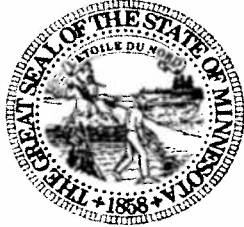


STATE of MINNESOTA



MARK DAYTON
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED

JAN 5 2011

President of the Senate

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Dr. Brenda L. Cassellus

5900 Colfax Ave S
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419
County of Hennepin
Congressional District 5

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the office of:

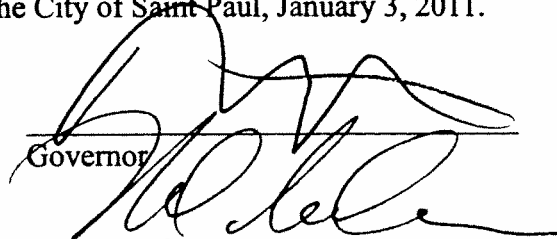
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Effective: January 3, 2011
Term Expires: January 5, 2015


This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, January 3, 2011.





Governor



Secretary of State

DR. BRENDA CASSELLIUS

RECEIVED

BRENDACASSELLIUS@GMAIL.COM

JAN 5 2011

5900 Colfax Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419

651-724-2100 (c)
President of the Senate

EDUCATION

- Ed. D, Leadership and Policy, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN, August 2007
- Education Specialist, Secondary Administration, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN, 1995
- Masters of Arts Secondary Education, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN, 1991
- Bachelors of Arts, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, 1989
- Minnesota Teacher Endorsement, University of St. Thomas, 1991
- Minnesota Secondary Principal Endorsement, University of St. Thomas, 1995
- Minnesota Superintendent Endorsement, University of St. Thomas, 2007
- Tennessee Administrator Certification, 2004
- Harvard Public Education Leadership Project (PELP), 2004/2006/2009
- Harvard Leadership, Transforming High Schools for Instruction, 2008

EXPERIENCE

Superintendent of Schools

East Metro Integration District, Maplewood, Minnesota

2010- present

- Responsible for two magnet schools
- Lead ten school district superintendents around equity vision
- Oversee Integration Revenue Program
- Steward the public fiscal resources to get better outcomes for children
- Provide strategic direction to the organization and lead effectively
- Partner with business and philanthropic community
- Inspire and support teachers and others to be their absolute best for children

Associate Superintendent Secondary Schools

Minneapolis Public Schools, Minneapolis, Minnesota

2007- present

- Responsible for the middle and high school reform agendas
- Supervise all secondary schools and principal performance
- Oversee Career and Technical Education programming
- Supervise and lead the district K-12 counseling services
- Supervise Contract Alternative and Extended Learning Office

- Coordinated first-ever charter / public high school partnership
- Expanded MPS Scholars early college programming with higher education partners
- Oversee leadership of International Baccalaureate Programs K-12 and AVID 6-12
- Early results show solid progress with a 3% increase in graduation rates, an 8% gain in science; a 6% increase in MCA reading, a 5% increase in MCA/MTELL math, and a 6% increase in GRAD writing.
- Had a 21% increase in our rigorous courses of study and a 10% increase in enrollment in those courses overall with an 11% increased in students of color enrollment in these courses
- Turned around two high schools through fresh start- Washburn and Edison High Schools

RECEIVED

JAN 5 2011

Middle School Academic Superintendent

Memphis City Schools, Memphis, TN

2004- 2007

President of the Senate

- Responsible for the academic performance of thirty-two middle schools, directly supervise principals and achievement of 22,000 middle school children
- Organized and led district-wide Blue Ribbon Behavior Initiative K-12
- Organized and led reconstitution (fresh start initiative) of seven schools
- 18.7% increase reading in TCAP on achievement scores for 8th grade students in middle schools from 2003 – 2007 and 10.1% in mathematics
- Closed achievements gaps substantially in both reading and math (8th Reading and Mathematics by 13% and 11.2% respectively- 2003 -2007)
- Organized and led the district's federal strategic planning and application process 2004, securing \$41 million dollar budget on time
- As a member of the Superintendent's Executive Leadership Team, completed a five-year academic, facility and transportation plan
- Secured several key community, business and university partnerships that have accelerated middle school student achievement (see grants section below)

