the country's only nationally representative assessment of student achievement in various subjects, including mathematics, reading, writing, and science.

"We are delighted to have Terry join the Board," said Governing Board Chairman David Driscoll. "He not only heads an organization that seeks to improve education, but also served as a school superintendent for many years. His background will be a major asset in efforts to oversee The Nation's Report Card—the most valuable benchmark we have for monitoring student progress nationally and for states and large urban school districts."

Mazany oversees an organization that, over the past decade, has awarded more than \$100 million in grant funds to nonprofit groups in the Chicago metropolitan area that aim to strengthen curriculum, improve teacher quality and principal leadership and support the development of innovative school models. A 20-year veteran in education, Mazany has also served as the interim superintendent of Chicago Public Schools and as deputy or associate superintendent of Southfield Public Schools in Michigan and the Oakland Unified School District in California. Mazany is also a member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

Mazany joins the Board as it is overseeing several important initiatives, including research on how NAEP can be used as an indicator of 12<sup>th</sup>-grade academic preparedness for college and job training; NAEP parent engagement, with a focus on conveying the urgency of closing achievement gaps and improving student performance; innovative computer-based NAEP assessments; and studies linking NAEP with the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS).

Congress established the 26-member Governing Board in 1988 to oversee NAEP, which makes objective information on student performance available to policymakers and the public at the national, state and local levels. NAEP has served an important role in evaluating the condition and progress of U.S. educational achievement since 1969. Among many other duties, the Governing Board determines subjects to be tested, the test content, and achievement levels for each test, and works to inform the public about NAEP results.

Mazany joins a group of governors, state legislators, local and state school officials, educators and researchers, business representatives and members of the general public who make up the Board. In addition to Mazany, others appointed by Secretary Duncan yesterday are listed below along with their hometown, category of appointment, and official title. The term for each member is slated to extend to September 30, 2016.

- **Honorable Anitere Flores**, Miami – Republican state legislator:  
Florida state senator; Board member since 2008
- **Rebecca Gagnon**, Minneapolis – local school board member:  
Director of the Minneapolis Public Schools Board of Education
- **Andrew Ho**, Cambridge, Mass. – testing and measurement expert:  
Assistant Professor at Harvard Graduate School of Education
- **Joseph O’Keefe**, Chestnut Hill, Mass. – non-public school administrator or policymaker:  
Professor at Boston College’s Lynch School of Education
- **Honorable Sonny Perdue**, Atlanta – Republican governor:  
Consultant and former governor of Georgia; Board member since 2008

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*The National Assessment Governing Board is an independent, bipartisan board whose members include governors, state legislators, local and state school officials, educators, business representatives, and members of the general public. Congress created the 26-member Governing Board in 1988 to oversee and set policy for NAEP.*

*The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the only nationally representative, continuing evaluation of the condition of education in the United States. It has served as a national yardstick of student achievement since 1969. Through The Nation’s Report Card, NAEP informs the public about what America’s students know and can do in various subject areas, and compares achievement between states, large urban districts, and various student demographic groups.*