

September 29, 2003

American Association of School Administrators  
801 North Quincy Street, Suite 700  
Arlington, Virginia 22203

Dear Sir or Madam:

It is my pleasure to provide this letter of support on behalf of Dr. Shirley Neeley's nomination for the National Superintendent of the Year.

As Chairman of the Southern Regional Education Board, I've had the opportunity to work with Dr. Neeley on educational issues facing our region and our country. Dr. Neeley is an active and contributing member of the Southern Regional Education Board. She brings an honest opinion to our discussions and she always has students' best interests in mind.

Dr. Neeley is recognized throughout our region for her leadership in the Galena Park Independent School District's transformation of its low-performing schools. Dr. Neeley will be sharing her experiences with Mississippi administrators, faculty and educational leaders at our first Closing the Gap Conference in November. Her excitement for public education is evidenced by the "Head Cheerleader" job title on her business cards.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact Kelly Riley at 601-359-2528. Dr. Shirley Neeley's work and dedication exemplifies that of superintendents across our country.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM/klr