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## Minnesota Association of School Administrators

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Dr. Deb Henton  
Executive Director

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Dear Chair Cwodzinski and Senate Education Policy Committee Members,

On behalf of the Minnesota Association of School Administrators, I submit this communication in support of Commissioner-Elect Willie Jett as the next Commissioner of the Department of Education. We are confident that he will be a consequential leader as he knows firsthand the many roles and responsibilities of educators and understands the needs of Minnesota's children, youth and families. We encourage you to confirm Commissioner-Elect Jett swiftly so that he may continue the work he is already undertaking and assist our great state in truly becoming the best place in the nation to raise and educate children.

Commissioner-Elect Jett's educational career is exemplary. He has worked in urban and rural schools which is highly valued by our members. Commissioner-Elect Jett has led a sizable school district which will assist him in leading a large agency. His personal familiarity with the needs of school districts of various sizes across the state lends credibility to his leadership.

Family and community engagement is important to Commissioner-Elect Jett. He knows that parent/guardian involvement in a child's education is critical to their success. He values their opinions and will engage parents/guardians and community members as he addresses the needs of every child throughout the state.

Governor Walz's selection of Commissioner-Elect Jett demonstrates his belief in him as a champion for every child. We share the Governor's view and know that Commissioner-Elect Jett will advocate for a high quality education for students who have linguistic needs, are BIPOC students, attend public schools in greater Minnesota, urban, rural, or Tribal schools, who are gifted and talented, or in need of special education services.

I have known Commissioner-Elect Jett for many years. He has been a colleague whom I admired for his calm steady leadership focused on improving the achievement of every child and is a person of integrity. He will ensure that he is continuously improving the agency's support of schools so that they can effectively educate their students.

Thank you for your consideration of Commissioner-Elect Jett. We urge you to support his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Deb Henton, Ed.D.