




TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

FROM: T. Andrew Brown, Vice Chancellor

SUBJECT: Appointment of Interim Commissioner of Education and President of The University of the State of New York

DATE: August 10, 2020

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

Issue for Decision

Will the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Dr. Betty A. Rosa to the position of Interim Commissioner of Education and President of the University of the State of New York?

Reason for Consideration

Shannon Tahoe, Interim Commissioner of Education and President of the University of the State of New York, has resigned effective August 13, 2020. Shannon Tahoe has been serving in the role of Interim Commissioner of Education and President of the University of the State of New York since December 19, 2019. I am recommending we appoint Dr. Betty A. Rosa as Interim Commissioner of Education and President of the University of the State of New York which will provide continued leadership within the Department.

Dr. Rosa is a nationally recognized education leader and received an Ed. M. and Ed. D. in Administration, Planning and Social Policy from Harvard University. She also holds two other Master of Science in Education degrees, one in Administration and Supervision and the other in Bilingual Education from the City College of New York and Lehman College respectively and a B.A. in psychology from the City College of New York. She has 30+ years of instructional and administrative experience with an expertise in inclusive education, cooperative teaching models, student achievement and policy implementation. Dr. Rosa began her career in the N.Y.C. Department of Education as a bilingual paraprofessional, teacher and reading coordinator, served as an assistant principal and principal in special education, introduced an integrated linguistic model in developing a multilingual and multicultural school for general and special education populations, was principal of I.S. 218, a full-service community school in partnership with the Children's Aid Society in District 6, and developed and implemented the Office of Conflict Resolution for the NYC Division of Special Education. In 1998, Dr. Rosa was

appointed to the position of Superintendent of Community School District 8 in the Bronx and later appointed to serve as the Senior Superintendent of the Bronx. One of the schools Dr. Rosa founded as superintendent, M.S. 101 (Maritime Academy for Science and Technology) became the top ranked middle school in the City of New York based on New York State examination results. She has taught graduate level education courses including Education of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Exceptional Children, Due Process: Law and the Handicapped, and Applied and Action Research for Doctoral Students, has served on dissertation committees, and is an executive coach for doctoral students.

Dr. Rosa was first elected to the New York State Board of Regents on April 1, 2008, as the Regent for the Twelfth Judicial District (Bronx County) to a five-year term, then re-elected for a second term April 1, 2013 and re-elected for a third term April 1, 2018. In March 2016, Dr. Rosa was elected by her Board of Regents colleagues as Chancellor for the term April 1, 2016 through March 2019, and, in March 2019 was re-elected by her Board of Regents colleagues as Chancellor for a second term.

Dr. Betty A. Rosa will successfully manage the Department's critical functions and responsibilities in this temporary interim role while the Board of Regents continues its search for a permanent Commissioner.

Proposed Handling

The Board acknowledges that Dr. Rosa has tendered her resignation as a member of and Chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents effective at the close of business August 13, 2020, so as to make her eligible for this appointment effective August 14, 2020. This recommendation will come before the full Board of Regents at its Executive Session for discussion at the August 11, 2020 Regents meeting and then come before the full Board for public vote and final action August 11, 2020.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approves the appointment of Dr. Betty A. Rosa as the Interim Commissioner and President of the University of the State of New York

Timetable for Implementation

If the Board of Regents approves the recommendation, the appointment will be effective August 14, 2020.

VOTED, that the Board of Regents approves the appointment of Dr. Betty A. Rosa to Interim Commissioner and President of the University of the State of New York effective August 14, 2020.