

NEWS RELEASE For Release: October 6, 2023 Contact: Stephaan Harris, (202) 257-7504, <u>Stephaan.Harris@ed.gov</u>

New Appointees Named to National Assessment Governing Board

Top policymakers, K-12 leaders, and higher education officials to oversee Nation's Report Card

Washington, D.C. — U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona today appointed 11 prominent education leaders—seven new members and four reappointed members—to the <u>National Assessment</u> <u>Governing Board</u>, which oversees the Nation's Report Card.

The <u>Nation's Report Card</u>, also known as the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP, is the only nationally representative assessment of student achievement. Over the past year, NAEP provided critical insights into student learning gaps across subjects and grades worsened by the pandemic. In addition, accompanying survey data revealed important trends related to chronic absenteeism, literacy, and teacher confidence in getting students back on track.

The nonpartisan 26-member Governing Board was established by Congress to set policy for the Nation's Report Card. The board decides what grades and subjects to assess, content to include, and achievement levels. It works with the National Center for Education Statistics, which administers NAEP, to release and disseminate results.

The following education leaders were appointed for a term that began October 1:

- Lisa Ashe, Secondary Mathematics Consultant, Department of Public Instruction, North Carolina (Curriculum Specialist)
- Shari Camhi, Superintendent of Schools, Baldwin Union Free School District, Baldwin, New York (Local School Superintendent)
- Michelle Cantú-Wilson, Trustee, San Jacinto College, Houston, Texas (General Public Representative)
- Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, Rhode Island (Chief State School Officer)
- Guillermo Solano-Flores, Professor of Education, Stanford University (Testing and Measurement Expert)
- Darein Spann, Principal, Starkville High School, Starkville, Mississippi (Secondary Principal)
- Jane Swift, former governor, Massachusetts (Governor Republican)

The secretary also reappointed several current Governing Board members:

- <u>Christine Cunningham</u>, Senior Vice President of STEM Learning, Museum of Science, Boston (Curriculum Specialist)
- <u>Patrick Kelly</u>, AP Government and U.S. History Teacher, Blythewood, South Carolina (Twelfth-Grade Teacher)
- <u>Reginald McGregor</u>, Vice-President, Government Relations, Rolls-Royce Corporation (Business Representative)
- <u>Martin West</u>, Professor of Education and Academic Dean, Harvard University, Massachusetts (State School Board Member)

<u>Chair Beverly Perdue</u>, the former Democratic governor of North Carolina, was also reappointed as Chair of the Governing Board.

"As we work to Raise the Bar for academic excellence and promote the benefits of evidence-based strategies to support learning recovery in our schools, The Nation's Report Card shines much-needed light on students' progress," said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "I'm confident the appointees announced today will draw on their diverse experiences—including as school leaders, educators, and parents—to guide decision-making around how we assess student achievement in our country. At this critical moment in our students' continued recovery from the disruption of the pandemic, I'm especially grateful for these leaders and their willingness to serve on the National Assessment Governing Board."

"It is because of the Nation's Report Card that we can answer how U.S. students are doing academically. We have vital work ahead of us to strengthen the NAEP program and innovate so that the Nation's Report Card continues to provide essential information about the progress of our students and their experience in school, and I'm honored to welcome our appointees to lead this charge," added Lesley Muldoon, executive director of the National Assessment Governing Board.

New and reappointed members will be sworn in at the Governing Board's quarterly meeting in November. See the full Governing Board Members list <u>here</u>.

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The National Assessment Governing Board is an independent, nonpartisan board whose members include governors, state legislators, local and state school officials, educators, business representatives and members of the general public. Congress created the Governing Board in 1988 to set policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. For more information about the Governing Board, visit <u>www.naqb.qov</u>.