Minneapolis Public Schools, Assistant Principal

1999 - 2004

Minneapolis, MN

- In 2003 graduation rates improved to highest in the district
- Organized and led high school reform, small learning communities
- Brought school into special education compliance
- Strengthened community confidence through relationships and collaboration
- Improved systems of shared decision making among staff and parents
- Promoted school through academic excellence marketing campaign
- Served on district principal staff development team
- Served on district interest based teacher negotiation team

St. Paul Public Schools, Assistant Principal

1995 - 1999

St. Paul, MN

- Led middle school reform from junior high to middle school model
- Instituted teacher leadership model
- Implemented interdisciplinary teaming

Social Studies Teacher / Diversity Coordinator

1993 - 1995

Burnsville Public School, Burnsville, MN

- Led district-wide diversity initiative
- Created student-led Improve Troup focused on issues of diversity
- Served on school leadership team

RECEIVED

Social Studies Teacher

JAN 5 2011

1991 - 1993

St. Paul Public Schools, St. Paul, MN

- Served on school leadership team
- Middle school team leader
- Principal of summer school for African-American youth

President of the Senate

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND BOARD MEMBERSHIP

- Board of Directors Member, Junior Achievement Upper Midwest Region
- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- National Middle School Association, Leadership Faculty Member
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

GRANTS, PARTNERSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Finalist, Twin Cities Woman of the Year, 2008
- Striving Readers Grant, Partnership, University of Memphis (\$16.5 million)
- Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant, Partnership, University of Memphis (\$3.2 million)
- Bridges to Quality, Federal Appropriation, (\$480,000)
- Facing History and Ourselves, Assisi Foundation, (\$580,000)
- Distinguished African-American Woman Educator, AKA Sorority, 2006
- Assistant Principal of the Year Nominee, Minneapolis Public Schools, 2003

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Doctoral Cohort Team Building, San Diego State University, 2009 and 2010
- *No Time to Waste: Prioritizing Actions for Middle Grades Success*, Speaker, May 27, 2009
- Sable Leadership Institute, Presenter, January 10, 2009
- National Middle School Association, Faculty Member, *Institute for Middle Level Leadership*, July 2008 and July 2009
- University of Minnesota Urban Leadership Conference, *Maximizing our potential for excellence and equity*, March 2008
- Middle School Journal, *Using Relationship, Responsibility and Respect to Get from "Good to Great" in Memphis Middle Schools*, May 2006
- NMSA Policy Guide, *Success in the Middle*, National Press Club, Washington DC, 2006
- ABC World News Tonight, *Caught in the Middle*, September 2006
- On-line Team Assessment, *Team Trek Team Profile (TTLP)*, 2005
- Blue Ribbon Behavior Summit, Lead Organizer- June 2005
- Tennessee State Urban Schools Conference, *Moving from Good to Great in Memphis*, 2006

RECEIVED

JAN 5 2011

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

- U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan President of the Senate
- Dean of the College of Education, San Diego State University, Dr. Ric Hovda
- City of Minneapolis Mayor, R.T. Rybak
- Minnesota Assistant Commissioner of Education, Karen Klinzing
- Tennessee Assistant Commissioner, Division of Accountability, Teaching and Learning, Dr. Connie J. Smith
- Executive Director National Middle School Associations, Dr. Santos Pino
- Minneapolis Public School Board Director, Pam Costain
- Minneapolis Public Schools Superintendent, Bernadeia Johnson
- Boston Public Schools Superintendent, Dr. Carol R. Johnson

- President Junior Achievement Upper Midwest Region, Gina Blayney
- CEO Achieve Minneapolis, Catherine Jordon
- President of Dunwoody College, Dr. Ben Wright
- CEO of Project Success, Adrienne Diercks
- Chief of School Operations, Memphis City Schools, Dr. Roderick Richmond
- Area B Parent District Advisory Member, Kristin Berg-Thompson
- President Minneapolis Principal's Union, Jackie Hanson
- Teacher at Henry High School and Vice President Minneapolis Federation of Teachers, Brianna Harder
- Teacher Minneapolis Public Schools, Paula Palmer

*References contact information available in the application or by request

RECEIVED

JAN 5 2011

President of the Senate